

INTRODUCTION

HARINGEY COUNCIL provides accommodation that is specially designed for older and disabled people who need support on a day-to-day basis. The Council helps housing associations to provide these special schemes as well.

Most of the schemes are one bedroom flats, although there are a few two bedroom and studio flats (where living room and bedroom are combined).

Each flat or bungalow has its own front door and everything that is needed to allow a person to live independently within the community. In the sheltered schemes there are lifts to most of the flats above the first floor. Some of the ground floor flats have special provision for people who use wheelchairs or who have other disabilities.

There are two types of supported housing:

Sheltered (or Warden-Assisted) Housing - for those in need of a higher level of support.

Community Good Neighbour Schemes - for those in need of a lower level of support.

Many people with disabilities will not require any support but will just need a flat with a suitable design. If this is your situation, you should contact the Special Needs Team, 820 Seven Sisters Rd N15 5PQ. 020 8489 0000.

Sheltered or Warden-Assisted Housing

In 2002 a Best Value Review of Older People's Services was carried out. Among the recommendations made were that the council sheltered housing service moves towards becoming a smaller, specialist in house service, catering for tenants in high need through extra care and other specialist forms of housing. There are likely to be changes to the management of Community Good Neighbour schemes.

In Sheltered Housing a Sheltered Housing Scheme Manager (Warden) is based in the scheme. The Sheltered Scheme Manager is responsible to the local Neighbourhood Manager for the running of the scheme. He or she has an important role in making sure tenants get the services they need and in helping tenants run community activities. A Mobile Sheltered Scheme Manager covers for the Sheltered Scheme Manager when he or she is off duty.

Sheltered Housing schemes are normally for people over retirement age although people in their 50s and early 60s who have support needs can apply. The aim is to help people lead an active and independent life for as long as possible.

Each scheme has a communal lounge, kitchen and laundrette. The lounge and kitchen can be used for hobbies, parties, entertainments, games and meetings, or any other activities that tenants wish to arrange. Friends and other older people in the neighbourhood are encouraged to join in these activities.

Each flat or bungalow has an alarm system which alerts the Sheltered Scheme Manager in case of an emergency. If the Sheltered Scheme Manager is not on duty the alarm call will go to a Communication Centre and help will be given.

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Community Good Neighbour Schemes

Community Good Neighbour schemes are supervised by a Community Scheme Officer who may be responsible for a number of properties in a given area. Community Scheme Officers, like Sheltered Scheme Managers in Sheltered Housing, report to a local Neighbourhood Manager. The Community Scheme Officer will make regular visits to the schemes, keep an eye on tenants' well-being and offer advice with day-to-day problems.

Each flat or bungalow has an alarm system which is connected to the Community Scheme Officer's office and to the Communication Centre. Emergency help is available around the clock, just as in sheltered housing.

Some Community Good Neighbour schemes have a few communal facilities.

Tenants living in Community Good Neighbour schemes tend to be somewhat younger and more active than people in sheltered schemes so vacancies tend to be less frequent.

Housing associations have similar schemes but they are described in the brochure as 'non-sheltered schemes'.

Key Schemes for Black and Minority Ethnic Communities

We are trying to make sure that a fair proportion of our accommodation goes to people from black and minority ethnic communities. We are also trying to make sure that people from minority ethnic groups are not isolated when they join one of our schemes. One of the ways that we do this is by building up a group of tenants from a specific community in some of the schemes, called 'key schemes'.

In a key scheme, the Sheltered Housing Scheme Manager may be from the particular community represented, and some social events will reflect the key group's culture and interests.

There are currently key schemes for:

African and Caribbean community page 20

Asian community page 29

Chinese community page 21

Cypriot community page 45

Housing associations also run key schemes - see page 5

Equal Opportunities

Haringey Council is committed to provide services that meet the needs of all sections of the community. We are particularly against discrimination on the grounds of colour, race, sex, sexual orientation, disability or religion.

If you believe that you have been discriminated against on one of these grounds in connection with your application, please write to:

The Director of Social Services

40 Cumberland Road

Wood Green

London N22 7SG

The Director will pass your complaint to the relevant Council Officer to investigate.

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How to apply

Write to Older People's Services, Supported Housing Assessments, Woodside House, 294 High Road, N22 8YX or telephone 020 8489 2367.

You can also get help and information from:

- Your local One Stop Shop/ Customer Services Centre.
- Council Housing Offices
- Advice Bureaux/ Citizens' Advice Bureaux
- Age Concern
- The Cypriot Centre
- The Asian Centre
- African Caribbean Leadership Council
- The Irish Centre
- The Kurdish Centre

Any two partners can apply to share a flat, including lesbians and gay men, but please note that you will almost certainly get a one bedroom flat. Two bedroom flats are kept for couples who need to sleep apart, or for adult relatives.

We can arrange for you to visit different housing schemes so that you can talk to people who live and work there. That way you will be able to choose the place where you would like to live.

After you have applied

If your application is successful, the length of time that you have to wait will depend partly on the size of the waiting list for the scheme that you have chosen and partly on the urgency of your need. If you need a ground floor flat or a flat with special adaptations, you may have to wait longer.

Getting an offer of a flat

When your turn comes up, we will offer you a flat. You may want to take someone with you to see it before you decide whether you want it. A member of staff will meet you and show you around.

You may refuse an offer, but please tell us clearly why you have refused. In most cases we can make no more than three offers, so we need to get it right.

Moving in

If you accept an offer, you must arrange to sign a tenancy agreement. One of the things that you will have to agree is the date on which you start paying rent. The rent may be quite high, so the Sheltered Scheme Manager or Community Scheme Officer will help you to claim Housing Benefit to pay part or all of it.

Moving can also be expensive, but you may be able to get help with moving and furniture costs from the Department of Work and Pensions. The Sheltered Scheme Manager or Community Scheme Officer will be able to advise you. Council tenants moving from family sized housing may be entitled to substantial payments. They should make enquiries at their local housing office before they move.

Your new flat or bungalow may be smaller than your old home.

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You may not be able to take all your furniture, but all of our special flats and bungalows are designed to be cleaned and heated easily, and some of them already have cookers and fridges.

We hope that you will make friends in your new home. The Sheltered Scheme Manager or Community Scheme Officer can help you. We also hope that your family and friends will visit you and help you there.

Housing Association Special Schemes

A number of housing associations in Haringey also provide housing Schemes for older people, and the Council can nominate people to them. Housing Associations are independent of the Council, so they are not bound to accept everyone put forward to them. They may interview several applicants for each vacancy and choose the person whom they consider to be the most suitable.

Most housing associations will accept only applicants put forward by the Council. You should therefore apply to the Council, stating which housing associations schemes you are interested in, rather than contact the housing associations directly.

You should note that rents are usually higher but most people will find that they are able to claim Housing Benefit to meet part if not all of the cost.

There are also special schemes run by housing associations for particular communities. These are:

<u>Abyssinia Court</u> for multicultural communities	Page 37
<u>Ashling Housing</u> for Irish communities	page 11
<u>ASRA</u> for the Asian communities	pages 11, 12 & 31
<u>Cherry Tree House</u> for multicultural communities	page 32
<u>Clive Lloyd House</u> for Caribbean and African Communities	page 13
<u>Liberty/ Erin Mews</u> for Irish communities	page 30
<u>Olive Tree House</u> for Greek Cypriot/Turkish Cypriot Communities	page 44
<u>Palm Tree Court</u> for Caribbean and African Communities	page 23
<u>The White House</u> for Greek Cypriot/Turkish Cypriot Communities	page 23
<u>Swallow House</u> for Irish communities	page 46

The Council is committed to supporting housing associations in providing special schemes for all the borough's main communities.

Moving out of Haringey

If you would like to move to another part of the country you may be able to do so through a Mobility Scheme. In most cases you should have a connection of some kind, such as family or past residence, with the area that you want to move to. You will have to apply separately for the Mobility Scheme: if you are in privately rented housing you should contact Supported Housing Assessments at Woodside House; if you are a council tenant you would need to contact the Housing Managers at your area office.

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Your chances of success are better if you wish to move away from London completely. Applicants for popular suburban areas such as Enfield, Barnet, Waltham Cross, Cheshunt or Potters Bar are unlikely to succeed.

A popular 'Seaside and Country Homes' scheme has been running for some years now. Among the areas represented are: East Anglia, Essex, Worthing, Selsey, Shrewsbury, West Sussex and Hampshire. Intending applicants should be council or housing association tenants, over the age of 60 but need not have any connection with the area to which they wish to move.

Homeowners

If you own your home, the Council will house you under certain conditions only.

It is possible to buy or rent sheltered housing for older people on the open market. Some housing associations and developers run special leasehold schemes for older people. You can get details from Age Concern, England, 1268 London Road, SW16 4ER.

Telephone: 020 8679 8000 or www.ageconcern.co.uk

Or from Elderly Accommodation Council, 3rd floor, 8 Albert Embankment London, SE1 7TP

Telephone: 020 7820 1343, www.housingcare.org

For further advice on any of the above you should contact Supported Housing Assessments at Woodside House.

How to use this guide

The housing schemes are divided into three main sections, listed alphabetically and described in detail:

Tottenham schemes **page 7**

Wood Green/Bounds Green schemes **page 25**

Hornsey/Muswell Hill schemes **page 33**

Each section begins with a map which shows the location of the properties in the different schemes. The properties have been given numbers which can be located on the maps. These numbers also appear by the appropriate text description so you can turn back to the map and check the location.

By the detailed description of each property we have given an indication of the average waiting time for that particular scheme. Please note that this is a rough guide only: the situation can vary according to the number of vacancies and the priority given to an individual's application.