



Living Home Standard – dimensions and home attributes

Affordability

Essential attributes:

- Can meet the rent or mortgage payments on the home without regularly having to cut spending on household essentials like food or heating
- Not worried that rent or mortgage payments could rise to a level that would be difficult to pay

Tradable attributes:

- Can meet rent or mortgage payments on the home without regularly preventing participation in social activities
- Can meet the rent or mortgage payments on the home without regularly being prevented from putting enough money aside to cover unexpected costs

Decent conditions

Essential attributes:

- The home can be heated safely and effectively
- The home has hot and cold running water
- The home is free from safety hazards such as faulty wiring or fire risks
- The home is structurally sound with no important defects to the roof and/or walls
- The home has a toilet, and a bath and/or shower
- The home feels physically secure (for example with adequate locks on doors and windows)
- The home is free from pest problems
- The home is free from mould or damp problems
- The home is suitable for the current age and/or disability related needs of everyone in the household
- There are electrical sockets in the main living areas, kitchen and bedroom(s)

Tradable attributes:

- The home is free from outside noise that regularly disrupts sleep or daily activities
- The home has enough natural light in the main living areas, kitchen and bedroom(s)
- Able to dry laundry in the home without causing mould or damp problems
- It is possible to access the internet from the home or get an internet connection if needed



Neighbourhood:

Essential attributes:

- Feel reasonably safe and secure in the local neighbourhood

Tradable attributes:

- Amenities such as grocery shops, schools and/or a doctor's surgery, are within reasonable reach of the home
- The home is close enough to family, friends or other support networks
- Anyone in the household who works outside the home can usually reach their place of work in an hour or less

Stability

Essential attributes:

- The household has enough control over how long they can live in the home

Tradable attributes:

- If ever given notice to leave the home, the household feel they would be given enough notice to secure somewhere else suitable to live
- Able to stay in the home long enough to feel part of the local community if wanted
- Can make changes to the interior of the home such as decorating, if wanted
- Able to keep a pet in the home or garden if wanted

Space

Essential attributes:

- The number of bedrooms in the home is adequate for all members of the household
- There is enough space to allow all members of the household to have privacy, for example when they wish to be alone
- There is enough space for all members of the household to comfortably spend time together in the same room
- There is adequate space to prepare and cook food
- There is adequate space to store essential items, such as a reasonable amount of clothes, towels and bedding

Tradable attributes:

- There are enough bathroom facilities for everyone living in the household to be able to use them at a time suitable for their needs
- The home has access to outdoor space, for example a private or shared garden, or balcony
- There is enough space to have visitors during the day or evening
- There is enough space for members of the household to study or do work or homework if they need to
- There is enough space for a guest to stay overnight, for instance on a sofa or sofa bed
- There is enough space to store domestic items like vacuum cleaners and ironing boards to keep them out of the way
- There is enough space to store some personal belongings, such as books or children's toys.