



Company membership policy

1. Purpose and scope

Selwood Housing supports the principle that Membership of Selwood Housing should be drawn as widely as possible from its tenants and others committed to social housing objectives.

This policy aims to ensure that persons applying for Membership of Selwood Housing understand what is involved and that they should have the aims and objectives of Selwood Housing as their primary motivation.

This policy applies to prospective and actual company members. It reflects the provisions of Selwood Housing's Articles of Association.

2. Responsibility

The company secretary is responsible for the operation of this policy.

3. Policy principles / statement

MEMBERSHIP

Selwood Housing has two classes of membership - Independent Membership and Tenant Membership.

Tenant Membership

Selwood Housing wishes to encourage tenant membership so that those who receive the benefits of Selwood Housing's services have a direct say in its management. All tenants will be invited to become Members.

Tenants in breach of their conditions of tenancy may not be admitted to membership

Independent Membership

Selwood Housing is keen to encourage individuals and organisations representing the communities served by Selwood Housing and with relevant skills to take an active interest in its objectives. This can be achieved through Independent Membership or becoming a Member of the Board of Directors.



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Applications for Independent Membership will be considered from persons who are not resident in Selwood Housing's property. For clarity, prior to 14 May 2018 people connected to Wiltshire Council could not become members because Wiltshire Council held corporate membership. After 14 May 2018 people connected to Wiltshire Council can become independent members.

Restriction on proportion of members who are Board members or employees of other housing providers.

No more than one half of company members will be Board members or employees of other housing providers at any time.

Restriction on proportion of members who are connected to local authorities

No more than one third of company members will be people who are connected to local authorities, as defined in Selwood Housing's Articles.

4. Application for membership

Anyone aged 18 years or over wishing to become a Member needs to complete the relevant membership application form.

No person shall be admitted as a Member of Selwood Housing unless the Board approves their application. Every Member shall, on admittance, be designated by the Board as an Independent or Tenant Member and this status shall be recorded in the Register of Members. The Board Members are entitled at their absolute discretion to grant or refuse any application for membership.

5. Liabilities

The liability of the membership is limited.

Every Member of Selwood Housing undertakes to contribute up to £1 to Selwood Housing's assets if it should be wound up while he or she is a Member or within one year after he or she ceases to be a Member

This payment would be in respect of Selwood Housing's debts and liabilities contracted before he or she ceases to be a Member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up.



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6. Ending of membership

Any Member may resign from Selwood Housing by giving one month's notice in writing and duly signed to the Company Secretary.

A Tenant Member will automatically cease to be a Member if they cease to be a tenant. However, they may then apply to become an Independent Member providing they no longer live in a property owned by Selwood Housing.

An Independent Member will automatically cease to be an Independent Member if they become a tenant of Selwood Housing. However, they may then apply to become a Tenant Member.

A Member who is also a Board member will automatically cease to be a Member when they cease to be a Board member; they can then re-apply for admission as a member.

Any Member may be removed from Selwood Housing if they fail to observe any of the Rules or Byelaws of Selwood Housing or on any other ground, by a resolution of Selwood Housing passed by a majority of at least three-quarters of the votes cast at a General Meeting.

Notice of the general nature of the grounds on which such a resolution is proposed shall be sent to the Member at least twenty-eight clear days before the Meeting, and he or their representative shall be entitled to be heard by the Meeting.

Membership will cease if the individual or Corporation is declared insolvent or becomes bankrupt, becomes incapable because of mental disorder or dies.

7. Monitoring

Membership lists will be reviewed each year prior to the AGM.

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years.



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Decision-making record

Date	Meeting/Minute Reference	Version /Amendment
Sept 09	Board Meeting – B/131/09	Amendment
Sept 12	Exec meeting	Amendment to format
Sept 15	Review	No update needed
July 18	Board meeting	Changes from Articles agreed at May 2018 EGM
Dec 21	Board Meeting	No update needed
Oct 25	Board Meeting	Change in the restriction of the number of Board members that can be company members