# **Lending Criteria**



This list is not exhaustive. Please contact us to discuss your requirements

#### Standard residential

Read in conjunction with General Criteria

Age: Minimum: 18

**Term:** Maximum: 35 years or the number of years it will take (the eldest) applicant to reach 75 (whichever is lower). Minimum: 5 years. If the term goes beyond anticipated retirement age, the mortgage must be on a repayment basis and we may ask for evidence of means to repay until the end of term

Loan size: Minimum £25,001, maximum £1,500,000

**Loan tiers for purchases:** 95% up to £500,000, 85% up to £750,000, 80% up to £1,000,000, 70% up to £1,500,000. Fees may be added. Conditions apply **Loan tiers for remortgages:** 90% up to £500,000, 85% up to £750,000, 80% up to £1,000,000, 70% up to £1,500,000. Fees may be added.

Conditions apply

Lending >90%: Applicants borrowing above 90% LTV cannot hold any interest in any other properties at completion

Loan types: Repayment

**Property:** The following property types are not acceptable:

- Properties with a floor area of less than 31 square metres
- · Newly built apartments or conversions (built or converted within the last 12 months) where the LTV is greater than 80%
- · Newly built houses (built or converted within the last 12 months) where the LTV is greater than 85%
- · Properties less than 10 years old that are not covered by an approved new home warranty scheme or Professional Consultant's Certificate
- Studio apartments, freehold apartments, apartments with unacceptable access arrangements (e.g. rear external staircases) or apartments within blocks where our valuer reports inadequate maintenance of communal areas
- · Ex-local authority or ex-public sector apartments that are greater than 4 storeys high or that have open decking access
- · Apartments converted from office buildings or refurbished ex-local authority blocks
- · Properties that exceed 75% LTV within blocks that have mixed residential and commercial use, unless:
- a) In a development over 6 storeys and built after the year 2000
- b) Commercial use is confined to the ground floor and not detrimental to future saleability
- Properties being purchased under a Shared Equity arrangement
- · Properties which include commercial usage within the title
- Properties with occupancy restrictions
- Remortgages where you have owned the property for less than 6 months
- Properties being acquired under an assignable contract
- Purchases where the vendor has owned the property for less than 6 months (except where we have given consent)
- · Properties with communal heating, hot water or other services where the property is not individually metered

Please note: Properties with solar panels may be acceptable; please call for more details

**Refinance:** You can remortgage to raise additional capital up to 85% LTV as long as the funds aren't used for business or speculative purposes, payment of tax,gambling debts and overseas property (including timeshare). If you're raising capital to repay any outstanding debt, the maximum LTV is 75%. Your application will also be subject to our General Lending Criteria and individual assessment by our underwriters

**Ability to pay:** We will review your application to ensure we are satisfied with your ability to pay. This will include a review of your overall circumstances including the amount of debt you have in relation to your income. For repayment mortgages, a minimum household income of £20,000 is required. Any income used to assess affordability must be contracted and paid in GBP

Cashback: Paid to solicitor on completion

### Buy to Let

#### Read in conjunction with General Criteria

Age: Minimum: 21. Maximum: 80 at expiry of mortgage term

**Ability to pay:** We will review your application to ensure we are satisfied with your ability to pay, including the level of unsecured and mortgage debt held in relation to your income

Eligibility: At least one applicant must be a residential home owner (whether subject to mortgage or not)

**Rent cover:** Ability to pay is assessed on rental income (which must be received in GBP). The rental income must be at least 145% of the monthly interest due, inclusive of any product fees added to the loan. This is calculated using the notional interest rate below (whichever is applicable):

Product	Notional interest rate	
Fixed rate for less than five years or a variable rate	5.5%	
Fixed rate for five or more years	5.25%	

## The examples below demonstrate how to work out the monthly rent required depending on your scenario. These are for illustrative purposes only and the figures have been rounded up to the nearest pound (£).

Example 1 - Product rate; fixed for 5 or more years		Example 2 - Product rate; fixed for less than five years or variable	
Mortgage plus product fee	£99,995	Mortgage plus product fee	£99,995
	x 5.25%		x 5.5%
Sub total	£5,250	Sub total	£5,500
	<u>x 145%</u>		<u>x 145%</u>
Annual rent required	£7,613	Annual rent required	£7,975
Monthly rent required	£635	Monthly rent required	£665

**Term:** Maximum: 35 years or the number of years until (the eldest) applicant is 80 (whichever is lesser). Minimum: 5 years **Loan size:** Unless otherwise stated: Minimum: £25,001. Maximum: £750,000 per property for purchases and remortgages.

Maximum total borrowing: £2,000,000

**Loan to Value:** Up to a maximum of 75% for purchases and remortgages. Fees may be added. Conditions apply

**Maximum number of properties:** We accept a maximum of 3 mortgaged Buy to Let properties per applicant (either solely or jointly) across all lenders, including any with Bank of Ireland Group. Properties that are owned in the name of a limited company that an applicant is a director of and applications in progress should also be included. We don't take any Buy to Lets into account if they're not mortgaged.

**Refinance:** Additional funds can be considered except for the following purposes:

- · Business purposes
- · Speculative purposes
- · Overseas property (including timeshare)
- · Payment of tax
- · Debt consolidation of loans
- · Payment of gambling debts

**Property:** The following property types are not acceptable:

- Properties with a floor area of less than 31 square metres
- Newly built apartments or conversions (built or converted within the last 12 months)
- · Properties less than 10 years old that are not covered by an approved new home warranty scheme or Professional Consultant's Certificate
- · Any property that is subject to a private sale
- Where the existing owner will become the tenant upon completion
- Studio apartments, freehold apartments, retirement apartments with unacceptable access arrangements (e.g. rear external staircases) or apartments within blocks where our valuer reports inadequate maintenance of communal areas
- Properties with a value of less than £40,000
- Ex-local authority or ex-public sector apartments that are greater than 4 storeys high or that have open decking access or where the value is less than £90,000
- · Apartments converted from office buildings or refurbished ex-local authority blocks
- Apartments or maisonettes in a development which contains mixed residential and commercial use (other than privately built flats or maisonettes above Class A1 (retail) or Class A2 (financial services etc) units)
- · Subdivided houses where no leasehold title exists
- · Properties being purchased under a Right to Buy, Shared Ownership, or Shared Equity arrangement
- Properties which include commercial usage within the title
- · Properties with occupancy restrictions
- Remortgages where you have owned the property for less than 6 months
- · Properties being acquired under an assignable contract or from a property investment club/company
- · Purchases where the vendor has owned the property for less than 6 months (except where we have given consent)
- · Properties with communal heating, hot water or other services where the property is not individually metered

Interest only: Interest only or part and part is available. Confirmation of the repayment strategy is required and all repayment strategies must be held, valued and paid in £GBP.

## **General**

**Employment status:** Employed and self employed considered. If self employed, you must have been trading for 3 years but only the last 2 years' accounts are required

**Contractors:** We will consider applications from contractors, subject to the following criteria:

- A minimum of 12 months contracting in their current occupation
- A minimum gross contracting income of £50,000 per annum. We will base affordability assessment on 80% of the applicant's gross income.
- · A maximum of 90% Loan to Value (LTV)
- · We will use the current contract for income assessment, but we will also review all contracts held in the last 12 months
- Where an applicant uses an umbrella company to manage their payroll, we'll assess their income based on the gross amount paid by the umbrella company. We're unable to accept the original contract value as it doesn't state any employee deductions or fees which we take into account.

Please read 'Documents we need' to see what's required.

#### Loan types (standard residential only): Repayment

Lending area: Mainland Northern Ireland

Property: A property will be considered to have onerous leasehold terms where one or all of the following is identified:

- The original lease term on a new build flat (or second hand flat built post 2000) is less than 125 years
- The maximum ground rent at the start of the lease term exceeds 0.1% of the property value or £500 a year whichever is the higher.
- The lease must be amended to comply with the above. If not the case cannot proceed.
- · Leasehold terms of less than 85 years at the start of application
- · Leasehold terms of less than 45 years at the end of the term
- The ground rent must remain reasonable at all times during the lease term, with unreasonable multipliers and increases not allowed

**Property owner:** We only accept transactions where the seller is the owner or registered proprietor of the property, and has been so for at least 6 months. For all remortgage business the registered owner or proprietor must have owned the property for a period of at least 6 months **Nationality:** We require confirmation that the applicant has the right to live and work in the UK. The applicant will need to have resided in the UK for long enough to ensure we have a meaningful credit score and employment history, this is normally a minimum of 3 years

#### The following applicants can apply up to our maximum LTV:

- · Irish Nationals
- · EU, EEA and Swiss Nationals with 'settled status'.
- · Non EU, EEA and Swiss Nationals with 'indefinite leave to remain'.
- · Applicants who are born outside of the UK but who have received UK naturalisation.

#### The following applicants can apply up to 75% LTV:

- · EU, EEA and Swiss Nationals with 'pre-settled status'.
- Non EU, EEA and Swiss Nationals with limited rights to work/remain in the UK. Only Innovator, Investor, and Global Talent visas (previously Tier 1) and Skilled Worker visas (previously Tier 2) are acceptable. The underwriter will need to be satisfied that there is an adequate period of time remaining on the visa to warrant the granting of a long term loan.

**Early Repayment Charge:** If you repay all or part of your loan before the end of the early repayment period, we may charge you an Early Repayment Charge to cover any losses we might otherwise incur. When you repay the whole of the loan you must pay us any mortgage release fee we charge at the time of repayment. If you have deferred payment of the lending fee you must also pay this. For part repayments, an additional administration fee applies

**Overpayments:** You can overpay at any time during your mortgage term. If in a promotional period, you can overpay a minimum of £500 and a maximum of 10% of the outstanding mortgage balance (as at 31st March the previous year) without incurring any early repayment or administration charges. After the promotional period the amount you can overpay is unlimited, however if you pay off your mortgage in full charges may apply.

Clean credit history: We will not lend to any applicant who has ever:

- · Been bankrupt
- · Been subject to an Individual Voluntary Arrangement (IVA)
- · Owned a property which has been taken into possession or who has surrendered voluntary possession to a lender
- · Had a CCJ

We will normally only lend to applicants who in the last 3 years have no:

- Arrears on mortgages, fixed loans or rent
- More than two consecutive missed payments on credit or store cards
- Missed mail order or telecoms payments are normally disregarded

Payday loans: If you have had a payday loan within the last 12 months we won't normally lend. If you have taken out a payday loan over 12 months ago then your case will need to be looked at individually to assess affordability

Portability: All mortgages are portable when redeeming and completing on a new Bank of Ireland UK product. Conditions apply, please ask for details Standard legal fees paid by lender

Remortgage Transaction: If stated in the Offer of Loan, Bank of Ireland UK will pay for the legal fees and disbursements (excluding additional work, see below) providing the remortgage transaction is handled via Legal Marketing Services, and is completed. The firm of Solicitors is instructed to act for us only. If applicants wish to arrange their own legal representation they will be responsible for the legal costs and disbursements incurred. Please note: Bank of Ireland UK will not pay for charges relating to additional work outside the scope of a standard remortgage transaction. This includes further valuation reports, related legal services, transfer of equity, deed of postponement, deed of grant, deed of variation, merger of freehold or leasehold title, leasehold supplements, change of name, telegraphic transfer of surplus funds to borrower, local searches for loans over £1,000,000, or if an exceptional amount of work is required to correct a defective title.

**Purchase Transaction:** If stated in the Offer of Loan, Bank of Ireland UK will pay the basic fee for the legal work involved in a standard property purchase. This offer of fees assisted conveyancing does not include any payment for cost that the solicitor must pay to a third party such as a local authority or other search fees, Stamp Duty Land Tax, the cost of taking out defective title indemnity insurance or registration fees payable to the Land Registry. The offer also does not include the charge, plus VAT, payable to the solicitor to deal with the settlement of any Stamp Duty Land Tax and the submission of the Stamp Duty Land Tax form or the cost of any associated sale. The solicitor will provide you with full details of this charge and the third party costs you will have to pay. These fees, along with the legal fee for any additional legal work that the solicitor carries out for you, are payable by you. If the purchase does not go ahead, you will not have to pay for the standard conveyancing work carried out, but you will have to pay any third party costs already paid by the solicitor. For property purchases in Scotland please contact us for details of our nominated Solicitor when obtaining your Approval in Principle. If you choose not to use our nominated Solicitor you will be liable for the legal costs.

**Product fees:** Payments should not be made at application stage. Bank of Ireland UK will deduct the fee from the loan amount upon completion or add it to the loan amount.

# Valuation and Surveys

When you apply for a mortgage, we'll arrange for a Mortgage Valuation Report to be completed. This is used to check the value of the property and make sure it's suitable to lend against. It will be instructed as part of your application and you may have to pay a fee.

If you want a more detailed survey, you'll need to arrange this yourself with a Surveyor. This will provide information on any specific areas you'd like covered and on the condition of the property. You can find more information on local surveyors and the different types of survey on the Royal Institution of Surveyors (RICS) website at https://www.rics.org/uk/

#### **Scottish valuations**

In Scotland, it is a legal requirement that the seller provides potential purchasers with a Home Report. This includes a Mortgage Valuation Report and provides buyers with information regarding the condition and value of a property, ahead of committing to the purchase. We may be able to use the Mortgage Valuation included in the Home Report to assess the property as part of your application, meaning you won't have to pay for a separate valuation.

Purchase Price or Valuation	Standard Mortgage Valuation Report only
Up to £150,000	£240
£150,001 - £250,000	£310
£250,001 - £350,000	£360
£350,001 - £500,000	£470
£500,001 - £750,00	£610
£750,001 - £1m	£840
£1,000,001 - £1.5m	£940
£1,500,001 - £2m	£1,090
£2,000,001 - £2.5m	£1,290
£2,500,001 - £3m	£1,490
£3,000,001 - £3.5m	£1,690
£3,500,001 - £4m	£1,890

Please note these valuation fees include an administration fee of £90. Re-inspections incur a minimum charge of £50 per visit (this includes an administration fee of £8.50). All fees are non-refundable once the inspection has been completed.

Documents can be made available in Braille, large print or audio upon request.

Think carefully before securing other debts against your property. Your property may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage.

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