

### **Disaster**

This is 'an event that causes great distress or destruction' and includes major flooding, gas explosions or a house fire, but it is not expected that a minor mishap or damage or failure of a household item would be included in this situation in most circumstances. A disaster could also cover having no financial funds available to meet daily living expenses as a result of some sort of crisis, such as theft or unintended loss.

In cases of theft, the claim must be supported by a crime reference number. In cases of loss, the claimant must be able to demonstrate that the loss is not their fault.

### **Person From Abroad**

A Person From Abroad is someone who fails or would fail the habitual residence test for the purpose of Income Support, Pension Credit, Income-based Job Seekers Allowance, Income Related Employment Support Allowance or Universal Credit.

### **Link to Leicester**

Applicants may be considered to meet the 'link to Leicester' criteria in 2.1 of the Policy by satisfying at least one of the following:

- Applicants living within the city of Leicester must be able to produce documentary evidence that they have used a residential address within the City as their settled home for 2 consecutive years immediately prior to their application;
- Applicants that have previously lived in settled accommodation in the city of Leicester for 3 consecutive years or more out of the last 5 years;
- Applicants currently working within the city of Leicester and have been for the last 12 months;
- People who are aged over 18 and approved as a homeless person under Part VII of the Housing Act 1996;
- Applicants who need to give or receive support to direct family members who have been living in the city for the past 5 years. Direct family members include husbands, wives, civil partners, parents, sons, daughters, brothers and sisters;

- Asylum seekers who have been dispersed to the City by the National Asylum Support service (NASS) and whose status changes to that of refugee, or who are awarded exceptional or indefinite leave to remain whilst living in the city;
- Persons who have previously served in the armed forces and they make an application for housing within 5 years of their discharge;
- Bereaved spouses and civil partners of members of the Armed Forces leaving service family accommodation following the death of their spouse/partner;
- Prisoners released from prison who meet one of the above criteria prior to them entering service or prison.

### **Severe Financial Hardship**

This means that you have limited disposable income and you or your household are at risk of severe detriment to your health and safety.

### **Intentional Homelessness**

Being intentionally homeless means that you are homeless because you left accommodation that you could have stayed in. If your last home was temporary or short-term, the Council looks into the reasons you left your last 'settled home'.

When deciding if you are or aren't intentionally homeless, the council must consider the reasons you became homeless. It's up to the Council to prove that you became homeless intentionally and that:

- you did, or failed to do, something that caused you to leave your home
- the act, or failure to act, was deliberate or you were aware of what was going on
- it was reasonable for you to continue living in your accommodation.

You have the right to explain your actions to the council in relation to your housing situation.