Chartered Institute of Housing

Awarding Organisations

Application for CIH Membership Recognition



The Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH) is the independent voice for housing and the home of professional standards. CIH is a registered charity and not-for-profit organisation.

We passionately believe in our mission: inspiring, equipping and supporting housing professionals to create a future in which everyone has a place to call home. We foster a vibrant, inclusive and active community of housing professionals where members can lead, grow and make a lasting impact for the benefit of society and the people we serve. We champion the modern housing professional and promote the art and science of housing.

All of our work, whether it is giving a voice to housing professionals and lobbying the government to change housing policy, training housing professionals through our regulated qualifications and validated programmes or bringing them together at events up and down the country, is dedicated to that mission. Working with us gives you the opportunity to benefit from unparalleled expertise and knowledge and to be part of a collective effort stretching back well over a century.

Applying for CIH Membership Recognition

In order to promote professional development across the housing industry, CIH can formally recognise regulated qualifications from other Awarding Organisations as eligible for CIH membership.

Applicants requesting recognition of a regulated qualification for CIH membership at CIH Certified Practitioner and CIH Chartered Member grades must complete the application form attached and agree to comply with the following conditions:

1. The regulated qualifications from other Awarding Organisations as eligible for CIH membership must be comparable to CIH Level 4 and CIH Level 5 housing qualifications in terms of:

- Academic level at Level 4 (for CIH Certified Practitioner membership) or Level 5 (for CIH Chartered membership)
- A housing management focus with breadth and depth of housing management content
- Assessment approach and level of rigour

2. If the qualification is recognized by CIH for membership at Certified Practitioner or Chartered Member grades the following terms apply:

- Qualification approval and quality assurance will remain the responsibility of the development/ delivery organisation.
- Consideration/recognition of a qualification cannot be deemed as being a formal accreditation or qualification approval, nor should the recognition be promoted in this way.
- A subsequent review to take place after 3 years of the initial recognition, or if the regulated qualification changes (whichever is soonest), subject to a fee.
- The right to use the CIH logo only applies to the approved qualification and cannot be transferred to another organisation or used in connection with another qualification without prior permission from CIH.
- The use of the CIH logo must be in line with CIH brand guidelines provided to ensure that it is used in a consistent and appropriate style.
- CIH retains the right to withdraw recognition if standards are no longer met.

3. Appeals

Where an application is unsuccessful, organisations can appeal against a decision by writing to the Professional Standards inbox (ProfessionalStandards@cih.org) within 28 days of the outcome of an application being received, including details for the appeal, new evidence not provided before or any other relevant information.

4. Condition for CIH Recognition

Where, at the point of application or at any time thereafter, CIH becomes aware that an Awarding Organisation has been subject to any formal regulatory sanctions, enforcement action or adverse regulatory findings, CIH reserves the right to review and investigate the implications for its Recognition arrangements and, where appropriate, refuse, suspend or withdraw CIH Recognition as appropriate. In such circumstances, any application, assessment or Recognition fees paid will be non-refundable, and no refunds will be issued where Recognition is refused, suspended or withdrawn as a result of such findings, sanctions or enforcement action.



CIH membership

Benefits of CIH membership

Members of Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH) will gain professional recognition across the sector by demonstrating their commitment to creating a housing sector where everyone has a place to call home.

CIH members have access to the latest sector-leading knowledge and best practice in housing policy, free attendance to CIH events, discounted training, use of designatory letters and much more.

Members of CIH receive a raft of benefits which will help them develop their career and future within the sector by:

- Staying informed with the latest housing policy updates and sector news
- Accessing a vast library of resources, publications, and guides
- Attending exclusive member-only events and networking opportunities
- Being part of a community of over 20,000 housing professionals worldwide

CIH membership grades available for regulated qualifications applying for recognition:

- **CIH Certified Practitioner grade (Cert CIH):**

Known as the 'industry standard' for housing professionals, this grade shows employers that the member has achieved a certain level of skills and knowledge needed to be a housing professional.

Suitable for:

- Housing officers
- Middle management
- Individuals with a CIH recognised qualification at level 3 or 4.

For more information, please see the CIH website

- **CIH Chartered Member grade (CIHCM):**

Chartered membership is the hallmark of a member's success in housing; it's a demonstration of housing expertise, and commitment to the highest professional and ethical standards.

Suitable for:

- Senior managers
- Experienced professionals with an aspiration for leadership
- Individuals with a CIH recognised qualification at level 5 or above.

For more information, please see the CIH website

Fees and invoicing

Fees apply for:

- A first application made for qualification(s) recognition
- A subsequent review to take place after 3 years of the initial recognition, or if the regulated qualification changes (whichever is soonest)

CIH recognition fees (from 1 April 2026):

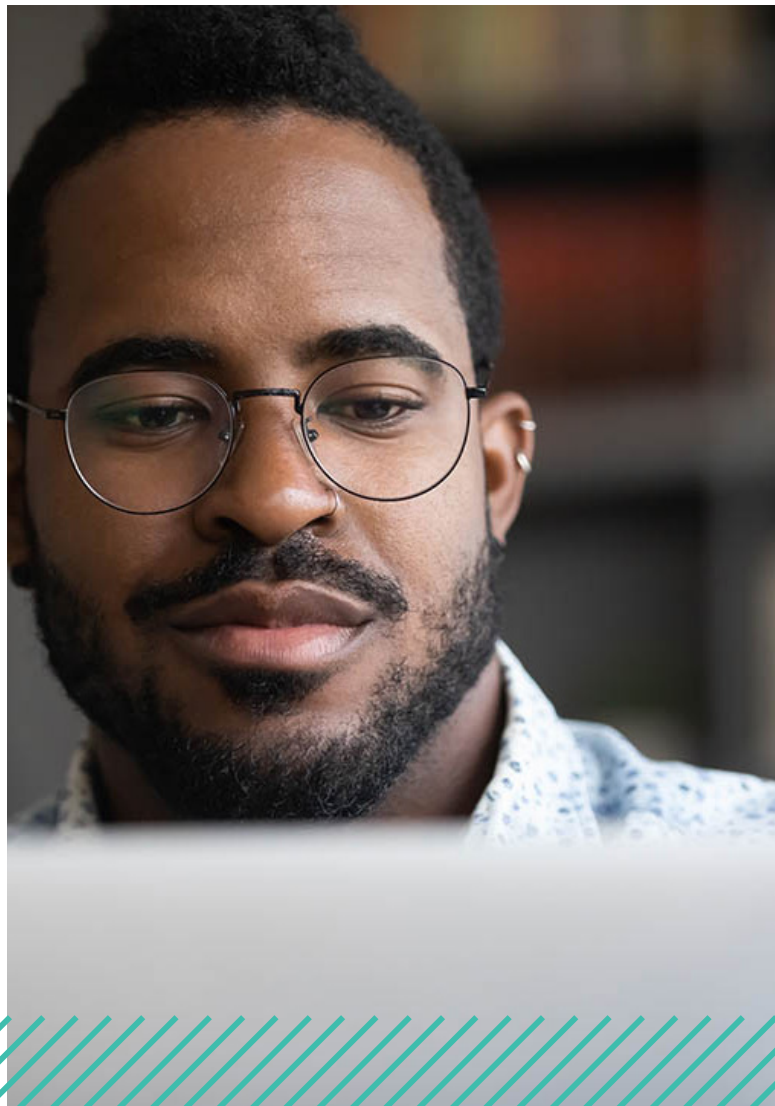
- **Administrative fee for first consideration of application - £200.00+VAT**
- **Subsequent review and continuation of recognition - £100.00 + VAT**

The fees cover:

- The consideration of the application by CIH Professional Standards
- The use of the CIH logo for programme promotion and publicity
- Inclusion of information on the CIH website
- Administration of the recognition process

Invoices will be issued within 10 working days on:

- Receipt of an application for programme recognition
- Please provide purchase order details with your application if required by your organisation.



Guidance for application

Criteria for application for Level 4 and Level 5 qualifications

Please ensure that the qualification:

- Is a regulated qualification (Ofqual or equivalent)
- Clearly aligns with CIH Level 4 or CIH Level 5 housing qualifications
- Has substantive housing management content
- Has evidence of applied assessment (not solely knowledge based/multiple choice)

It is expected that additional documents/evidence will be included in support of your application. Please include a link to the qualification specification on your website.

Evidence should include:

- Details of the syllabus content for the qualification
- Details of the qualification size/number of learners
- Details of assessment methods

For Level 5 qualification applications (for CIH Chartered membership) then please also provide a statement on how the qualification supports the following:

- Understanding what professionalism means in a housing context
- Understanding professional practice & professional standards
- Understanding the importance of reflective practice in a housing context
- Understanding the importance and management of CPD

Once an application has been submitted, CIH Professional Standards will:

- Invoice for the administration fee
- Conduct a review of the application
- Inform the applicant of the outcome decision (feedback will be provided if an application is unsuccessful)
- Inform CIH membership of the decision if qualification approved
- Contact the organisation for a review process at the appropriate time

Please note that formal confirmation of the recognition and the designated logos will be provided when recognition has been approved and the corresponding fee has been paid.



Application for recognition of regulated qualification for CIH membership

Name of applicant	
Role in Awarding Organisation	
Contact details	
Awarding Organisation name	
Awarding Organisation address	
Title of qualification(s) and qualification number(s)	
Qualification website link	
I am applying for	Recognition of Level 4 qualification (for CIH Certified Practitioner membership) ☐ Recognition of Level 5 qualification (for CIH Chartered membership) ☐
For recognition of Level 5 qualifications only (for CIH Chartered membership) Supporting statement (please provide here or on separate document)	
Applicant signature	
Name	
Date	

Please send your completed form to professionalstandards@cih.org



Chartered Institute of Housing

Chartered Institute of Housing
Suites 5 and 6, First Floor,
Rowan House, Westwood Way,
Coventry CV4 8HS
024 7685 1789
professionalstandards@cih.org
www.cih.org

Awarding Organisations 2026

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