Residential Criteria Guide

April 2021

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Applicant criteria

Applicant Details	
Minimum age	21
Maximum age	75 at end of term. For joint applications the age of the oldest applicant is used. The term cannot extend beyond the applicant's stated retirement age
Maximum applicants	2
Guarantors	Not accepted
First time buyers	Accepted
Marital status	Applications from married/civil partnership applicants must be in joint names

Maximum Allowable Adverse	
Defaults	None in last 6 months
CCJs	None in last 6 months
Mortgage arrears	Arrears status of 0 in last 6 months None missed in the last 12 months
Unsecured arrears	 Fixed Term - None in the last 6 months Revolving credit - Missed payments considered On Pepper 24, 18, 12 and 6 products we will ignore 2 individual defaults (per application) up to and including £150.00 each where these defaults relate to utilities, communications or mail order providers. This does not apply to our Debt Management Plan products.
IVA/Bankruptcy	Accepted where applicants have been discharged 6 or more years ago
Pay day loans	Accepted where the account closed more than 12 months ago
Repossessions	Accepted where repossession occurred more than 6 years ago
Debt management plans (DMP)	 DMP range For active DMPs or those satisfied in the last 12 months a separate product range is available. The following criteria applies: Must have been active for a minimum of 12 months Must be able to provide proof of satisfactory payments from DMP provider If active, doesn't have to be repaid at completion For remortgages, capital raising can be considered to clear the DMP No more than 1 active DMP per application Standard range Accepted if satisfied over 12 months ago

Please refer to the product guide for further details on each product level.

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Nationality & Residency

Applicant Details	
Residential status	3 years UK residential address history required for all applicants
EU Nationals	Accepted subject to: • 3 years UK residency • 3 years continuous UK employment history
Non EU Nationals	Accepted subject to: • 3 years UK residency • 3 years continuous UK employment history • Indefinite rights to remain
Diplomatic immunity	Not accepted

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Income Criteria

Income		
Minimum earned income	£18,000 per application	
Foreign currency	Not accepted	
Employed, Self-Employed & Retired		
Employed	 Minimum of 6 months in current job with 12 Day rate contractors accepted subject to be minimum 12 months history. Calculate the in- rate amount or current contract day rate x 5 (Contract employees considered provided 1 employer together with confirmation the con 3 months' payslips with 3 months' bank state Applicants in a probationary period not accession Zero hour contracts acceptable if a permanand stable income levels Income from seasonal/temporary work not Directors with a shareholding of 25% or modified to the state of the state of	eing in a contract and able to demonstrate a come as the lower of 12 month average day (days per week) x 46 (working weeks) 2 months employment with the same tract will be renewed tements and last P60 cepted hent position with 2 years+ at same employer considered
Self-Employed: Sole Trader/Partnership	 Minimum of 1 year's accounts 3 months' business account bank statements SA302s will only be accepted in addition to the full business accounts. SA302s are not acceptable proof of income on their own but will be requested where the accounts have been prepared by an accountant who does not appear on our list of accepted qualifications. We may also request them to confirm dividends which do not appear in the business accounts. Additional remuneration considered where applicants own 100% of the company: Directors car allowance Directors pension contributions Use of home as an office Private health insurance Where additional remuneration is to be added back, finalised accounts will be required. 	
Self-Employed: Company Director	 Minimum of 1 year's accounts 3 months' business account bank statements SA302s may be requested to support company accounts 	
Retired	Private pension accepted	

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Other income sources	
Pension income	State retirement pension (SRP) - latest annual statement of pension Private pension - latest payslip from pension provider or letter from pension provider with 3 months' bank account statements showing credits
Secondary/additional income	Employment/self-employment income from a maximum of 2 sources per applicant considered. Benefits and maintenance may be included as additional income

Loan Criteria	
Maximum LTV	 Up to £1 million available to 75% LTV Up to £750,000 available to 85% LTV
Maximum term	35 years
Minimum term	5 years
Minimum Ioan	£25,001
Maximum Ioan	 Up to £1 million available to 75% LTV Up to £750,000 available to 85% LTV
Number of mortgages with Pepper	 Maximum of 3 per applicant including any joint loans the applicants are party to Can be a mixture of Buy to Let and Residential loans
Remortgage applications	 Accepted where applicant has been the registered owner for the last 6 months at application
Repayment	 Capital & interest Interest only to 60% LTV, supported by an acceptable repayment strategy
Portable	Products are not portable
Offer validity	90 days
Let to buy	Accepted
Right to buy	Not accepted

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Deposit Criteria	
Evidence of deposit	Required on all purchase applications
Applicants savings	Considered
Capital raising remortgage	Considered
Inheritance	Accepted
Cash gifted deposit	Gifted deposits are considered from the following: • Parent/Step-Parent/Parent-in-Law • Sibling • Child/Step-Child/Son-in-Law/Daughter-in-Law • Aunt/Uncle • Grandparent/Grandchild
Unacceptable sources	 Builders deposit Unsecured borrowing Vendor deposit

Property Criteria

General Criteria	
New build definition	A property is to be considered new if it is a first sale by the builder. However, properties which have not sold on physical completion will be considered on an individual basis.
Minimum property value	£70,000
Locations considered	England, Wales & Isle of Wight
Retentions	Not offered
Acceptable property	 Houses: Private and ex Local Authority or social housing Flats & Maisonettes: Private only

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Alternative Construction	
Timber framed construction	Modern timber framed properties clad with masonry are considered as acceptable. Timber framed properties which are not deemed to be of a modern type clad with masonry will be reviewed on an individual basis and will be considered on their merits.
Flying freeholds	Flying freeholds will only be considered up to 20% of the total floor area.
Coal mining and other forms of extraction	Any properties with a coal mining or metalliferous mining entry/feature within 20m of any building will not be considered.
Electromagnetic fields	Any properties within 100m of above ground high voltage electrical supply apparatus will not be considered.
Contaminated land	Where there is potential for contaminated land, a pass certificate must be available from an appropriate body.
Japanese knotweed	Where a property has Japanese knotweed (or any other invasive weed) located within or immediately adjacent to the site defined as category 4, 3 or 2 in RICS paper IP 27/2012 will not be considered.
Solar panels	Properties where solar panels have been installed and are subject to a lease agreement will not be considered. If the solar panels are owned outright, the application will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

Tenure	
Freehold	Houses only accepted
Leasehold	The lease must have a minimum unexpired term of 85 years at the time of completion
Commonhold	Not considered

Property Reports	
Structural reports	 Reports may be accepted from members of the following bodies: The Institution of Structural Engineers (www.istructe.org.uk) The Institution of Civil Engineers (www.ice.org.uk) The report must be referred to the valuer for comment. If the report is not addressed to the applicant, written confirmation must be obtained from the originator that its contents may be relied upon by the applicant(s). We will not lend on any property with either ongoing movement or where monitoring is required, where this is identified by either the valuer, or where evident in the structural engineer's report. The valuer may request additional reports from specific governing bodies.
Specialist reports	 We may require specialists' reports. These most commonly will be: Timber and damp, electrical, trees, cavity wall ties; Mining report (as these are obtained by the solicitors, a special condition is imposed at offer); Any such reports should be prepared by a reputable firm and should be forwarded to us for review and referral to the valuer. The valuer may request additional reports from specific governing bodies.

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Unacceptable Property	
	 New build properties without suitable warranty Properties suffering on-going structural movement or insurance claims Grade I & grade II* listed properties Back to back/cluster homes Properties located within 20m of a mine entry/feature Properties within 100m of above ground high voltage electrical supply apparatus (excluding small substations)
General	 Properties subject to compulsory purchase orders Large flying freeholds (greater than 20% of floor area) Japanese knotweed located within or immediately adjacent to the site, defined as category 4, 3 or 2 in RICS paper IP 27/2012 Properties without an internal WC, bathroom or kitchen Properties subject to any onerous occupancy restrictions, including agricultural Shared ownership/shared equity schemes (only acceptable if applicant will own 100% of the interest on completion) Properties subject to enforcement notices Crofting properties/land Self-build properties
Flats/Maisonettes	 Properties with a commercial element Non-standard construction Flats in Local Authority or ex Local Authority owned blocks New build flats/maisonettes Flats with a gross external floor area less than 35m2 Studio flats Freehold flats Balcony access
Non-standard construction	 Pre-cast reinforced concrete (PRC) Cast-in-Situ concrete Metal framed construction Single skin Large panel systems (LPS) Modern methods of construction (MMC)
Flooding	Properties at significant risk of flooding or that cannot be suitably insured will not be considered.
Restrictive covenants	We are unable to consider any property with a restricted occupancy clause within the planning permission. For example, it can only be occupied for a maximum of 11 months in any one year. Similarly, property that can only be used for retirement or sheltered accommodation is not accepted. This is the same for any property where a planning restriction (e.g. agricultural restriction) effectively limits a property's appeal on the open market. Please note: for new builds we do consider Section 106 planning obligations. We are unable to consider properties within a pre-emption period.

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Documentation

Application Requirements	
Full mortgage application	Original fully signed and dated declaration. Signed and dated direct debit mandate.
Proof of deposit (purchase)	Applicants bank statements. Interest waiver letter from donor where gifted deposit.
Use of funds (remortgage with a further advance)	Breakdown of use of funds, after any debts have been discharged. Account details and balance of any debts to be repaid.
Proof of address & identification	1. Any 2 documents from Table 1 or 2. 1 document from each table Table 1 Table 2
	 Valid passport Valid photo card driving licence (full or provisional) National identity card Firearms certificate or shotgun licence Identity card issued by the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland Valid (old style) full UK driving licence Recent evidence of benefit entitlement Instrument of a court appointment Current council tax demand letter or statement Non internet generated bank statements and utility bills
Proof of income - employed	Paid monthly - Latest 3 consecutive months with P60 and bank statements. Paid weekly - Latest 6 consecutive weeks with P60 and bank statements.
Proof of income - self-employed	Sole Trader - Minimum 1 year's accounts or SA302s with 3 months' business bank statements Company Director - Minimum 1 year's accounts with 3 months' business bank statements
Other sources of income	 Child Benefit - Latest notice with bank statements (must be payable for at least the next 5 years) Working or Child Tax Credits - Full award notice with bank statements Maintenance - A copy of the maintenance agreement, received under a Court Order, a CSA assessment or a written private agreement drawn up between the separating parties and 6 months' bank statements as evidence of payment. State Pension - Latest annual statement of pension/due on retirement Pension Credits - Latest Pension Credit Award Notice Private Pension - Latest annual statement of pension/due on retirement or Latest payslip from pension provider or Latest letter from pension provider confirming pension due on retirement
Rental/mortgage history	Tenancy Agreement with 12 months bank statements confirming rental payments. Last 3 years mortgage statement.
Confirmation of mortgage pay- ments	To support the re-mortgage and to verify that the applicant is not experiencing financial difficulty and able to meet their mortgage repayment a copy of the latest bank statement evidencing payment of the last months mortgage payment should be provided.
Unacceptable applicants	Currently in receipt of Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) Currently in receipt of the Self Employment Income Support Scheme On a mortgage payment holiday with their current lender