

## PORTFOLIO LENDING GUIDELINES AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

October 2021

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## Submission requirements

Please send these documents to us within 24 hours of making your application. You can do this by uploading them straight on to our [intermediary portal](#).

	 <b>Portfolio landlords</b>	
	Individual	Limited Company
Fully completed online application, plus an <a href="#">additional applicant form</a> where there are more than two applicants	✓	✓
Fully completed <a href="#">property schedule</a> <i>(We can accept your own property schedule, providing it contains all of our required fields)</i>	✓	✓
If employed: • the last three months' payslips	✓	✗
If self-employed, the last two years: • SA302 tax calculations (or equivalent) • Tax Year Overview • Tax return / SA100	✓ <i>Sole traders and for rental income from property held in personal name</i>	✗ <i>However, we will need to verify the income declared</i>
For limited companies whose principal purpose is holding buy to let property: • the last two years accounts (if available), prepared by a qualified member of an accountancy body acceptable to us	✓	✓
The last three months' rental bank statements <i>(To confirm all rental income and investment mortgage payments across all portfolios)</i>	✓	✓
Signed direct debit instruction <i>(A copy will be emailed out upon submission of the case)</i>	✓	✓
Completed <a href="#">submission requirements questionnaire</a>	✓	✓

This covers our basic submission requirements and should not be relied upon as a definitive list.

All cases are different, so it's important that you also send us any additional information that is relevant and could influence the underwriting decision. By completing the [submission requirements questionnaire](#), our underwriters can assess your case more thoroughly, which should allow us to process the application through to offer of loan without any further questions.

Our valuations are instructed as soon as an application is received, which may be before the case is fully underwritten. If you wish to opt out of this service on an application, and would like the valuation to be instructed after the case has been underwritten, please call us on 0345 849 4040 at the time of submission.

# Lending guidelines

These guidelines represent a summary of our portfolio lending criteria for residential investment properties located in England, Wales and Scotland. These guidelines may be altered at any time without prior notice. Requirements may vary for individual cases and these are guidelines only.

## 1. Loan requirements

- **Minimum loan amount (excluding any fees added to the loan)**

Purchase/Remortgage : £30,000

Further advance: £5,000

- **Minimum property valuation:**

£75,000

- **Loan to value (LTV)**

The maximum loan to value per property for purchases, remortgages and further advances (aggregate of existing loan(s) plus further advance) is as follows:

- up to 65% LTV: maximum loan up to £4,000,000
- up to 70% LTV: maximum loan up to £1,500,000
- up to 75% LTV: maximum loan up to £1,000,000
- up to 80% LTV: maximum loan up to £750,000

Any fees added to the loan will be taken into account for higher LTV applications and included within the maximum loan available and LTV calculations. The total amount of loan plus any fees added must not exceed 80% LTV.

Limits for holiday lets and expatriates can be found in sections 13 and 14 of these guidelines.

- **Maximum aggregate borrowing**

A total mortgage exposure per borrower of £10,000,000 (including any fees added to the loans) may be advanced to an applicant on a property portfolio.

Where a total mortgage exposure above £5,000,000 (including any fees added to the loans) is requested and agreed, a maximum aggregated LTV of 75% will apply. All borrowing above a £5,000,000 mortgage exposure will be subject to a maximum LTV per property of 70%.

Where aggregate lending with Paragon Banking Group is in excess of £2,000,000 (including any fees added to the loans), this will be subject to additional underwriting and will require:

Interview with a senior underwriter

Cash flow forecast\*

Business plan\*

Net worth statement\*

\*Electronic copies are available on the Paragon website [www.paragonbank.co.uk/btldocuments/intermediary](http://www.paragonbank.co.uk/btldocuments/intermediary)

- **Loan purpose**

We will generally consider applications for either purchase or remortgage of residential investment property and further advances. Capital raising will be considered for all purposes concerned with the owning and renting of residential property.

- **Purchase application**

The loan amount will be based upon the lower of purchase price or current valuation.

Proof of the source of the deposit may be requested, but will be required in all instances for expatriate applications.

Where the applicant(s) are not providing the whole of the balance of the purchase price from their own funds, full details must be provided for consideration by us.

It should be noted that property sales between corporate entities that are part of the same group or have common directors, are not normally acceptable.

- **Remortgage application**

We will consider remortgage applications where the applicant(s) have been the registered proprietor(s) for less than six months. In these instances, the loan amount will be based upon the lower of the purchase price or current valuation. Exceptions will be considered where it can be demonstrated, that since the date of purchase, significant improvement works which have enhanced the property value have been carried out. A schedule of works and evidence of expenditure will be required.

In all instances, the property must be registered at the Land Registry (or in Scotland, Registers of Scotland) as owned by the applicant(s), at the date of completion.

- **Consumer buy-to-let**

We will not consider portfolio applications that qualify as consumer buy-to-let mortgage contracts.

- **Mortgage term**

Minimum: 5 years

Maximum: 25 years

- **Repayment methods**

Interest only, capital and interest repayment and part interest only and part capital repayment loans are available.

Although we do not require a life policy to be assigned, we strongly recommend that suitable cover for the amount and term of the loan is in place to provide adequate protection for the applicant(s).

- **Property investment clubs and syndicates**

We will not accept applications where the property is being purchased or refinanced through, or where the applicant is in anyway connected to, a property investment club or syndicate.

## 2. Income/affordability

**We will assess the affordability of a mortgage based on the expected monthly income generated from letting the property to a tenant. The actual income generated may be different and can be influenced over time by changes within the rental market.**

**The applicant(s) will remain responsible for meeting the costs of the mortgage and the additional costs associated with letting the property for the duration of ownership.**

- **Income**

Applicants should have a minimum combined gross annual income of £25,000 per annum.

The useable income figure in respect of Land and Property income will be derived by deducting the total amount of 'Residential finance costs' from the 'Taxable profit for the year' figure, in line with current tax calculation requirements.

All income must be evidenced and can include:

- gross employment income
- taxable self employed income
- occupational or private pension income

State benefits, state pensions and investment income will not be considered, but may be taken into account when calculating the tax band applicable to an applicant.

There is no minimum income requirement for expatriate applications, but details of all income must be provided.

- **Affordability**

Any fees that will be added to the loan will be included in the loan amount used in the affordability calculations.

All applications will be subject to validation of:

- The income requirements above
- The gross rental income from the property should equal or exceed the Interest Cover Ratio (ICR) as determined using a combination of the tax band applicable to an applicant's income and the property type. The tax band applicable to the applicant with the highest income will be used.

All calculations will be based on either the current reference rate published on our website, or the product charging rate plus 2%, whichever is the greater. Five year fixed rate products will be calculated using either the product charging rate or 4%, whichever is the greater.



For limited liability partnerships, the tax band applicable to the applicant (member) with the highest income will be used.

The tax band and ICR levels are as follows:

<b>Applicant type</b>	<b>Single self-contained properties</b>	<b>HMO's, Multi Unit and all other property types</b>	<b>Holiday lets (AST rent used)</b>	<b>Holiday lets* (Holiday let income used)</b>
Basic rate tax payer (20%)	125%	130%	125%	150%
Limited company	125%	130%	125%	150%
Higher rate tax payers (40%)	140%	145%	140%	150%
Additional rate tax payers (45%)	140%	145%	140%	150%
Expatriates and LLPs with expatriate members	140%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Limited companies with expatriate directors	130%	N/A	N/A	N/A

\*Where evidenced holiday let income is used, an additional calculation of 100% of the achievable monthly AST rent must also be met.

We must be satisfied that the applicant(s) are able to withstand increases in mortgage interest rates, cover rental voids and be able to afford the mortgage now and after any fixed/discounted period expires. We may request evidence of contingency funds which could be used to support increased mortgage payments. We may decline an application if we believe the applicant will not be able to meet mortgage payments should interest rates increase.

### 3. Personal details

- **Applicant(s)**

Applications will be considered for up to four individuals who should all have been resident and liable to tax in the UK for a minimum of the last two years, unless the applicants are expatriates.

All applicant(s) must have indefinite leave to remain in the UK.

At least one applicant must be the owner of a residential property or residential investment property.

All expatriate applicants must hold a current UK passport, and have held a UK bank account for at least three years.

- **Age at application**

Minimum: 21 years

The applicant(s) should not be over 85 years of age at the end of the mortgage term.

- **Identity**

Where the identity of all applicants cannot be established through the underwriting process, proof of identity verified by the solicitor or mortgage broker will be required. We will also accept documents certified as true copies of the originals if verified using the Post Office Identity Document Checking Service.

Expatriates will be required to provide a certified copy of their current UK passport, together with three separate proof of residency documents.

### 4. Limited companies / limited liability partnerships (LLPs)

Applications will be considered from limited companies / LLPs registered and trading in England, Wales or Scotland, and whose directors / members should all have been resident and liable to tax in the UK for a minimum of the last two years, unless the directors/members are expatriates. Applications must be made through our portfolio application process, even if the customer is classified as non-portfolio under PRA regulation.

- The company / LLP must have been incorporated for the principal activity of buying and holding residential investment property. This must continue to be its principal activity. All other activities must be disclosed at application for further consideration
- Additional security in the form of a floating charge will be required from companies that have material assets and business activities other than holding and letting residential investment property
- All members of an acceptable LLP must be designated members
- LLPs with corporate members are not acceptable

- Full personal guarantees must be available from all the directors / members on a joint and several basis, subject to the company / LLP having a maximum of four directors / members who each must be able to satisfy Paragon's portfolio lending criteria
- At least 80% of the applicant company shares should be owned by the directors and guarantors in their personal names. Alternatively, the shares may be held by a holding company whose shareholders and directors are the same individuals as the directors of the applicant company.

We reserve the right to request full personal guarantees from significant shareholders.

The expression "applicant(s)" should, where appropriate in these guidelines, be interpreted to also mean guarantor(s).

## 5. Credit history

A comprehensive review of the credit history for each applicant will be undertaken, which will include a credit search on all applicants. In addition, we will undertake a credit score in order to ascertain the acceptability of the application. A UK credit search will be carried out on expatriate applicants wherever possible.

We will not normally consider any application where there is evidence of poor credit history, such as defaults or arrears on any loan.

We will not consider applications where an applicant:

- has historic or current county court judgements
- is an historic or current disqualified director

We reserve the right to obtain a new credit search at any time and any change in the applicants credit history could lead to the application being reviewed.

## 6. Employment

For expatriates, please see section 14 of these guidelines.

At least one applicant must be employed or self-employed as defined below.

- **Employed applicant(s):**

Applicant(s) must be in permanent non-probationary employment.

Applicant(s) on long term contract work will be considered on an individual basis.

- **Self employed applicant(s):**

Includes existing landlords.

Applicant(s) must have been trading in their present business for a minimum of two years and be able to provide two years accounts and/or tax returns as per our submission requirements.

Applicant(s) who work on a subcontract basis will be treated as self employed.

An applicant will be classed as self employed where the individual owns 20% or more shareholding of the company or is employed by a family business.

- **Accepted accountancy institutes:**

- Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales (ACA/FCA)
- Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland (CA)
- Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA / FCCA)
- Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (ACMA/FCMA)
- Association of International Accountants (AAIA/FAIA)
- Association of Authorised Public Accountants (AAPA/FAPA)
- Association of Accounting Technicians (MAAT/FMAAT) - Must be a practicing and licensed member under the AAT organisation regulations or work for, and be indemnified by, another accountancy firm with a separate qualification from the above list.

## 7. Property

We will take a first legal charge and will normally consider most types of traditionally constructed residential property in England, Wales or Scotland.

- **Minimum property valuation: £75,000**

- **Valuations**

A security assessment and valuation report will be arranged to determine the property value, the realistic and sustainable monthly rental income and the suitability of the property for mortgage purposes.

Any property we are considering should be lettable in its current condition.

Properties that are likely to have low demand from tenants due to their current condition, location or other factors, including poor maintenance or management of common areas, will not normally be acceptable.

We reserve the right to accept or decline any individual property.

Before completion of the loan, a revaluation will be arranged by us, at the applicant's expense, where the initial inspection is more than four months old.

The property must comply with the current Energy Performance Certificate Regulation, and have a minimum rating of E, unless there is an applicable exemption. This will be verified by Paragon and the acting solicitor and we will not be able to lend on any property that is found not to be compliant.

**Our valuations are instructed as soon as an application is received, which may be before the case is fully underwritten. If you wish to opt out of this service on an application, and would like the valuation to be instructed after the case has been underwritten, please call us on 0345 849 4040 at the time of submission.**

- **Multi-unit property**

The applicant must have a minimum three years lettings experience as a landlord, and the application must be made through our portfolio application process, even if the customer is classified as non-portfolio under PRA regulation.

Multi-unit property applications are not accepted from expatriate applicants.

A single property may be divided into a maximum of 20 units and the following minimum values will apply:-

Up to 10 units, the property value must be greater than or equal to £100,000

Up to 20 units, the property value must be greater than or equal to £150,000

If more than one unit (house or flat) is held on a single title and each unit is capable of sale separately, a valuation based on the sum of the parts (with an appropriate discount applied to reflect the single title) may be adopted. In this scenario, the minimum value of each individual unit must be greater than or equal to £50,000.

Properties will not be considered where more than 50% of the units are on long leases.

At our discretion, and where considered appropriate, an investment valuation may be obtained. Where the property has been purchased in the last 12 months and there has been an uplift in value, it will be subject to a maximum 70% LTV. Where the property has been purchased in the last 12 months, but the property value and lending requirements equate to a like for like transaction, we may consider lending more than 70%, subject to product criteria. Where the property was acquired more than 12 months ago and there has been a significant recent uplift in valuation, we may still limit the advance to a maximum 70% LTV.

- **House in multiple occupation (HMO)**

A property is a HMO if at least three tenants live there, forming more than one household, and sharing toilet, bathroom or kitchen facilities.

HMO property applications are not accepted from expatriate applicants.

The applicant must have a minimum three years' lettings experience as a landlord, and the application must be made through our portfolio application process, even if the customer is classified as non-portfolio under PRA regulation.

The following minimum HMO values will apply: -

Up to 10 rooms, the property value must be greater than or equal to £100,000

Up to 20 rooms, the property value must be greater than or equal to £150,000

At our discretion, and where considered appropriate, an investment valuation may be obtained. Where the property has been purchased in the last 12 months and there has been an uplift in value, it will be subject to a maximum 70% LTV. Where the property has been purchased in the last 12 months, but the property value and lending requirements equate to a like for like transaction, we may consider lending more than 70%, subject to product criteria. Where the property was acquired more than 12 months ago and there has been a significant recent uplift in valuation, we may still limit the advance to a maximum 70% LTV.

- **Investment valuations**

As a guide only, an investment valuation may be adopted where the property is no longer capable of being assessed as a single residential dwelling either due to the overall level of occupancy or its subdivision into separate units.

For multi-unit properties (purpose built or converted) an investment valuation will be undertaken.

For HMO's, an occupancy level of five or more tenants will normally require an investment valuation.

- **Part commercial property**

The applicant must have a minimum of three years lettings experience as a landlord, and the application must be made through our portfolio application process, even if the customer is classified as non-portfolio under PRA regulation.

Part commercial property applications are not accepted from expatriate applicants.

We may consider as security, residential investment property where there is a commercial element, not exceeding 40% of total floor space of the whole property.

The commercial usage should be referred for our consideration.

An investment valuation of the property will be undertaken. The gross property valuation will be discounted by the notional value of the commercial element.

The minimum valuation required for either Multi-Unit or HMO properties as appropriate (see above) will apply to the residential element.

Where the property has been purchased in the last 12 months and there has been an uplift in value, it will be subject to a maximum 70% LTV. Where the property has been purchased in the last 12 months, but the property value and lending requirements equate to a like for like transaction, we may consider lending more than 70%, subject to product criteria. Where the property was acquired more than 12 months ago and there has been a significant recent uplift in valuation, we may still limit the advance to a maximum 70% LTV.

The normal rent to mortgage ratios will apply, but income from the commercial letting will not be taken into account.

- **All Properties**

Where a property has been subject to alteration, conversion or change of use, the following items will be required to be forwarded with the deeds, unless the property is a HMO, when copies will be required prior to release of funds:

- a copy of the current HMO licence, if applicable (for property purchases a copy of the new HMO licence will also be required after completion)
- evidence that the property has the benefit of planning permission for its current layout and use. Evidence may be in the form of a copy of the planning consent(s) for the current configuration/use, permitted development for change from Class C3 to C4 of the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) (Amendments) (England) Order 2010, assuming no Article 4 Direction Order in place at the time of the change, or sui generis (as appropriate); an established use certificate or a certificate of lawfulness of existing use or development
- evidence that the property has the benefit of appropriate building regulations approval and a copy of the building regulations completion certificate

- **Property exclusions**

Property is unacceptable if it is:

- an ex-local authority flat or maisonette
- non-traditional construction such as concrete or timber or where existing or possible structural defects are apparent
- a shared ownership property (currently or previously)
- a converted flat where the applicant occupies a property in the same building
- a freehold flat or maisonette in England and Wales
- subject to unreasonable lease terms, including onerous ground rent amounts; review periods; escalation provisions and event fees
- a leasehold property in Scotland
- designated as defective under any housing legislation
- subject to agricultural or other planning restrictions (see part commercial property above)
- subject to notice of mineral extraction, contaminated land or previous mining subsidence and landfill
- being purchased under the Right to Buy Scheme or Housing Association Scheme
- built within the last ten years without an NHBC certificate or other guarantee acceptable to us
- subject to a pre-emption clause
- a property with solar panels installed where they are subject to a lease agreement
- located within either ten metres of an electrical sub-station or 100 metres of an overhead high voltage cable or communication mast
- a holiday let that has restrictive covenants relating to occupancy

At our discretion, the following types of property may be considered on an individual basis:

- ex-local authority houses
- flats in blocks over four storeys high (ten storeys within the M25 area) or with more than 100 units
- studio flats, with a minimum of 30 square metres
- new or recently built flats where there is, or is likely to be, a low demand from tenants
- leasehold flats and maisonettes attached to or above commercial premises
- residential let property where there is a commercial element not exceeding 40% of the total floor space of the whole property (see part commercial property above)
- properties with an element of "flying freehold"
- self-build properties
- properties with restrictions relating to sale or occupancy eg Section 106 notice
- properties subject to chancel repairs/liability
- properties subject to issues identified by an environmental search

#### • **Tenure**

Freehold/heritable in England, Wales or Scotland, or leasehold in England and Wales only (subject to a minimum of 85 years unexpired term at the commencement of the mortgage and 65 years unexpired term at the end of the mortgage).

Ground rent and other event fees must be reasonable at all times during the lease term.

It is acceptable for ground rent escalation to be linked to RPI (Retail Price Index) or a similar index where the review period is 10 years or greater. Reviews every 5 years are not acceptable. The passing ground rent must be in proportion to the capital value of the property and not materially affect its value.

Unreasonable multipliers of ground rent will not be permitted, for example, doubling every 10 or 15 years. If you are unsure as to whether the terms of a lease are unreasonable, please refer the details to the lender for further advice.

Note: Possessory title is not normally acceptable.

#### • **Let property**

In England and Wales, property may either be let:

- on an assured shorthold tenancy subject to a minimum term of six months and a maximum of 36 months
- or
- to a limited company registered in England, Wales or Scotland for up to three years or to a local authority, housing association or suitable educational institute for up to five years in all instances, provided it is subsequently occupied by a private individual or individuals whose rights of occupation do not extend beyond the term granted to the acceptable tenant.

In Scotland, property may either be let:

- on a short assured tenancy, subject to a minimum term of six months and a maximum term of 12 months
- or
- on a private residential tenancy.

For full details please refer to our General and Special conditions booklet on our website, [www.paragonbank.co.uk/btldocumentsintermediary](http://www.paragonbank.co.uk/btldocumentsintermediary)

Each tenancy agreement must require the rent to be paid at either monthly or quarterly intervals (or in the case of students, termly).

Property shall not in whole or in part be let to or occupied by:

- the applicant, or any member of their family
- the guarantor, or any member of their family
- the vendor of the property, or any member of their family
- any previous owner of the property, or any member of their family
- an employee of the applicant
- an associated subsidiary, or parent company of the applicant

Sale-and-rent-back arrangements are not acceptable.

Holiday lets are acceptable. Please see section 13 of these guidelines for specific criteria.

Where a tenancy agreement pre-dates the completion of the loan then the solicitor acting must ensure that our interests are fully protected.



- **Occupation**

Depending on the specific conditions of each loan, the property must either be occupied by acceptable tenants (see Let Property and Holiday Let Properties sections for details), or may be vacant between lettings for up to 90 days, subject to the terms of the insurance cover being complied with.

## 8. Solicitors

We will normally instruct the applicant's solicitors/licensed conveyancers to act provided:-

- the firm has a minimum of four partners each holding current practising certificates/licenses, operates from commercial premises, has been in business for at least three years and is currently registered with the Law Society/Council for Licensed Conveyancers
- the solicitor/licensed conveyancer acting holds a current practising certificate and is currently registered with the Law Society/Council for Licensed Conveyancers
- the firm is registered on Lender Exchange, agrees to our terms and conditions and has been accepted onto our conveyancing panel

Should an applicant(s) choose a firm that is not acceptable to us we will instruct a firm of our choosing to act on our behalf and any costs incurred will be the responsibility of the applicant(s) whether or not completion takes place.

We will not allow a change of solicitor/licensed conveyancer post-issue of Offer of Loan.

In all cases, we reserve the right to instruct alternative solicitors/licensed conveyancers to act solely for us and any costs incurred will be the responsibility of the applicant(s) whether or not completion takes place.

Please refer to our approved conveyancing panel which can be found on our website [www.paragonbank.co.uk/btldocuments/intermediary](http://www.paragonbank.co.uk/btldocuments/intermediary) for a full list of approved firms.

## 9. Property insurance

Index linked buildings insurance will be required to be maintained for the rebuilding cost of the property.

The applicant(s) must make their own insurance arrangements subject to confirmation that the policy is acceptable to us, or, for leasehold property, the freeholders may already have adequate cover in force under the terms of the lease.

Details of the policy must be provided to confirm that suitable cover will be in force and our interest must be noted on the policy. In such circumstances the applicant must contribute towards the cost of contingency insurance taken out by Paragon, to cover any subsequent loss as a result of any inadequacy of the insurance arranged by them.

All properties must be acceptable to our insurers on standard terms ie exclusions or increased excesses must not apply.

We reserve the right to request a copy of the insurance policy where the borrower has arranged their own buildings insurance.

## 10. General

- **Decision**

When considering an application a detailed assessment of the following circumstances will be made, so that an informed decision can be reached regarding the acceptability of the case:

- the applicant's credit history
- the applicant's income and employment status
- the viability of the applicant's business
- costs associated with letting, managing and maintenance of the let properties
- the rental income available is sufficient to support the loan
- the suitability and value of the property
- the loan to value
- the applicant's credit score

- **Final decision**

We reserve the absolute discretion to determine whether to make an offer and the terms on which the offer is made.

- **Our Offer of Loan will lapse if completion does not take place within three calendar months of issue**

- **Verification**

We reserve the right to validate any references or other documentation received in the course of assessing the application.

Updated references will be required where completion has not taken place within six months.

We will contact all applicants by telephone to verify information submitted in support of the application.

- **Legal charges**

We require a first legal charge (or in Scotland, Security) over the property.

We will not accept subsequent charges in favour of any other party, for any purpose, including borrowing from other lending institutions.

- **Interest rates, fees and redemption terms**

Please refer to the guide entitled "Buy-to-let portfolio product guide" for full details.

Any application fee/valuation fee will be charged immediately on acceptance of a case for processing and the valuation will normally be instructed immediately thereafter.

- **Direct debit mandates**

It is a condition of the loan that monthly payments are made from an account in the applicant's name(s), with a UK based bank and made by direct debit which is to be set up prior to the issue of an offer.

- **Email address**

Please note that our offer of advance will be issued by email. Therefore we require email addresses for the principal applicant, solicitor and introducer.

## 11. Further advances

Further advances may be available, on properties in England and Wales, subject to the criteria set out in our Further advance lending guidelines.

Our Portfolio further advance products are funded by Paragon Bank PLC and will be registered by way of second charge against the property. Details of our lending guidelines and current product range can be found on our website at [www.paragonbank.co.uk/intermediary/documents](http://www.paragonbank.co.uk/intermediary/documents). The affordability assessment will take into account both the proposed advance (including fees added to the loan) and the existing loans secured against the property.

If you wish to discuss an application with us, please call on 0345 849 4040. Alternatively, applications can be made on our online portal at [www.paragonbank.co.uk/intermediary/portal](http://www.paragonbank.co.uk/intermediary/portal).

## 12. Product switches

If the current mortgage product incentive period is coming to an end, it may be possible to switch to a new product. Details of our current product switch range can be found on our website at [www.paragonbank.co.uk/intermediary/documents](http://www.paragonbank.co.uk/intermediary/documents).

Applications can be made on our online portal at [www.paragonbank.co.uk/intermediary/portal](http://www.paragonbank.co.uk/intermediary/portal).

## 13. Holiday Let properties

We will consider applications for properties occupied as furnished holiday lets. The standard criteria set out in these guidelines will apply, but is subject to the following exceptions: -

- **Loan to value (LTV)**

The maximum loan to value per property for purchases and remortgages is as follows:

- Up to 70% LTV – maximum loan up to £500,000

Any fees that may be added to the loan are excluded from the LTV calculations, but will be included in the loan amount used in the affordability calculations.



- **Affordability**

Any fees that will be added to the loan will be included in the loan amount used in the affordability calculations. All calculations will be based on either the current reference rate published on our website, or the product charging rate plus 2%, whichever is the greater.

The affordability of the application will be assessed in one of two ways:

- Using the rental income that can be achieved on a monthly Assured Shorthold Tenancy (AST) for the property, calculated at the standard Interest Cover Ratio (ICR) percentages shown in the table below.
- Where two years holiday rental income can be evidenced by accounts, the gross annual rental income, averaged over 12 months, should equal to or exceed the ICR of 150% based on our current reference rate. There will be a secondary calculation to ascertain that holiday rental income can also cover a minimum of 100% of the achievable monthly AST rent.

<b>Applicant type</b>	<b>AST rent used</b>	<b>Holiday let income used</b>
Basic rate tax payer (20%)	125%	150%
Limited company	125%	150%
Higher rate tax payers (40%)	140%	150%
Additional rate tax payers (45%)	140%	150%

We must be satisfied that the applicant(s) are able to withstand increases in mortgage interest rates, cover rental voids, manage the additional expenses associated with running a holiday let and be able to afford the mortgage now and after any fixed/discounted period expires.

- **Applicant**

Applicants to own no more than ten holiday let properties in total.

- **Property**

Available for single self-contained properties only, with no restrictive covenants regarding occupancy in place.

- **Let property**

The property must be let on an approved holiday occupancy agreement, for a maximum period not exceeding one month.

The property must not in whole or in part be let to or occupied by:

- The applicant, or any member of their family
- The guarantor, or any member of their family
- The vendor of the property, or any member of their family
- Any previous owner of the property, or any member of their family
- An employee of the applicant
- An associated subsidiary, or parent company of the applicant

If the property is subsequently let out on an AST basis, the let property criteria in section 7 of these guidelines will apply.

- **Valuation**

The property will only be deemed suitable if, in the opinion of the Paragon surveyor, it is capable of being let on an AST basis, and that there is an acceptable level of rental demand.

## 14. Expatriate applications

We will consider applications from expatriate applicants. The standard criteria set out in these guidelines will apply, but is subject to the following exceptions: -

- **Loan to value (LTV)**

The maximum loan to value per property for purchases and remortgages is as follows:

- Up to 70% LTV – maximum loan up to £750,000
- Up to 65% LTV – maximum loan up to £1,000,000

Any fees that may be added to the loan are excluded from the LTV calculations, but will be included in the loan amount used in the affordability calculations.

- **Purchase application**

Proof of the source of deposit will be required in all instances.

- **Income**

There is no minimum income requirement, but applicants must provide details of all income.

- **Affordability**

Any fees that will be added to the loan will be included in the loan amount used in the affordability calculations.

All calculations will be based on either the current reference rate published on our website, or the product charging rate plus 2%, whichever is the greater.

The affordability of the application will be assessed as follows:

- For individual and joint applicants, and for LLP's with expatriate members, the gross rental income should equal to or exceed the Interest Cover Ratio (ICR) of 140%
- For limited company applications, the gross rental income should equal to or exceed the Interest Cover Ratio (ICR) of 130%

<b>Applicant type</b>	<b>Single self-contained unit properties</b>
Expatriate applicants and LLP's (with expatriate members)	140%
Limited company (with expatriate directors)	130%

We must be satisfied that the applicant(s) are able to withstand increases in mortgage interest rates, cover rental voids, factor in the additional expenses associated with engaging the services of a managing agent and be able to afford the mortgage now and after any fixed/discounted period expires.

- **Applicant(s)**

Applications will be considered for up to four individuals, who must hold a current UK passport, and are residing outside of the UK in one of the following countries:

Austria	Greece	Norway
Belgium	Hungary	Poland
Bulgaria	Iceland	Portugal
Canada	Ireland	Singapore
Cyprus	Italy	Slovak Republic
Czech Republic	Japan	Slovenia
Denmark	Kingdom of the Netherlands	Spain
Finland	Luxembourg	Sweden
France	Malta	Switzerland
Germany	New Zealand	United States

All applicants must have held a UK bank account for a minimum of three years.

- **Identity**

Expatriates must provide a certified copy of their current UK passport, together with three separate proof of residency documents.

- **Limited companies/limited liability partnerships**

Applications will be considered from limited companies / LLPs registered and trading in England, Wales or Scotland, and whose directors/members are expatriates.

All applicant expatriate limited companies and LLPs must be UK registered.

- **Credit history**

A UK credit search will be undertaken wherever possible. We will not consider applications where there is evidence of poor credit history.

- **Employment**

All employment statuses are accepted, and full details must be provided as part of the application.

- **Property**

Available for single self-contained properties only, with no restrictive covenants in place.

The services of a managing agent must be engaged to oversee the property, and details of the agent must be provided prior to completion of the loan.

**Where an application falls outside these guidelines, but you feel it should be considered further, please refer it to us on an individual basis for a decision. If you would like an opinion prior to submitting a full application, then simply call us on: 0345 849 4040.**

**PARAGON 51 HOMER ROAD, SOLIHULL, WEST MIDLANDS B91 3QJ**

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