

Thinking about moving home?

There are many reasons why you may want to consider moving from your home, including downsizing, health problems, bereavement, or problems with your neighbours. Moving house is a big step in your life so before making a decision, here are some things to consider.

Thinking through your options

There are a wide range of housing types available and different options depending on your needs.

You might want to stay in your own home, but need some extra help and support around the house, for example with [cleaning](#). Or you might want to make a few adaptations to help you move around your home easier.

Another option is to downsize to a smaller property where you have fewer maintenance worries. Alternatively you might need to think about moving into more specialist housing if you need more support.

You might find these sections on Information NOW useful:

- [Buying or renting ordinary housing](#) – details of various rented housing providers and private occupancy schemes
 - [Housing for older people](#) – details on the different specialist housing options available
 - [Home care](#)
 - [Equipment and aids](#) – information about different adaptations you could make to your home
 - [Moving in with relatives](#)
 - [Moving abroad](#)
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Making the decision to move

Moving house is a big step in your life. Before making a decision, you might like to consider the following points:

The new accommodation

- Is the place you're thinking about moving to affordable, easy to keep warm, secure, and in a good state of repair?
- Is the size and design of your new accommodation practical for your present and your future needs?

The new area

- Is the area you're planning to move to easy to travel to and from, for you and others?
- Are there shops, friends, community and leisure facilities, and support networks in your new area? Would they still be accessible if you had to give up driving and start using public transport?
- If you decide to move from a town or city to the countryside, have you thought carefully about the possible realities of country life, such as poor public transport, a lack of facilities, and possible isolation?
- If you are thinking about moving abroad, have you considered your pension entitlement, the health service, and your ability to communicate in a foreign language?

Changes in your circumstances

- If you decide to move because of the wishes of your partner, or to be near relatives, would you still be happy about your choice if you were left on your own?
- Will the new accommodation remain suitable or adaptable if your needs change because of illness or reduced mobility?

Taking your pet with you

Having a pet can be very rewarding and provides a lot of people with a much-needed companion. If you're moving home and want to take your pet with you, you may want to consider the following:

- how will you transport your pet to your new home?
- Will your new home be big enough to have a pet?
- Is there a garden or anywhere to walk your dog if you have one?
- If you are renting, moving into sheltered accommodation or into a care home, do they accept pets?
- Are you still able to cope with looking after your pet? If not, are you able to re-home it, or would a friend or relative be willing to adopt it?

[FirstStop – Advice for older people](#) has details of sheltered accommodation schemes and care homes that are 'pet-friendly'.

[Cinnamon Trust](#) also has a Pet Friendly Care Homes Register.

Practicalities of moving

Once you've made the decision to move, the next steps of sorting all the practicalities can seem quite daunting. There is a great deal to think about when you move house, and it is worth taking plenty of time to consider things and to plan your move well ahead of time.

See [Practicalities of moving home](#) for more information.

Support and advice

[The costs of buying a house and moving](#) – guide from the [Money Advice Service](#)

[Care & Repair England](#) have made a video of a lady sharing her experiences of moving into sheltered accommodation. [Watch the video online here.](#)

They have a 'teach yourself' workbook on [Housing, Care and Related Finance in Later Life.](#)

[Your Time, Your Space](#), lists 22 developments across Newcastle and offers support to apply.

[FirstStop Advice](#) have a free advice line and website helping you explore your housing options and access the housing, support and care services you need.

[Downsizingdirect.com](#) provides free advice to help you make the right choice about your home at the right time. They can help you stay in your current home or help you move somewhere more suitable.

Other Useful Information

- [Housing Options](#) – Age UK Information Guide
- [Housing for older people](#)

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Useful Organisations

Housing Advice Centre – Newcastle City Council

Email: housingadvicecentre@newcastle.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/housing/housing-advice-and-homelessness/what-do-if-you-need-housing-advice-or-are-homeless>

Telephone: 0800 1707 008

Address: City Library,

Tyne and Wear Homes

Email: tyneandwearhomes@yhn.org.uk

Website: www.tyneandwearhomes.org.uk

Telephone: 0191 278 8600

Address: City Library, Charles Avison Building , NE1 8AX

Housing Care

Email: enquiries@eac.org.uk

Website: www.housingcare.org

Telephone: 0207 820 1343

Address: Suite A, SE1 7JW

Your Homes Newcastle (YHN) Support and Progression team

Email: yhn@yhn.org.uk

Website: www.yhn.org.uk

Telephone: 0191 277 1190

Address: YHN House, NE7 7LX

Housing Options for Older People (HOOP)

Email: hoop@eac.org.uk

Website: <https://hoop.eac.org.uk/hoop/start.aspx>

Telephone: 0800 377 7070

Address: Suite A, SE1 7JW

Money Advice Service

Email: enquiries@maps.org.uk

Website: www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk

Telephone: 0800 377 7070

Address: Holborn Centre, EC1N 2TD

Downsizing Direct.com

Email: info@downsizingdirect.com

Website: <http://www.downsizingdirect.com/>

Telephone: 01692 650 816

Cinnamon Trust

Email: sherry@cinnamon.org.uk

Website: www.cinnamon.org.uk

Telephone: 01736 757 900

Address: 10 Market Square, TR27 4HE

Related Articles

[Home adaptations, equipment and aids](#)

[Choosing a care home](#)

[Getting advice about your landlord or housing issues](#)

[Buying or renting ordinary housing](#)

[Housing for older people](#)

[The practicalities of moving home](#)

[Moving in with relatives](#)