

Extra Care Housing

This leaflet explains what extra care housing is and who it is suitable for.



What is extra care housing

Extra care housing is sometimes known as ‘very sheltered housing’, ‘assisted living’, or simply as ‘housing with care’. You have the security and privacy of your own home with access to care and support on-site to enable you to live independently.

Extra care housing is usually flats within fully self-contained buildings where people have their own front door and tenancies, which gives you security of tenure and the right to control who enters your home. On-site care and support is available and will be delivered as set out in your support plan.

It is an increasingly popular choice for people who have care and support needs due to their disabilities or frailty that make their current housing and care provision unsuitable and who need to move to more suitable housing.

The on-site care providers are registered with the CQC.



Benefits of extra care

Richmond's extra care schemes promote and support independent living. Some of the benefits of extra care include:

- Allows you to be independent and gives you choice and control
- Provides a safe, accessible and secure place to live
- You can make friends and socialise with others, which reduces the risk of you feeling lonely
- It is specialised housing with care. You will be supported to live independently as your needs change over time, as long as the scheme can meet your care and support needs. The scheme cannot give nursing care.

Care and support

Care and support needs

The purpose of moving into an extra care housing scheme is to ensure that your care and support needs outlined in your support plan are met, whilst you maintain your independence. The care workers will be on hand to support with things that you need help with, for example personal hygiene. When you move into the extra care scheme, the on-site care provider will review your support plan with you and make sure that you can carry on doing things that are important to you, for example meeting your friends for a walk. Some of your care and support needs may already be met by your family or friends which can continue in extra care housing scheme.

Staff will also be available on-site should there be an emergency.

Am I eligible for extra care housing?

The accommodation is available to anyone who:

- Is 55 years or older
- Lives in the borough of Richmond
- Has a combination of housing and care and support needs, and need help with daily living tasks and personal care
- Has been assessed with care and support needs by Richmond Adult Social Care.
- If you are interested in social rented or affordable rent, your current property would need to be sold, and you will need to be assessed as being eligible for housing and have an assessed care need.



What can I expect in my flat?

All flats have a sitting room, bedroom, kitchen area and bathroom. There are outdoor spaces or gardens and communal lounges for activities.

The flats have assisted call bell systems for emergencies, where the on-site care provider is the responder.

What amenities are available?

Depending on your flat and the extra care scheme building, the following facilities maybe available:

- Assisted bathrooms on site (some schemes)
- Buggy store (some schemes)
- Communal lounge
- Garden
- Guest room which can be used by family or friends
- Hairdressing salon (some schemes)
- Laundry room (some schemes)
- Lifts providing level access across the building

What will I need to pay?

You will have to pay

- Rent to the housing provider for your flat
- Service charges such as electricity and water, maintenance and communal facilities, and garden areas
- Council Tax
- If you are on a lower income you may be eligible for housing benefit
- You may need to contribute towards the support provided at the scheme or pay the full cost of your care. This includes the waking night service which applies to all tenants. The amount you pay for your care will vary depending on your financial situation. How much you will have to pay will be determined by completing the adult social care financial assessment
- You may have to pay for some of the social activities which take place at the scheme.

You will also need to take into account any financial commitments that you have with your current home before you move, for example making the last rent payment and having enough money to pay for a removal van.



Where are the schemes?

There are two extra care schemes across the borough:

- Dean Road located in Hampton
- Sandown Court located in Twickenham

How do I apply?

All applications are assessed by a panel from Richmond Adult Social Care, the housing provider and the care provider. If approved, you are then placed on a waiting list until there is a suitable vacancy in an extra care scheme. When a vacancy becomes available the same panel will nominate someone from the waiting list for the flat, based on their current housing and social care need.

If you or someone you care for is interested in applying for a home at one of our schemes, then please contact the Richmond Adult Social Care Access Team.

Further information

For further information complete our online enquiry form
richmond.gov.uk/make_an_adult_social_care_enquiry



Visit our web pages

www.richmond.gov.uk/adult_social_care

Our contact details

Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm

Telephone: 020 8891 7971

SMS Phone: 07903 738043

Email: adultsocialservices@richmond.gov.uk

Write to us at:

London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames Council
Adult Social Care and Public Health
Civic Centre, 44 York Street
Twickenham
TW1 3BZ

For information on local services please visit
www.careplace.org.uk

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