



Find Your Own Accommodation

A factsheet on finding your own accommodation

The Find Your Own Accommodation process has been designed to help you find accommodation in the private rented sector. This process, with support of council staff in your hotel, will help you to find a new home.

How do I know what I can afford?

Your council will complete an assessment with you to help you understand what you can afford. This will consider what Universal Credit you are entitled to, alongside any earnings from employment.

How do I know which areas I want to move to?

Your council staff will discuss areas you may be interested in. These areas could be where you have family, friends and the services that you need. Council staff will also help you to identify which areas are affordable for you.

What does it mean to move with support of the new council?

If you move with support of your new council, you will receive help to settle into your new home and community. This may include support with housing costs (such as deposit, initial rent, furniture), registering with schools/GPs, assistance with accessing employment and English language training.

What if I move without support from the new council?

You can still move to an area without the support from the new council if the property is suitable and affordable. Moving without help from the new council will mean you may not receive help accessing services. If you need help with housing costs, speak to your council staff.

I need support with initial housing costs, is that available?

If you move to an area where the new council have agreed to support you, they may be able to help with initial costs like deposit, initial rent and furniture. Your current council may also be able to help with these costs if needed.

Properties move so quickly; how can I increase my chances of getting one?

To increase your chance of being accepted for a property, you should identify multiple areas of interest, and search for multiple properties.

I do not have a UK guarantor, what do I do?

We have made available a guarantor advice sheet. You should speak to your council staff about your options, such as asking family or friends to act as your guarantor or using rent guarantee schemes.

Where can I find more information?

You can speak to council staff in your current accommodation for more information about securing your own property, affordability, areas to look and how you can be supported.