

HOMES4WILTSHIRE**MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE
MONDAY, 18TH SEPTEMBER 2017**

<https://www.homes4wiltshire.co.uk/>

Nicole Smith, Head of Housing at Homes4Wiltshire gave an overview of how Wiltshire Council allocates housing, referring to the Council's adopted Housing Allocations Policy and explaining the banding process. A useful summary can be found in a 2014 briefing provided Area Boards at <https://cms.wiltshire.gov.uk/documents/s70605/Briefing%20Note.pdf>

Salient points arising were:

Marlborough is a 'high value' property area. Housing associations are able to sell vacant properties in order to raise capital for investment in future build projects. Tenants are able to purchase properties under the national 'Right to Buy' scheme. There is no obligation for housing associations to build new homes in the same area as the ones they sell. These factors create a risk that the overall housing stock available can become depleted.

Wiltshire Council Core Strategy and Planning Policy states that significant new developments should include 40% affordable homes (a good example being a current application for a housing development off the Salisbury Road in Marlborough).

Homes4Wiltshire has a total of around 25,000 homes across the county of which it owns approximately 5,000.

There is a very high demand for homes, outstripping available supply.

As well as the online system, potential tenants are able to apply using bidding slips at various locations, e.g. Libraries, Aster Homes' Offices, Wiltshire Council Offices.

An overview of the system is available at <https://www.homes4wiltshire.co.uk/content/training> and frequently asked questions: <https://www.homes4wiltshire.co.uk/content/John>