

# MAXIMUM CHOICE

# Lending criteria

## The applicant

- The minimum age is 55 (the maximum age at application is 84).
- 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.

## Applications will NOT be accepted from applicants who:

- Are undischarged bankrupts, or, in Scotland, are currently the subject of sequestration.
- 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 any unsatisfied CCJ's
- In Scotland, are the subject of an undisclosed inhibition.

## 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 £10,000.
- The maximum loan amount is £950,000.

## The property

- The minimum property value is £120,000 (£150,000 for ex-public sector houses and bungalows).
- The maximum property value is £2,000,000 in England or £1,000,000 in Scotland and Wales.

## **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 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	<ul> <li>Freehold houses &amp; bungalows</li> <li>Leasehold houses &amp; bungalows</li> <li>Tenants in Common are acceptable where both tenants are party to the mortgage and the agreement is between the applicants</li> <li>Minor areas of Possessory title, subject to title insurance</li> <li>Good leasehold</li> </ul>
Tenure Scotland	Absolute ownership
Annex	<ul> <li>Annexes which are internally integrated to the main property are acceptable subject to the following:</li> <li>The annex is only used for family/personal use with no formal letting</li> <li>It is on the same title as the main property</li> <li>There are no negative comments from the valuer</li> <li>The annex must be standard construction as advised by the valuer</li> <li>The property and annex must comply with the applicable lending criteria</li> </ul>
Leasehold requirements England and Wales	A minimum of 125 years remaining at the time of completion
Property type	<ul> <li>Properties with a maximum of five bedrooms</li> <li>Coach House Properties, subject to survey</li> <li>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</li> <li>Barn conversions, subject to all relevant permissions obtained</li> <li>Ex-public Sector houses &amp; 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</li> </ul>

<ul> <li>applicants (i.e. not the council or a housing trust/association)</li> <li>Listed buildings – Grade 2 in England/Wales or Grade C in Scotland</li> <li>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</li> <li>Up to seven acres of land, subject to no agricultural restrictions.</li> <li>Flying Freeholds up to 15% of total floor area, subject to indemnity policy cover</li> <li>Septic tanks for the property's sole use that meet the most recent regulatory requirements. The tank must be within the property's curtilage</li> <li>Solar Panels owned by the borrower or where leased, subject to a satisfactory lease review</li> <li>Ground or Air Source heating is acceptable where installed as part of the original build</li> <li>Conventional walls (deemed as traditional or standard construction by the panel surveyor) e.g. 265mm+ cavity, 225mm+ of solid brick, block, stone, flint etc.</li> <li>Modern timber framed built post 1970 with an outer skin of brick or stone &amp; compliant with building regulations</li> <li>Historic timber framed properties (subject to satisfactory comments by Surveyor and no saleability issues)</li> <li>Steel framed houses &amp; bungalows, built post 2000</li> <li>Wimpey No Fines Concrete</li> <li>Laing Easiform Concrete</li> </ul>
<ul><li>SSHA (Scottish Specialist Housing Association)</li><li>Single skin =&lt;20% excluding non-habitable</li></ul>
<ul><li>accommodation i.e. garage, conservatory etc.</li><li>Mundic concrete block, graded A1</li></ul>
<ul> <li>I ile/slate</li> <li>Flat roofs up to a maximum of 25% of the total roof area over habitable accommodation</li> <li>Flat roofs over non-habitable accommodation i.e. garage, conservatory etc.</li> <li>External roof coatings applied for maintenance purposes can be considered</li> </ul>
23.7.1.2.2.2.1.2.2.2.
<ul> <li>NHBC</li> <li>LABC</li> <li>Zurich Municipal New Build Guarantee</li> <li>BLP</li> <li>Principal</li> <li>Build Zone</li> <li>Checkmate/Castle 10 Warranty Certificate – separate endorsement needed for unattached garages</li> </ul>

	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
	A Foundation 15 Certificate
	Architect's certificate
	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 residential properties
	The Q Policy for bespoke properties (detached only)
	Advantage (no more than 10 units in any continuous
	structure)
HS Links	<ul> <li>Aedis (no more than 20 units in structure)</li> <li>Subject to no negative comments from the valuer on</li> </ul>
	saleability
Service/estate charges and	The maximum ground rent or estate charge cannot exceed
ground rent	£500 or 0.2% of the property value. The charge should only
3 3.13	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 £2,500 or 1.5% of the property value
	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. <a href="https://floodmap-for-planning.service.gov.uk/">https://floodmap-for-planning.service.gov.uk/</a>
	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
Oth an	
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 an agreement (either formal or informal) 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 pylons, over-head
	power cables (excluding electricity supplied by wooden
	poles), or mobile phone masts
	• Retentions for essential works up to a maximum of £5,000,
	only applicable on Maxi Choice and Maxi Choice Plus

## Unacceptable property types

Location	Scottish Isles, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland, Channel Islands and
	any other island excluding Portsea, Isle of Wight, Anglesey, Isle
	of Sheppey, Canvey and Hayling.
Tenure	Commonhold Tenure
	Crofting tenure
	Tenants in Common are not acceptable where there is an
	active restriction on the title
	Leasehold Properties in Scotland
Property type	Flats/Maisonettes
	<ul> <li>Shared Ownership (other than between the applicants)</li> </ul>
	Ex-public Sector houses & bungalows valued below
	£150,000
	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
	<ul> <li>Listed Buildings – Grade 1 &amp; 2 star in England/Wales or A &amp;</li> </ul>
	B in Scotland
	Commercial properties or above commercial properties

	T
	Park homes
	Second homes/holiday homes
	Adjacent to commercial properties
	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
	Heavily cluttered properties
Annex	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 over 25% of the total roof area above habitable
	accommodation
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
	zone
	Properties in flood zones 2 & 3
	Properties exposed to coastal erosion  Properties in a state of the foundation.
	Properties impacted by fracking
Construction: Walls	Older timber framed (pre 1965, unless historic in nature
	and deemed acceptable by the surveyor)
	Properties built entirely of wood
	Asbestos Walls     Single abije vedla s 200% avaludia a pag babitable
	Single skin walls > 20% excluding non-habitable
	accommodation i.e. garages, conservatories etc.
	Prefabricated, or any properties constructed of or  supported by congrete (with the exception of Wimpey po
	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
	Cold Construction     Cobb Construction
	Wattle & Daub
	Wattle & Daub     Alumina Cement
	Bryant Wall Frame
	Concrete Panels
	▼ Concrete Fallers

	Camus Construction     Canus Contract Contr
	Canadian Cedar Wood Frame, with Cedar Wood panels &  DVG
	PVC
	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     Tarran – Pre-Fabricated
	Salt Home (Swedish Unit)  PIGE and a Line beautiful to a Constant State Character of the Character of t
	BISF – steel framed timber frame with fibreglass &
	plasterboard insulation
	Timber frame with cement & rendered outer wall
	Woolway Homes
	Modern methods of construction
	Huf Haus  PDC
Contrada la la contrada la con	PRC properties, whether repaired or not
Service/estate charges and	Where the maximum ground rent or estate charge exceeds
ground 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 £2,500 or 1.5% of the property value
	<ul> <li>If the ground rent or service charge are considered onerous</li> </ul>
	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
Other	Properties with Japanese Knotweed category A-D
	<ul> <li>Unadopted roads in poor condition or where there is no</li> </ul>
	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.
	<ul> <li>Shared access with any commercial premises</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Properties within 75m of pylons, over-head power cables</li> </ul>
	(excluding electricity supplied by wooden poles), or mobile
	phone masts
	Retentions for essential works greater than £5,000 or on
	Maxi Extra or Super 1 & 2 are unacceptable
	Where the valuer identifies cladding is present an EWS1
	form may be required before a decision to proceed can be
	made
1	

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.
to morezine for a decision on acceptance.
THIS IS INTENDED FOR INTERMEDIARIES ONLY
AND HAS NOT BEEN APPROVED FOR CUSTOMER USE.

more2life Limited, PO Box 1168,

03454 500 151

Preston, PR2 0GB

more2life.co.uk

more 2 life For more information;