

Section 8

THINKING OF MOVING

Transfers

You may request a move to another home within the Association. Priority for a move will be assessed taking into account factors such as:

- overcrowding
- medical reasons
- under-occupation
- social reasons

Your Local Authority has a transfer list, which you can also go on, please contact them for more information.

Appeals

You will not be allowed a move if there is a breach of Your Tenancy Agreement, such as rent arrears or disrepair. You have the right to appeal to the Board of Management to be re-housed despite the breach in the tenancy. For further details on how to appeal for re-housing please contact the Housing Manager.

Mutual Exchange

As an Assured Tenant you have a legal right to exchange your home with another tenant of a Local Authority or Registered Social Landlord. There are lists of tenants wishing to swap at the Council's housing office. However, applicants have to conform to the Association's criteria regarding strong connections with the particular village concerned.

We must approve any exchange, in writing, before you move. We will let you know within six weeks if we agree and if we don't we will tell you why.

Moving Out

If you wish to move out you must give us 4 weeks notice in writing. The last day of the tenancy must be a Sunday. You must continue to pay your rent until the notice expires. We continue to charge rent until the keys are handed in.

Once you have informed us of your intention to leave, a Maintenance Officer will visit you. You will be advised of any repairs you will need to do before leaving. It is not possible at this stage for the Maintenance Officer to see everything, as your home will still contain furniture, so it will be inspected again as soon as you have moved out. If it is found to require repairs other than fair wear and tear, you will be charged for that repair.

You should note that if you give up your tenancy and, at a later date ask the council or another Social Landlord for a home, it may be decided that you gave up your home and made yourself "intentionally homeless". In such cases housing providers may not be able to help you. So please make sure, before you hand in your notice, that the new home that you move to has security of tenure and you are sure that you want to move.

Before moving out make sure you:

- Provide us with a forwarding address.
- Remove all your furniture and possessions (if you leave property we may dispose of it and charge you the cost of removal.)
- Make good any repairs/decoration.
- Have the gas and electricity meters read.
- Tell the Water Company.
- Tell your Housing Benefit office if you are receiving housing benefit.
- Tell your telephone company.
- Ask the Post Office to forward your mail.
- Tell the TV licensing agency.
- Tell the Council Tax office.