

What help will I get to move?

We know that each tenant has different needs, and that is why we have developed a range of incentives for qualifying social housing tenants to choose from.

You will need to check with your landlord which of the following support you may be eligible for.

Incentives may include:

- Practical assistance with the move
- Re-direction of your post
- Handyperson service or gardener for the day
- Help with rent issues
- Help with decorating
- Disconnections/reconnections for gas, electricity, etc
- Financial assistance

In addition we would also help you with bidding for homes in the area in which you want to live.

What to do if you're interested...

If you are interested in moving and want to know if you qualify for our under-occupation scheme please contact your landlord or visit www.thhs.org.uk.



Do you live in a home which has more bedrooms than you need?

If your answer is yes, and you would like to move to a smaller property, you may be able to get help from your landlord.

Tower Hamlets Council is working with Tower Hamlets Homes and our Common Housing Register Partner landlords to free up larger homes for families who need them.

We can offer a range of help and support to tenants who wish to move and who qualify for the scheme.

Following government changes to benefits rules, working age households who are under-occupying will not receive full housing benefit.

If you are one of these households you could benefit from the under occupation scheme.



How do I qualify for the scheme?

You must be a secure or assured tenant of a partner landlord and living in Tower hamlets. You need to be giving up at least one bedroom and have home which is suitable for the needs of the people on the housing register.

What are your options?

There are a range of housing options that can support a household to downsize depending on their particular circumstances. These include:

◆ Homeseekers

The Common Housing Register Partnership is the Allocations Scheme that Tower Hamlets Council and its Registered Social Landlord partners use to allocate housing in the borough. The Allocation Scheme sets out who is eligible and can qualify to go on to the Register and how homes are allocated. Priority to move is awarded to those who are living in homes that are too big for their needs. The level of priority awarded will depend on the number of bedrooms that are being freed up.

◆ Home Swapper (Mutual Exchange)

Many people looking to downsize chose to do so by mutual exchange. Many families are overcrowded and are looking for larger homes. This puts those who are in homes that are too large for them at an advantage over many others. Moving through an exchange can be done by registering at www.homeswapper.co.uk and/or houseexchange.co.uk.

◆ Sheltered Schemes

Older people may wish to move a home that is quieter and provides a higher level of support. Sheltered housing is especially designed for people over 60 years of age and provides self-contained accommodation in a safe and secure community. Sheltered housing can help to remove the fear of isolation and loneliness experienced by older people through facilities such as a communal lounge and varied social events organised by friendly and supportive staff.

◆ Housing Moves

This is the Mayor of London's housing mobility scheme, allowing tenants of London boroughs to move outside their existing borough to another London borough. Tenants are able to register on the scheme and priority is given to those willing to downsize. Once registered, people can bid for homes that are advertised in boroughs throughout London.

◆ Seaside and Country homes

Seaside and Country homes is a housing mobility scheme for London's social housing tenants aged 55 years and above. The scheme has over 3,000 properties which are mainly one and two bedroomed bungalows and flats. They are dotted all along the south coast, from Cornwall in the south west to Norfolk and Lincolnshire in the east, and across the countryside from Cambridgeshire and Shropshire to Dorset. Further information can be found on our website.