

MAXIMUM CHOICE

Lending criteria

The applicant

- The minimum age is 55 (the maximum age at application is 89).
- Sole or joint applications (in cases of a joint application the age of the youngest borrower will be taken).
- The maximum number of applicants is 2 and the property must be registered to the borrower(s).
- A Deed of Consent (waiving occupancy rights) will be required for individuals over the age of 17 living at the property or subsequently moving into the property (not borrowers). Spouses must be on the title, regardless of whether they are ineligible for the plan due to not meeting the minimum age requirements.
- Where an applicant has been previously married or in a civil partnership and they have subsequently divorced or separated within the last five years then a copy of the separation agreement or decree absolute is required.
- Where an applicant is still married but separated, a formal deed of separation must be in place confirming the ex-partner has no further financial or legal claim over the property
- Intermediaries may not provide equity release advice in relation to their own application or that of their immediate family

Residency

Applicants must be:

- UK Nationals or individuals with settled status (permanent right to reside or indefinite leave to remain). An individual with a pre-settled status (maximum right to reside of 5 years) will not be accepted. This applies to both Initial and Further Advances. Any applicants who are US Citizens and Permanent Residents, regardless if they have rights to reside, are unacceptable.
- Where a property is unencumbered and the client has resided/owned the property for less than six months a reason for taking equity release must be provided as part of the application process.

Employment

Available to individuals meeting the minimum age requirements regardless of employment status.

Proof of Identity (money laundering)

We are required to seek satisfactory evidence of identity from all new customers by completing identity checks or relying on the evidence from the intermediary. We may ask for copies of the evidence.

Proof of age

You will need to confirm that you have verified the age of each customer in the application. In addition, more2life will perform additional checks on proof of age. We may ask for copies of the evidence.

Power of Attorney is acceptable

- Applicants can appoint a Power of Attorney, providing they are not party to the lifetime
 mortgage, to sign any documents in relation to the mortgage on their behalf, providing that it
 has been correctly registered with the Court of Protection or Office of the Public Guardian.
 Evidence to support this must be provided. In the case of a joint borrower, neither borrower may
 appoint the other as Power of Attorney however they can be named providing there is another
 acting Attorney who is independent from the mortgage.
- On all Power of Attorney cases where the Attorney is not party to the mortgage, more2life will comply with the Money Laundering Regulations and thus the Attorney(s) will be subject to the same money laundering checks which are applied to all applicants.

Criminal convictions

We do not accept applicants who have (or live with someone with) a criminal record, unless the conviction is for minor traffic offence(s), or it is spent under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

Bankruptcy and credit adversity

Applications will be accepted from applicants who have:

- Been discharged from bankruptcy (known as sequestration in Scotland) greater than six years prior to application.
- Satisfactorily completed the term of an Individual Voluntary Arrangement (known as Protected Trust Deed in Scotland).
- No more than three satisfied CCJ's with a maximum accumulative value of £3,000 registered in the last four years.
- A Satisfied Debt Management Plan, providing the applicant has no CCJs in the last four years.
- A charging order against the property is acceptable providing it is cleared at completion of the loan.

Applications will NOT be accepted from applicants who:

- Are undischarged bankrupts, or, in Scotland, are currently the subject of seguestration.
- Have been discharged from bankruptcy within the last six years.
- Are party to a current Individual Voluntary Arrangement, or in Scotland, a Protected Trust Deed which upon completion won't be satisfied.
- Have a judgement registered at the property address, which is not linked to an individual(s).
- Have more than three or an accumulative value of over £3,000 satisfied CCJ's in the last four years.
- Have a Debt Management Plan and any CCJs in the last four years, or a Debt Management Plan which upon completion won't be satisfied.
- Have any unsatisfied CCJ's
- In Scotland, are the subject of an undisclosed inhibition.
- Charging Orders which upon completion won't be cleared

The following are not subject to assessment:

• Defaults, arrears with other lenders and missed credit payments registered against the individual(s).

The loan

- The minimum loan amount is £15,000.
- The maximum loan amount is £2,000,000 (£700,000 for Maxi ZERO ERC plans).

The property

- The minimum property value is £120,000 (£150,000 for ex-public sector houses and bungalows).
- There is no maximum property value.
- For flats and maisonettes 85% of the LTV will be considered.

Tenure

The following types of tenure are acceptable:

- Freehold.
- Leasehold (England and Wales).
- Absolute ownership, also known as heritable ownership (Scotland).

Property types

Properties of standard construction are acceptable. Any purpose built eco properties must be referred prior to application

Use of property

The whole of the property, including any integrated annexe must be used as the family residence with no part-letting, must be on the same title and must be of standard construction. No business use (including Air BNB) is acceptable with the exception of a home office use where no structural change is needed to sell the property as 100% residential. No letting to family members or unauthorised letting, with the exception of the following lodger rule. Properties with lodgers can be considered up to a maximum of two lodgers with formal agreements residing in the property subject to the following – lodger(s) do not reside in any self-contained accommodation and any formal agreements do not have a notice period greater than one month.

Property building insurance

The property must be insured to cover the reinstatement value of the amount advised in the valuation report. A copy of the policy certificate or schedule is required for approval prior to completion. In the case of leasehold properties the noted interest will be the landlord or management company. Where a copy of the policy, certificate or schedule is not available a fully completed Certificate of Comprehensive Building Insurance must be provided by the borrower's solicitors prior to completion.

Second and further charges

No second or further charges are permitted with any other lender on mortgaged property at the time of completion. Any outstanding secured loans must be repaid at the outset. After the initial advance has been made, it is possible to apply for a further advance with more2life. However, this will be subject to the future value of your home and/or changes to the maximum level of lending we are prepared to offer you. Lending terms and interest rates are subject to change and may be different to those which apply today. The borrower must pay all associated costs as detailed in the Tariff of Charges.

References

References, the valuation and offer are valid for:

- Application Form 6 months
- Voters Roll/Credit Search 6 months
- Valuation Report 6 months
- Offer 84 days

Valuer's report

Properties must be valued by an approved firm from the more2life valuers panel. A full internal inspection report must be prepared on an approved more2life valuation report and supported where applicable, by an approved more2life mortgage valuation re-inspection report. Valuation reports are only acceptable where they have been instructed by more2life directly with the panel valuer or by an authorised service provider to more2life.

Solicitors

more2life will always instruct its own panel conveyancing firm to act on its behalf in respect of conveyancing. Applicants may proceed with a firm of their choice. Applicants are liable for their own legal costs.

Acceptable property types

Location	England, Wales and Mainland Scotland
Tenure England and Wales	 Freehold houses & bungalows Leasehold flats/maisonettes (85% of the LTV will be considered), blocks up to four storeys high with a lift (ground floor counted as floor 1). Where no lift is present but the subject flat is located on the 1st or 2nd floor then this is acceptable subject to valuers comments. Leasehold flats where the applicant also owns the freehold on a separate title and there are long leases granted on the other flat in the building (will consider up to two flats in the block). Both the leasehold and freehold title will be charged Leasehold flats where the flats in the block are all held on separate, long leases and the freehold is held jointly and equally by each flat. We will consider up to two properties in the block and it should be confirmed that maintenance of the building is shared equally between the flats (no formal management company is required) Tenants in Common are acceptable where both tenants are party to the mortgage and the agreement is between the applicants Minor areas of Possessory title, subject to title insurance Good leasehold
Tenure Scotland	Absolute ownership
Annex	Annexes which are internally integrated to the main property are acceptable subject to the following: • The annex is only used for family/personal use with no formal letting • It is on the same title as the main property • There are no negative comments from the valuer • The annex must be standard construction as advised by the valuer • The property and annex must comply with the applicable lending criteria

Leasehold requirements	A minimum of 125 years remaining at the time of completion
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	Properties adjacent to or in view of non-residential
Leasehold requirements England and Wales Property type	 A minimum of 125 years remaining at the time of completion Properties adjacent to or in view of non-residential property, subject to valuer's comments. A non-residential property includes community buildings/ businesses such as schools, residential care homes, churches, village halls, places of worship, doctors/GPs. Properties adjacent to or in view of commercial property where there is no shared party wall (i.e. building to building) between the properties, subject to valuer's comments. A commercial property is defined as a property from which a business in line with the location and community is run. Examples of commercial property would include a corner shop on a residential street, hotels, small supermarkets, hairdressers. Licenced premises and food outlets are not included. Properties in the vicinity of or in view of industrial property may be considered where there is strong evidence of demand. An industrial property is defined as a property from which a large-scale business operation is run, for example a builders merchant, factory, business park or large supermarket. Properties with a maximum of five bedrooms Coach House Properties (85% of the LTV will be considered), subject to survey Applications may be accepted where there are lodgers residing on an informal basis without security of tenure (i.e. government rent a room scheme). Subject to a maximum 2 people, excluding family members Barn conversions, subject to all relevant permissions obtained Ex-public Sector houses & bungalows with a minimum property value of £150,000, subject to surveyor confirmation of demand for owner occupation, and no saleability issues, providing the freehold is owned by the applicants (i.e. not the council or a housing trust/association) Ex-local authority/Council Houses or Bungalow properties
	Ex-local authority/Council Houses or Bungalow properties must also be in an area which is predominantly in private ownership, which must be equal to or greater than 60% and subject to satisfactory valuer's comments. The following link can be used to assist https://www.streetcheck.co.uk/
	 Listed buildings – Grade 2 in England/Wales or Grade C in Scotland
	 Properties containing low grade asbestos. The property must be in good condition and have no negative comments on future saleability i.e. Soffix boards, Artex, flues, older roof slates

	Up to seven acres of land, subject to no agricultural
	restrictions. The valuation will be based on a maximum of
	five acres.
•	Flying Freeholds up to 15% of total floor area, subject to
	indemnity policy cover
	Septic tanks for the property's sole use that meet the most
	recent regulatory requirements. The tank must be within
	the property's curtilage
	Solar Panels owned by the borrower or where leased,
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	subject to a satisfactory lease review
	Ground or Air Source heating is acceptable where installed
	as part of the original build
	Conventional walls (deemed as traditional or standard
	construction by the panel surveyor) e.g. 265mm+ cavity,
	225mm+ of solid brick, block, stone, flint etc.
•	Modern timber framed built from 1971 with an outer skin of
	brick or stone & compliant with building regulations
•	Historic timber framed properties (subject to satisfactory
	comments by Surveyor and no saleability issues)
	Steel framed houses & bungalows, built post 2000
	Wimpey No Fines Concrete
	Laing Easiform Concrete
	•
	SSHA (Scottish Specialist Housing Association)
	Single skin construction where single storey and not
	greater than 15% of habitable accommodation
	Mundic concrete block, graded A1
	Tile/slate
	Flat roofs made of traditional materials (i.e. felt) up to a
	maximum of 40% of the total roof area over habitable
	accommodation
•	Flat roofs made of durable material up to a maximum of
	60% of the total roof area over habitable accommodation.
	Durable materials: RBM, mastic asphalt, polymeric (FPO,
	TPE, EPDM, PVC), fibreglass, metal sheet (excluding
	corrugated metal), Zinc
	Flat roofs over non-habitable accommodation i.e. garage,
	conservatory etc.
	External roof coatings applied for maintenance purposes
	can be considered
	Roofs previously treated internally or externally with spray
	foam where it has been removed prior to application,
	Todan Where it has been removed prior to application,
	subject to a report obtained from a suitably qualified
	subject to a report obtained from a suitably qualified
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	professional to confirm the condition of the roof structure NHBC
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•	professional to confirm the condition of the roof structure NHBC LABC BLP
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LIC Links	 Ark Residential New Build Latent Defects Insurance – separate endorsement needed for unattached garages/outbuildings CRL Limited Warranty – where Ark Insurance Group Ltd have underwritten the policy Premier Guarantee One Guarantee Build Assure (New Home Structural Defects Insurance) Global Home Warranties (Structural Defects Insurance) Protek ICW ABC+ The Q Policy for residential properties The Q Policy for bespoke properties (detached only) Advantage (no more than 10 units in any continuous structure) Aedis (no more than 20 units in structure)
HS Links	 Subject to no negative comments from the valuer on saleability
Service/estate charges and ground rent	 The maximum ground rent or estate charge cannot exceed £500 or 0.2% of the property value. The charge should only cover gardening and road maintenance costs with a clear basis of escalation of the charges which does not exceed RPI or a similar index. Where we are made aware a clause exists that allows the 'Charger' to establish the lease on non-payment then this should be removed. Where it is not being removed there should be a requirement that advanced notice is given to the lender with at least 2 months' notice The maximum total service charge and ground rent payable is £1,000 Historic rent charges (pre 1977 Act) must be equal to or less than £25
Environmental matters	 English properties or areas in flood zone 1 (see link below) which have flooded more than 5 years ago can be considered providing it is classed as an isolated event, it does not impact on the valuation and insurance can be obtained under normal terms. Any instance where the flooding relates to surface water is not considered acceptable regardless if it is a one off event. https://floodmap-for-planning.service.gov.uk/ Any properties on the border between flood zone 1 & 2 are considered acceptable subject to valuers comments and insurance being obtained under normal terms. Properties in Scotland & Wales are not graded on a zone basis and enquiries must be made with all parties to establish if a known flood risk exists and insurance can be obtained under normal terms Properties not exposed to coastal erosion as noted by the client, solicitor or valuer

Other	 Foster carers providing they are registered and any occupier waivers are signed where appropriate Live in carers subject to an occupier waivers are signed where appropriate Unadopted roads – where the road/drive servicing the property is un-adopted this is acceptable where the road is well kept and in good condition. It must be confirmed that there is a formal agreement in place between residents for general maintenance and upkeep of the road. The road must only service residential properties. Shared access is acceptable providing it is not shared with any commercial premises Properties greater than 75m away from large steel pylons or mobile phone masts Properties with power lines in close proximity which do not adversely affect marketability Properties close to smaller sub-stations (where located on a residential street and no larger than a single garage, subject
	adversely affect marketabilityProperties close to smaller sub-stations (where located on a
	 Properties close (but not within the boundary) to typical high or low voltage wooden poles, subject to valuer's comments Retentions for essential works up to a maximum of £5,000 or 20% of the total loan amount, works must be completed
	within three months

Unacceptable property types

Tenure	 Scottish Isles, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland, Channel Islands and any other island excluding Portsea, Isle of Wight, Anglesey, Isle of Sheppey and Hayling. Leasehold flats/maisonettes in blocks greater than four storeys high (ground floor counted as floor 1) Leasehold flats/maisonettes where the block does not have a lift and the subject flat is located on the 3rd or 4th floor Commonhold Tenure Crofting tenure Tenants in Common are not acceptable where there is an active restriction on the title
	 active restriction on the title Leasehold Properties in Scotland Properties with title restrictions on use, occupancy or resale
Property type	 Studio flats and basement flats Properties above a non-residential, commercial or industrial property

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	 Properties adjacent (with a party wall) to a commercial property. Properties adjacent to or in view of licenced premises or food outlets. Properties adjacent (with or without a shared party wall) to an industrial property. Shared Ownership (other than between the applicants) Ex-public Sector freehold houses & bungalows valued below £150,000 Ex-public sector flats or leasehold properties Where a property is a new build currently under construction or where the property is already completed but the applicant(s) will be the 1st occupants upon purchase then this will be unacceptable Properties with more than five bedrooms Listed Buildings – Grade 1 & 2 star in England/Wales or A & B in Scotland Commercial properties including Air BNB Park homes Second homes/holiday homes With over seven acres of land, or land with agricultural restrictions Flying Freeholds greater than 15% of the overall floor space Shared septic tanks or tanks outside of the property's curtilage Private water supplies Ground or Air Source heating which was not installed as part of the original build
Annex	Heavily cluttered properties Detached annexes or any annex which is:
	 Used for anything other than family/personal use or any annex with formal letting Not on the same title as the main property Not of standard construction as advised by the valuer Not compliant with the applicable lending criteria for the
	property
Construction: Roof	 Asbestos roof (low content cement based tiles can be considered subject to valuation) Thatched Roofs internally insulated with foam insulation and externally with coatings applied to prolong the longevity of the material Flat roofs made of traditional materials (i.e. felt) over 40% of the total roof area over habitable accommodation Flat roofs over 60% of the total roof area over habitable accommodation Roofs treated internally or externally with foam or other matter Corrugated metal roofs (including iron)

Environmental matters Properties in an area flooded within the last 5 years which were not proven to be one-off events, or properties where the whole or part of the garden has flooded regardless of • Properties which have flooded in the past 5 years due to environmental causes • Properties in flood zones 2 & 3 Properties, including outbuildings, garden, or other land, exposed to coastal erosion Properties impacted by fracking • Older timber framed (pre 1971, unless historic in nature Construction: Walls and deemed acceptable by the surveyor) · Properties built entirely of wood Asbestos Walls • Single skin walls greater than 15% of non-habitable accommodation or not single storey Prefabricated, or any properties constructed of or supported by concrete (with the exception of Wimpey no fines, Laing Easiform or SSHA concrete walls & subject to individual approval by the Surveyor) Colt construction Cobb Construction Wattle & Daub Alumina Cement • Bryant Wall Frame Concrete Panels Camus Construction • Canadian Cedar Wood Frame, with Cedar Wood panels & • Concrete Panels & Cement Render Concrete Pre-Cast Cornish Unit Cross Wall • Cubbitt – Steel framed • Mundic concrete block, unless graded A1 in the latest RICS guidance Norfolk Clay Lump Norwegian Log Norwegian Timber Frame Poured concrete • Tarran – Pre-Fabricated • Salt Home (Swedish Unit) • BISF – steel framed timber frame with fibreglass & plasterboard insulation Timber frame with cement & rendered outer wall Woolway Homes Modern methods of construction Huf Haus PRC properties, whether repaired or not Steel cladding

Service/estate charges and Where the maximum ground rent or estate charge exceeds around rent £500 or 0.2% of the property value. Estate charges relating to services other than gardening or road maintenance. Charges with no clear basis of escalation or escalation which exceeds RPI or a similar index Where the maximum total service charge and ground rent payable exceeds £1,000 • If the ground rent or service charge are considered onerous the property is not acceptable. This includes ground rent which doubles at regular intervals with no cap or ground rent escalations which exceed RPI or similar index • Historic rent charges (pre 1977 Act) greater than £25 Properties with Japanese Knotweed category A-D Other • Unadopted roads in poor condition or where there is no agreement (either formal or informal) in place between residents for general maintenance and upkeep of the road. Where the road is the main service road to a commercial premises is also deemed unacceptable. Shared access with any commercial premises • Properties within 75m of large steel pylons or mobile phone • Properties with power cables passing directly overhead • Properties with high or low voltage wooden poles within property boundaries • Retentions for essential works greater than £5,000 or 20% of the loan amount • Where the valuer identifies cladding is present an EWS1 form may be required before a decision to proceed can be Properties with serious rot which has not been treated under a guarantee.

NB. The unacceptable property criteria should not be used as an exhaustive list, if in any doubt refer to more2life for a decision on acceptance.

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