



The Church of England Pensions Board

Guide to Supported Housing



Why choose Supported Housing?

There are many reasons why people are attracted to supported housing generally; some move to be closer to friends and family and for others, it's immediate or future health concerns, but for all our residents, it is the security of knowing that there will be people about to help support them in their later years, if their health starts to deteriorate, whilst still remaining independent in their own homes.

Residents are assisted to live safely, comfortably and as independently as possible within their home at our schemes, receiving the support and care services they need in order to achieve this. In doing so, our aim is to do

all that we can to ensure that a resident is able to stay in their home as long as they wish and are able to do so.

Accommodation

All our flats are very well proportioned, with separate bedroom, bathroom, living room, kitchen and hallway, the majority of which have very generous storage space. We have a small number of two bedroom flats. We offer secure assured tenancies which give our residents peace of mind that it is their home for as long as they wish, and are still able to live independently. Each flat is equipped with a community alarm system, so that if a resident was to feel unwell, they can get emergency assistance quickly.

Gardens and grounds

All of the schemes have attractive gardens and grounds. At some of the schemes there is the chance for residents to maintain their own plots or just assist with some aspect of gardening, for instance growing herbs or veg for the kitchen or flowers for the chapel. Some of our schemes also have flats with patios and raised flower beds and these schemes are always popular.

The gardens are for the enjoyment of everyone and are often used for socialising as well as gardening.

Services

Support workers and catering staff are on site seven days a week 365 days of the year. Support services include laundry and flat cleaning. Each flat in our schemes has an alarm system which allows a resident to call for emergency assistance either to a member of staff on site, or, out of hours

to a community alarm centre. Personal care is available from external care agencies and can be delivered into residents flats, for those who need it.

With support staff available 365 days a year you can depend on support every day if you need it. Grocery shopping and cooking can also be a thing of the past if you wish, but equally, you can opt to provide your own breakfast and suppers. On the other hand, meal times can be an opportunity to socialise with other residents and visitors.

Meals

Three meals a day are provided in our attractive welcoming dining rooms as part of our basic service. We have varied menus and provide an opportunity for residents to 'opt out' of breakfast and supper services for those who prefer to make their own arrangements. At Manorstead, only lunch is provided and residents prepare other meals in their own fully fitted kitchens.

Activities

Activities are generally run and organised by residents for residents and are as varied as the people who live at our schemes. Painting clubs, exercise classes, carol concerts, poetry reading, knitting clubs, coffee mornings, to name but a few.

Chapel

One of the unique aspects and the heart of living at one of our schemes is the Chapel. At all the schemes residents run the Chapel and Eucharist services. Residents volunteer themselves to take it in turns to deliver services in the Chapel, and regular local clergy volunteers deliver services as guest speakers.

Pets

In recognition of the therapeutic benefits that pets have been shown to have for older people, residents are welcome to bring their pets with them at the discretion of the Scheme Manager. There is no need to have to leave your beloved pet behind or delay your move.

Who is eligible?

Retired Beneficiaries include; Clergy, Deaconesses, Church and Lay Workers (who hold a Bishop's License for Ministerial Work), Church Army Officers (who have carried out Parish work and who retired after the 1st April 1983 – this could include Parochial Evangelist or overseas work). Also Non-Stipendiary Ministers, House for Duty, and applicants from Religious Orders, who are able to fully self-fund.

Applicants from Religious Orders can also apply when the Order agree in advance to fully fund the costs. Eligibility also extends to non-Ministerial Lay pensioners, including former employees of the Church of England organisations, and retired staff of the Church's National Institutions and Episcopal staff. Spouses/ widows/widowers and civil partners of the above are also eligible. All Beneficiaries are required to have at least 5 years' service.

Visiting the schemes

We strongly recommend that you pay a visit to the scheme/s you are interested in and meet with the staff and residents. You will be made very welcome and arrangements can even be made for you to stay overnight, or for a short break, in one of the guest rooms which can be booked at very reasonable rates. Please contact scheme managers direct to make arrangements. Contact details are enclosed in the pack.

Some of our schemes are situated by the coast, in delightful locations, so you could turn your visit into a short break. Guest rooms are also available for short holiday lettings. We hope that you will enjoy visiting the scheme of your choice and that your visit will help you to make an informed decision about your future housing.

How to contact us

If you would like to apply for accommodation, please refer to the application process leaflet in this pack.

For further details about our facilities services and charges, please contact the manager for the scheme/s you are interested in or alternatively our:

Housing Options Team on: 020 7898 1824

Email: housingservices@churchofengland.org

You can also visit our website:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/clergy-resources/retirement-housing>