

Housing Options

Private Rented Accommodation

Housing Benefit

**Rent in Advance and
Deposit Scheme (RADS)**

Hostels and Shared Housing

Shared Ownership schemes

Key Workers



Housing Advice Leaflet 3



If you are looking for somewhere to live there are several options:

Private rented accommodation

There are many letting agencies and private landlords in the district who let properties to people on low incomes and benefits. The Housing Advice Team can give you a list of agencies. You can look in the local papers where properties are advertised or in small ads placed in Post Office and shop windows. You can also try looking in the Yellow Pages for information on letting agencies.

Housing Benefit

If you rent a home you may be able to get help with your rent. The Council's Housing Benefit service will give you more advice - call 01508 533633.

Advice about other Benefits

Are you sure you are receiving all the benefits you are entitled to? You can contact the Council's Welfare Rights Adviser on 01508 533617. You can also get advice from your local Citizens Advice Bureau.

Rent in Advance and Deposit Scheme (RADS)

The RADS scheme has been set up by South Norfolk Council to help people at risk of homelessness. The scheme may lend you the money to cover a month's rent in advance and the damage deposit. You will have to pay this money back to the Council. Unfortunately the scheme is not open to all applicants so you should contact the Council to see if you qualify for the scheme.

Hostels and Shared Housing

There are a number of organisations in the district providing shared housing, primarily for single people. You can get more information by contacting the Council's Housing Advice team.

Housing Register

The Council holds the Housing Register for Housing Association properties in South Norfolk. The waiting time is very long and some applicants are unlikely ever to be made an offer. This means you might find somewhere more quickly using another route. Contact the Housing Advice Team for more advice.

Shared Ownership schemes

Shared ownership can be an affordable option for people who want to own their own home but do not have the income to buy a property outright. People can buy a share in a property instead, usually a minimum of 50%. You then pay rent on the remaining share. In the future you can buy some or all of the remaining shares. Priority is given to applicants on the Council's Housing register.

You will need a minimum income to purchase a shared ownership property and there is usually a waiting list.

Homebuy

The Homebuy scheme helps people to buy a home on the open market. If you qualify for the scheme, a housing association will lend you 25% towards the price of a new home. You will need to contribute the remaining 75% through a mortgage and personal savings.

When you sell the home you will repay 25% of its value to the Housing Association.

Funding for Homebuy is limited. You should check with the Housing Advice Team to see if money for the scheme is available.

Key Workers

A Housing Association has provided some houses for renting to help workers in South Norfolk. The rents are set at 80% of the full market rent and can be let to certain people such as teachers and NHS workers. For further details of who qualifies contact Orbit First Step on 08458 502050.

Contact details

You can contact the Housing Advice Team on 01508 533614, or visit the Council Office at Swan Lane, Long Stratton, Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays) between:

- 8:45am and 5:00pm Monday to Wednesday
- 9:30am to 5:00pm Thursday
- 8:45am to 4:15pm Friday

Email: housingadvice@s-norfolk.gov.uk



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This leaflet is available in large print or braille