

## Finding your ideal home

We know there's no place quite like home. It's where children grow up, and people grow old. There may come a time when your home is no longer suited to your needs, for any number of reasons, at which point you may look for somewhere new to call home.

All applications for social housing start by approaching your local authority directly – although we are your current landlord, your new home may be with a different one. When you apply, it's important you provide the full picture, as a points or banding system may be used to prioritise applications.

### A comfortable home

Over time your living situation may change, which could mean your home is no longer the right size for you. If your home is overcrowded because your family has grown, or you feel that it is underoccupied, you will need to register with your local authority to apply for a home that suits you better. By downsizing to somewhere smaller, you could save money and free up a home for a larger family.

### A mutually exchanged home

This is when two or more social housing tenants agree to swap homes. You'll need permission and references from all landlords involved, and all the homes will be checked before any moves take place. Head to our website to [find out if you're eligible](#) and to apply online. You can also register for free with House Exchange [here](#), to help find your new home.

### A safe and secure home

If you are experiencing domestic abuse, including coercive or controlling behaviour, and need to move urgently, you'll receive priority status when you contact your local authority. However, if you're concerned for your safety but aren't looking to move, we can help you feel more secure in your home by adding new or additional locks, and help you move to a safe place in an emergency.

### A shared ownership home

If you're thinking of part-owning your next home, then shared ownership may be a good option. You can find out more about shared ownership, including if you're eligible [here](#).

### A home close to family

Moving closer to your loved ones could be just what you need if you're feeling isolated or welcoming a new baby. If you're considering relocating, you should speak with the local authority in the area you'd like to move to. But don't forget, your safety and wellbeing are a priority for us, so if you're struggling with your mental health please let us know – we're here to help.

### A home for every stage of life

We have homes to suit everyone, including retirement homes, sheltered accommodation for over 55's and supported living for tenants with particular needs.

If you'd prefer to stay where you are but need some help adapting it to your needs, we can help. We can arrange new grab rails or relocating light switches in-house, but for bigger tasks, like installing a level access shower, you'll need to contact your local authority. Whatever you need, we're here to support you every step of the way, and help you apply for a Disabled Funding Grant if you're eligible.



## Help and advice

If you have any questions surrounding the housing options available, you should contact your local authority. Visit [www.gov.uk/find-local-council](http://www.gov.uk/find-local-council) to get started.