

Lending criteria

Principal product



Lifetime Mortgage product overview

Our Principal product has been designed to meet the needs of homeowners across England, Wales and Scotland, with flexible underwriting, 7 years of Early Repayment Charges and a Drawdown facility option. The key information about this product is outlined below.

Get in touch with our Business Development Team

For any further information about eligibility, or our products in general, our dedicated Business Development Team are on hand via phone and email to support you.

01752 858 222

bdteam@royallondonequityrelease.com

Principal product

Our Principal product allows an applicant to borrow a minimum of £10,000 across England, Wales, and Scotland.

The maximum loan amount will be based on loan to value (LTV) and age of the customer.

Product eligibility

Our product is available to applicants who:

- Own (or are purchasing) a property in England (including the Isle of Wight), Wales or mainland Scotland. The property must be the applicant's primary residence.
- Are at least 55 years old and up to 89 years and 364 days (we can accept joint applications for homeowners over this age, providing that the youngest applicant meets this criteria).
- Have the right to permanently reside in the UK.





Loan to value (LTV) table

Principal has the same LTV% for Lump Sum, Drawdown, Joint and Single Life loans.

Age	LTV %	Age	LTV %
55	17.75%	73	35.75%
56	18.75%	74	36.75%
57	19.75%	75	37.75%
58	20.75%	76	38.75%
59	21.75%	77	39.75%
60	22.75%	78	40.75%
61	23.75%	79	41.75%
62	24.75%	80	42.75%
63	25.75%	81	43.75%
64	26.75%	82	44.75%
65	27.75%	83	45.75%
66	28.75%	84	45.75%
67	29.75%	85	45.75%
68	30.75%	86	45.75%
69	31.75%	87	45.75%
70	32.75%	88	45.75%
71	33.75%	89	45.75%
72	34.75%		

Property criteria

*Case-by-case situations are to be evaluated on individual contingencies.

Property type			Construction		
Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case	Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
Freehold houses and bungalows.	Freehold flats unless the applicant also owns the leasehold.	–	Cavity with outer walls of brick/block/stone (can be rendered).	Mundic.	–
Absolute ownership (Scotland).		–	225mm solid brick or stone.	Pre-Cast Reinforced Concrete (PRC).	–
Leasehold flats, maisonettes and studios.	Possessory titles which cover the property and/or majority of the plot.	–	Post 1970 timber frame with brick/stone/rendered blockwork.	Pre-1970 timber frames (unless pre-1900 period style).	–
Leasehold houses and bungalows where local authority is not freeholder.	Flying freehold over 15% of the total floor area.	–	Partial timber cladding acceptable up to 50% of property.	Steel frame houses and bungalows.	–
Flying freehold up to 15% of the total floor area.	Properties with restrictions on occupancy.	–	Period timber frame pre 1900.	Laing easi-form solid concrete wall construction (built pre 1940).	–
			Post 2000 steel frames.		–
			Poured in situ no fines construction (built post 1940).		–
			Wattle and Daub.	Large Panel System (LPS) houses/bungalows/flats houses/bungalows/flats.	–
			Cross wall construction (built post 1960).	Modern methods of construction (MMC).	–
			Laing easi-form cast in situ cavity wall construction (built post 1940).		–
If a property is leasehold, the following minimum lease terms apply:					
Youngest applicant age	Minimum lease term remaining at application				
55-60	125 years				
61-65	119 years				
66-70	114 years				
71-75	109 years				
76-80	104 years				
81+	100 years				

Roof

Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
Pitched tile/slate.	Roofs treated internally or externally with coatings/foam after original construction.	—
Thatched roof of reed or straw, provided they are in good condition.	—	—
Flat roof up to 100% on LTV 1-18.	—	—
Flat roof up to 50% of habitable areas on LTV 19-32.	—	—
Spray foam applied during construction of property provided BBA approved, guaranteed and building certificates are available.	—	—

Ground rent and service charges

Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
Service charge up to £1,500 outside of M25.	Ground rent which increases over and above the retail price index (RPI).	Service charge over £1,500 outside of M25.
Service charge up to £2,500 inside of M25.		Service charge over £2,500 inside of M25.
Increasing ground rent is acceptable if it doubles every 25 years and falls within the acceptable parameters.	—	Ground rent over 0.25% of property value.
	—	
	—	
Ground rent equal or below 0.25% of the property value.	—	—

Flats and maisonnettes

Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
Flats/maisonettes acceptable in blocks up to 4 storeys in height.	Ex-local authority flats.	Studio flats.
—	Tyneside flats.	Blocks greater than 4 storeys can be considered but only if the property is considered to be in an affluent or prestigious area.
—	—	

Rent and estate changes

Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
Rent charge under £25.	–	Rent charges over 0.1% of the property value.
Estate rent charges up to 0.1% of the property value.	–	

Solar panels		
Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
Solar panels owned by the borrower.	–	Leased solar panels.

Business use		
Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
One room used as a home office/study.	Properties (including outbuildings and plot) used for commercial or business purposes.	– –

Location and infrastructure		
Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
Small overhead lines such as telephone lines.	Properties above or directly attached to commercial premises.	Properties where commercial premises are visible from the property.
Smaller sub-stations located on residential streets.	Properties where the valuer indicated that saleability will be affected by proximity to infrastructure or commercial premises such as railways etc.	–
–	Close proximity to high voltage apparatus such as pylons and sub stations.	–
–		–
–		–

Acreage		
Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
Properties with up to 5 acres of land.	Properties with more than 5 acres of land.	–
	–	–
	–	–

Drainage		
Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
Private drainage e.g septic tanks.	–	Shared drainage on an estate of housing between more than 4 properties.
Shared drainage e.g septic tanks between up to 4 properties. There must be an formal agreement in place for access and maintenance.	–	There must be a formal agreement in place for access and maintenance and regular payments.
	–	

Annexes

Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
Acceptable providing there are no more than two units (main residence and annexe). The annexe can have its own living areas and must be on the same title and council tax as the main residence.	Annexes which are let out.	–
	–	–
Annexes with shared services and utilities (gas, electricity, water etc).	–	–
	–	–
Annexes occupied by relatives.		–

Listed properties

Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
Grade 2 Listed/Grade C (Scotland) properties are acceptable provided there is a market for the property in the locality and is in good condition.	Grade 1. Grade 2*. Grade A (Scotland). Grade B (Scotland).	– – –

Unadopted/unmade roads

Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
Unadopted or unmade roads in good condition.	Unadopted or unmade roads in bad condition.	–
–	Unmade roads that serve as a through road.	–

Flooding

Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
Flood checks are carried out on every application received. We use a specialist flood risk analysis platform to provide accurate current data. We allow for results up to 20% risk score.	Flood score over 20%. Properties which have flooded in the last 5 years. Properties with a history of flooding relating to surface water.	Properties which flooded more than 5 years ago are acceptable, provided that the flooding is classed as an isolated event and insurance can be obtained under normal terms. Must be no more than 20% flood score.

Applicant criteria

*Case-by-case situations are to be evaluated on individual contingencies.

Bankruptcy

Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
Discharged bankruptcy over 6 years ago.	Undischarged bankruptcy - Discharged bankruptcy within last 6 years.	–

Individual Voluntary Arrangement (IVA)

Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
Completed IVA over 6 years ago.	Outstanding IVA - Completed IVA within last 6 years.	–

Debt management plan

Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
–	Outstanding debt management plan.	–

County Court Judgments (CCJs)

Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
No more than 3 satisfied CCJs within the last 5 years.	Greater than 3 unsatisfied CCJs with a combined total of £3,000 or greater.	–
No more than 3 unsatisfied CCJs with a combined total of £3,000. The customer must be willing to settle the CCJs by or upon completion of the loan.	–	–

Tenants/lodgers

Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
Maximum of two lodgers, including those with formal agreements providing notice to end is less than one month. An occupancy waiver form must be signed by all lodgers.	Properties with tenants with an assured shorthold tenancy agreement.	–
	–	–

Defaults

Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
No more than 3 defaults with a combined total of £10,000 or less, provided there is a satisfactory reason for the default(s) and the customer is willing to settle the default(s) by or upon completion of the loan.	More than 4 defaults, no matter the value. Total defaults in excess of £10,000.00. Unwilling to settled any defaults.	–

Arrears

Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
Credit account is > 2 payments in arrears the account must be consolidated at completion or can demonstrate they will be substantially better off each month where they are reducing other debts.	Not willing to consolidate or will not be better off each month.	–

Charging orders

Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
–	Charging orders are not acceptable with the Principal product.	–

Tenants in common

Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
Tenants in common, no maximum split.	–	–

Power of attorney

Acceptable	Unacceptable	Case-by-case
Court of protection stamped power of attorneys. Lasting power of attorney/ Enduring power of attorney on further borrowing only.	Power of attorney who is party to the Lifetime Mortgage. Joint applicants where one applicant is power of attorney for the other.	– – –



Get in touch with our Business Development Team

For any further information about eligibility, or our products in general, our dedicated Business Development Team are on hand via phone and email to support you.

01752 858 222

bdteam@royallondonequityrelease.com

“Royal London Equity Release” is a trading name of Responsible Lending Limited. Responsible Lending Limited uses Royal London branding under licence from Royal London Marketing Limited. “Royal London”, the “Royal London logo” and “Royal London Equity Release” are registered trade marks of The Royal London Mutual Insurance Society Limited. Responsible Lending Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and is entered on the Financial Services Register under reference 763158. Registered in England and Wales under company number 09801855. Registered office: Princess Court, 23 Princess Street, Plymouth PL1 2EX. Responsible Lending Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Royal London Group. Being a wholly owned subsidiary of the Royal London Group does not alter Responsible Lending Limited’s regulatory responsibilities.