

clydebank housing association

Local Authority Housing Information Leaflet in English

Local Authority Housing (Councils)

Councils offer houses and flats, and homes designed for people with special needs (for example, sheltered housing for older people).

There are two ways you can rent a house from the council:

* by applying for a house and being placed on a waiting list until the council offers you a suitable house.

* by being assessed as homeless. The council then must offer you temporary accommodation.

How to apply

Go to your local council office and fill out an application form. If you need help filling it in, just ask. The council should provide translated information and interpreters.

When you are applying to the council for accommodation, they will give you information about the application process. This includes information on how the council assesses you for a house. It is important to understand how the system works before filling in your application.

How your application is awarded points

Your application will be assessed and you will be given priority 'points' and put on a waiting list. The council awards 'points' according to your housing need. This means that the people most in need are housed as quickly as possible.

You will be awarded points if you are:

* living in overcrowded conditions (for example, if children over the age of 16 have to share a bedroom with another family member)

* without a kitchen, bathroom, living room, or hot and cold water system for your own use

* in medical need (for example, you cannot walk without assistance or need a wheelchair, or you are chronically ill). You will need a letter from your doctor explaining your condition

* being racially or sexually harassed

* a victim of domestic violence

* wanting to move closer to family or community support (for example, you need to be near a mosque or closer to family members).

It is important to provide complete and up-to-date information when you fill in the application form, especially about your current housing situation. If you are not sure what to mention, ask council staff members and they will help you. All applications are confidential and will not be seen by anyone who is not dealing with your case.



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What happens once the council has your application?

Getting accommodation from the council can take some time. Check with the council about how they will keep you informed of the progress of your application. Once a house becomes available in a suitable location, the council will make you an offer of a house.