

## Appendix 4 – Overcrowding Definitions

Below are the overcrowding definitions as set out on pages 20-21 in paragraph 4.4.3 of Camden’s Housing Allocation Scheme updated in 2018.

### 4.4.3 Overcrowded housing

We will assess the number of bedrooms you need. We will compare this with the number of rooms that are currently available for the sole use of your household and which could be used as bedrooms. We will count any rooms other than bathrooms, toilets, self-contained kitchens and utility rooms. This will help us to decide if you qualify for overcrowding points. The Council reserves the right to decide how you can make best use of the rooms available to your household and to change your application accordingly.

Where a room which could be used as a bedroom measures less than 50 square feet, we will award additional overcrowding points – this will be done on a case-by-case basis.

There are 3 levels of points for overcrowding. You can only receive one award.

#### **50 points – bedroom down**

You are eligible for 50 points if:

- Your household consists of you and one or more other people who are not your partner or spouse and
- You have sole use of the same number of rooms which could be used as bedrooms as your assessed bed need, and
- You have no access to any additional rooms (other than bathrooms, toilets and self-contained kitchens).

*Example: Given to households which have had to convert their living room(s). This is known as ‘bed down’ because ideally the household would have a bedroom and would not have to repurpose their living room.*

#### **100 points – overcrowded**

You are eligible for 100 points if:

- You have one room which could be used as a bedroom less than your assessed bedroom need.
- You are a single-person household and do not have access to a room of your own.

*Example: Given for households assessed as needing 1 bedroom more than the number of rooms they have available as bedrooms, including converted living rooms. This award is also given to single adults seeking new accommodation away from overcrowded households.*

#### **250 points – severely overcrowded**

You are eligible for 250 points if:

- You have two or more rooms which could be used as a bedroom less than your assessed bedroom need.
- You have one or more dependent children and you live in a studio.

*Example: Given to households assessed as needing 2 or more bedrooms than are available. This is also given to parents, including single parents, with children who are living in studio flats.*