

RGI Priority – Supportive Housing Graduates

Discussions with Housing Providers
February & March 2023

Council Direction

City Council amend the local priority rules as part of the Service Manager's system under the Housing Services Act, 2011 for selecting households from those waiting for rent-geared-to-income assistance such that the following will apply effective **July 1, 2023**, ranked in the following order of priority:

- a) over-housed households;
- b) terminally ill;
- c) tenants living in an rent-geared-to-income unit administered by the City as Service Manager receiving housing supports that are now capable of living independent of the support services;**
- d) applicants experiencing homelessness, including homeless newcomers, where every fifth rent-geared-to-income vacancy is filled by a household experiencing homelessness;
- e) youth, who are 16 or 17 years old at the time of applying for rent-geared-to-income, applying independent of an adult, where every seventh rent-geared-to-income vacancy is filled with a youth household; and
- f) Indigenous peoples, where every tenth rent-geared-to-income vacancy is filled by an Indigenous household.

Readiness Definition

Adapted from the City of Ottawa

To the best of your assessment, is the tenant able to live independently at the time of referral? The City of Toronto defines "ready" as:

- The **tenant has clearly identified an interest** in moving into permanent non-supportive RGI housing. Either the tenant or the supportive housing provider can initiate the discussion.
- The tenant has the **financial means** and ability to pay RGI rent.
- The tenant either currently does **not need any supports** to move on and maintain housing, or if some supports are required to assist the tenant in maintaining housing, the tenant will be accessing **follow-up supports** arranged by the time the tenant is housed.
- The tenant either currently has the **life skills to maintain a home**, or the tenant will be accessing **follow-up supports** arranged by the time the tenant is housed, in order to maintain housing.

Discussion Questions

- Required touchpoint after tenant has moved out into non-supportive housing
- Give examples of “life skills to maintain a home” (eg. No hoarding, managing guests appropriately, no interference with fire/life safety systems)
- Challenges with providers taking advantage of this opportunity to address challenging tenants
- Consider a common assessment tool for all providers
- Multiple streams – tenant vs. housing provider
- Independent third party validation to approve priority