

Housing allocation system in the municipality of Groningen

Following the merger of the municipalities of Groningen, Ten Boer and Haren, the municipality of Groningen will have a single allocation system for public-sector housing. As a result, the public-sector housing stock will increase and a few rules of WoningNet Groningen will change as of 1 September 2021. The extended allocation system and the new rules must ensure that every home seeker has an equal chance of finding a public-sector home in the new municipality of Groningen.

Rules



- All available public-sector housing in the municipality of Groningen is rented out via WoningNet Groningen. WoningNet allocates homes based on the longest registration period. As home seeker of WoningNet Groningen, you can respond to public-sector housing offers in the municipality of Groningen (including the former municipalities of Haren and Ten Boer).
- The housing associations can choose not to offer certain public-sector homes through the regular offer on WoningNet Groningen. In that case, the homes are rented out through brokerage, through 'direct to let' and by means of drawing lots. This applies to:
 - homes offered on WoningNet Groningen that have been refused by a home seeker 5 or more times;
 - newly built houses;
 - special circumstances or situations (such as house swap, nuisance situations and urgency).

Registration fee reduced

As of 1 September 2021, registration costs €20. The annual renewal costs €11.

Drawing lots



As of 1 September 2021, housing associations can offer public-sector accommodation on WoningNet by drawing lots. As a result, home seekers with a short registration period have a greater chance of finding a home. An extra tab 'drawing lots' will be added on the WoningNet Groningen offer page. Here, housing associations offer housing for which the registration period does not determine the success rate of a finding a home. The WoningNet system determines at random to whom the home is allocated.

You can choose yourself whether you respond to homes that are offered by the housing associations via the regular offer or by drawing lots.

Length of residence scheme expires



To ensure equal chances of success for all home seekers, the extra registration period based on length of residence* will be phased out. Until 1 September 2022, all tenants of public-sector homes from housing corporations in the municipality of Groningen can activate the length of residence in their registration as a home seeker. After 1 September 2022, no new length of residence will be accrued, but your accrued length of residence will still count via the corrected registration date. From 1 September 2026, the length of residence no longer counts when responding to homes and will lapse for all home seekers.

Length of residence

The period that someone has a current lease with a corporation in the municipality of Groningen.

Priority for multi-person households for large homes



Does your household consist of 2 or more people? Then, as of 1 September, you as a household will have priority over households consisting of one person with respect to all homes with 3 or more bedrooms. This also applies to people who receive district renewal urgency after 1 September 2021. Single-person households can respond, but have less chance of being offered a house with 3 or more bedrooms. Housing associations can choose not to offer houses with 3 very small bedrooms as a priority to multi-person households.

Urgent cases



Woonurgentie Groningen can provide urgency to home seekers. The rules for this will be available on www.woonurgentiegroningen.nl from 1 September 2021. Home seekers with urgency receive a suitable housing profile from Woonurgentie Groningen. This means that urgent cases have priority over other home seekers, if the home suits their household. If you are an urgent case, you cannot respond to some properties.

Temporary compensation scheme for home seekers Ten Boer



As of 1 September, home seekers looking for a home in Ten Boer will require a registration from WoningNet Groningen. Because of shorter waiting times for homes in Ten Boer, home seekers with a current registration with WoningNet Boven Groningen have a shorter registration period. For equal chances of success, these home seekers receive compensation in the form of 5 years extra registration. This compensation is only valid when responding to homes in the former municipality of Ten Boer. This compensation ends after 5 years.