

WODC Local Connection

- a) Local Connection is defined in Part VII of the Housing Act 1996 as:
- i. Those who are normally resident in West Oxfordshire, and that residence is or was of their own choice (Local Authority Agreement guidelines suggest this as having resided in West Oxfordshire District for six of the last twelve months, or three of the last five years, where residence has been out of choice);
 - ii. Those who are employed in West Oxfordshire District (Local Authority Agreement guidelines suggest this as employment other than of a casual nature);
 - iii. Those who have family connections in West Oxfordshire District (Local Authority Agreement guidelines suggest this as immediate family members who have themselves lived in the area for five years).
 - iv. Members of the armed forces have a local connection to the District (Those currently serving, served within the immediate preceding 5 years; bereaved spouse or civil partner who has recently or will cease to be entitled to Ministry of Defence accommodation following the death of their service spouse and the death was wholly or partly attributable to their service; existing or former members of the reserve forces who are suffering from a serious injury, illness or disability which is wholly or partly attributable to their service).
 - v. Other special circumstances at the discretion of the Head of Revenues and Housing Support, in consultation with the Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council. This might include those in exceptional circumstances such as a National Refugee Crisis situation.
- b) In addition, for certain properties which were developed under restrictions imposed by a Section 106 agreement (Town and Country Planning Act 1990), applicants may need a connection to a defined local area.