



Reducing Public Rental Housing Waiting Time

We must also address the housing needs of people who cannot afford to purchase any type of housing or rent private accommodation. To do this we aim to reduce the average waiting time for public rental housing from 6½ years today to just under five years by 2001, to four years by 2003, and to three years by 2005.

To reduce average waiting time for public rental housing to three years

Initiatives	Benefits
<p>In 1998, we will introduce a means test, covering income and assets, for prospective tenants to ensure that public rental housing is allocated to those in genuine need.</p>	<p>✓ This will contribute to reducing the waiting time for those in genuine need from the present average of 6½ years to under five years by 2001; to four years by 2003; and to no more than three years by 2005.</p>
<p>In 1998, we will offer subsidised home ownership flats directly to families on the waiting list when it comes to their turn for public rental flat allocation.</p>	<p>✓ These and other initiatives to increase home ownership will result in the average waiting time for those in genuine need being reduced to three years by 2005.</p>