



Membership Policy

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Written By	Ray Cashell
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SHAC Housing Association

Membership Policy

SHAC Housing Association is a Registered Housing Association, subject to regulation and guidance by DSD NI. As a Charitable, non-profit-distributing organisation registered as an "Industrial & Provident Society" the Association has a shareholding membership defined in its Rules. Shares cost £1.

Rule C11 requires the Board of Governors to have and publish a membership admission policy.

This Policy is based on an analysis of the needs, obligations, vision and values of the Association.

1 The Association will seek to ensure that there are at all times not less than **15** members.

2 In inviting members to join the Association the Board will highlight skills particularly valued, and, regardless of other aspects of the policy, may seek out specific individuals known to possess preferred skills.

3 The Association will encourage development of structured tenant organisations and may within that process and subject to any conditions on establishing representativity, admit such organisations to membership. The Association may also admit to membership any organisation representative of, or working on behalf of, specific groups of people likely to wish to be Association tenants.

4 The Association will monitor the profile of its membership against the S75 groups and the main communities in Northern Ireland, and consider the impact of any identified under or over representation.

The Association may, in line with Objective 2, seek out persons or selectively promote membership opportunity, to redress under representation. The Association will not refuse membership solely on grounds of over representation. Specifically, if the Association seeks to promote participation of community leaders or politicians, the Board may adopt an admissions practice to ensure a balanced representation, and to ensure retention of a non-aligned status and public image.

In the interests of openness and equality of opportunity, the Association will periodically openly advertise for members.

5 The Association may set an upper limit to membership and/or to numbers of individual or organisational members in the interests of cost-effective management of member participation, so long as all other objectives are met.

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6 Rule C14.4 will automatically terminate membership where members have failed to respond to invitations to 3 consecutive General Meetings. Responsibility for lodging a current effective contact address for such communication lies with the member.

The Association reserves the right to cease issuing notices of meetings etc. where mail has been returned as “not known at this address”. The Association, subject to other elements of this policy and the Rules will normally accept applications for re-admission from members removed under Rule C14.4.

7 This policy will be reviewed by the Association no later than three years from the date of adoption by the Association’s Board of Governors, unless good management practice or changes to legislation dictate that earlier amendments are necessary.