

Assistance with Housing

How will the Council help me?

This factsheet tells you what the council will do and what you are expected to do after you have requested assistance with your housing situation because you are homeless or threatened with homelessness.

Applying for assistance with housing because you are homeless or threatened with homelessness does **not** mean you will be offered Council or other social housing.

We will support you in finding private rented accommodation, or refer you to supported housing if that is appropriate.

What we can do:

- We can give you advice on where to look for accommodation;
- Refer you to organisations who can help you find accommodation;
- Help you financially with rent in advance and deposit.

What you need to do:

- You need to actively look for somewhere to live; finding a property to rent, or staying with friends and family.
- Take the steps in your personal housing plan.

With you we will draw up a 'personal housing plan' with the steps that you need to take, either to remain in your existing home or to find accommodation.

If you do not take those steps we may end our duty to help you find accommodation, we will not have to accept the main housing duty and you will remain on a lower band on the housing register.

To avoid this, you need to actively take steps to remain in your existing home or look for somewhere else to live.

For more information please look at the [Finding Somewhere to Live](#) factsheet, which gives advice on finding accommodation if you are on benefits or a low income and finding accommodation if you do not have a guarantor.

Council and Social Housing

The only way to get council and other social housing is to complete a housing register application, which is separate from asking for help because you are homeless or threatened with homelessness.

If you complete a housing register application you will be given a banding and can bid for accommodation (see the [housing allocations policy](#) for more information).

Waiting times to be rehoused from the housing register can be years and this will not normally be the solution to your current housing problem.

Eastbourne applicants

On the housing register if you would be entitled to a 1-bed or studio property. There are currently about 500 households on the register for a 1-bed property. Only 11 1-bed and 2 studio properties were let through the housing register in the six months from 1 April to 30 September 2020.

On the housing register if you would be entitled to a 2-bed property. There are currently about 350 households on the register for a 2-bed property. Only 5 2-bed properties were let through the housing register in the in the six months from 1 April to 30 September 2020.

On the housing register if you would be entitled to a 3-bed property. There are currently about 220 households on the register for a 3-bed property. Only 4 3-bed properties were let through the housing register in the in the six months from 1 April to 30 September 2020.

On the housing register if you would be entitled to a 4-bed property. There are currently about 60 households on the register for a 4-bed property. Only 1 4-bed property was let through the housing register in the in the six months from 1 April to 30 September 2020.

Lewes Applicants

The only way to get council or social housing is by applying on the housing register. Council or Social housing is not a realistic option for resolving your current housing situation as the waiting times to get rehoused can be years.

On the housing register if you would be entitled to a 1-bed or studio property. There are currently about 550 households on the register for a 1-bed/studio property. Only 18 1-bed and 2 studio properties were let through the housing register in the six months from 1 April to 30 September 2020.

On the housing register if you would be entitled to a 2-bed property. There are currently about 300 households on the register for a 2-bed property. Only 10 2-bed properties were let through the housing register in the in the six months from 1 April to 30 September 2020.

On the housing register if you would be entitled to a 3-bed property. There are currently about 200 households on the register for a 3-bed property. Only 7 3-bed properties were let through the housing register in the in the six months from 1 April to 30 September 2020.

On the housing register if you would be entitled to a 4-bed property. There are currently about 65 households on the register for a 4-bed property. No 4-bed properties were let through the housing register in the in the six months from 1 April to 30 September 2020.