

# **Social Housing Guide**

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# 1. Introduction

At **Stoneygate Social Housing CIC**, we believe that **everyone deserves a safe and stable home**. Our social housing services provide **affordable**, **high-quality accommodation** for individuals and families struggling with housing insecurity.

We work in partnership with **local councils, housing associations, and support services** to offer long-term, stable housing solutions for those in need. Our goal is to **reduce homelessness and create thriving communities** by providing well-maintained, secure properties.

# 2. Who Can Apply for Social Housing?

Social housing is available to individuals and families who:

- Are struggling with affordable housing due to financial hardship.
- Are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
- Live in overcrowded or unsafe conditions.
- Have a disability, health condition, or other special needs requiring secure housing.
- Are victims of domestic abuse or vulnerable individuals in need of support.

# 3. How to Apply for Social Housing

#### Step 1: Contact Your Local Council

- Visit your local council's housing department website.
- Check if you meet the **eligibility criteria** for social housing.

#### Step 2: Complete an Application

- Provide proof of identity (passport, driving licence).
- Submit proof of income (payslips, benefits documents).
- Provide details of your current housing situation.
- Include any medical reports or special needs documentation.



#### Step 3: Assessment & Waiting List

- The council will assess your application based on priority needs.
- You may be placed on a waiting list depending on housing availability.
- If you need **urgent housing**, emergency options may be available.

#### Step 4: Receiving an Offer

- Once a suitable property is available, you'll be contacted for an offer.
- You may need to **attend an interview** before final approval.

#### Step 5: Moving In

- Sign a tenancy agreement.
- Arrange for utilities (water, electricity, internet, council tax).
- Meet with a housing officer to discuss your rights and responsibilities.

# 4. Tenant Rights & Responsibilities

#### Your Rights as a Social Housing Tenant

As a tenant, you have the right to: ✓ Live in a safe and well-maintained home. ✓ Be treated fairly without discrimination. ✓ Request repairs and maintenance for your property. ✓ Receive proper notice before eviction or changes to your tenancy. ✓ Access tenant support services if you face challenges.

#### Your Responsibilities as a Tenant

As a tenant, you are responsible for: **✓** Paying your rent on time. **✓** Keeping your home in good condition. **✓** Respecting your neighbours and the community. **✓** Following the terms of your tenancy agreement. **✓** Reporting necessary repairs and safety issues.



### 5. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1: How long does it take to get social housing? - Waiting times vary depending on your priority level and housing availability.

**Q2: Can I apply if I am employed?** *(***-** Yes, social housing is available for those on **Iow or unstable incomes**.

Q3: What happens if I refuse a housing offer? - If you reject an offer without good reason, you may be moved lower on the list.

**Q4: What if I struggle to pay rent?** *C*ontact your housing provider **immediately** for support or financial assistance options.

# 6. Contact Us

If you need **help applying for social housing** or have questions about your tenancy, **contact us today**:

- **Address:** 219 London Rd, Leicester, LE2 1ZE
- E Email: admin@stoneygatehousing.com
- **C Phone:** 0116 497 3936 / 0772 534 3862
- Website: <u>stoneygatehousing.com</u>

Pownload this guide to keep it handy for your application process!