



Housing information and advice

*Independent housing providers
working in partnership in the
North East to offer housing for
rent and low cost home ownership*





INTRODUCTION

There are over 200 housing associations and housing co-operatives in Scotland and you can apply to any of them for a house. Housing associations and housing co-operatives offer good quality affordable homes to those in housing need including single people, couples and families. Some offer accommodation for people with specific housing needs. You can rent from them and sometimes you can buy.

This leaflet gives you information about some of the housing associations and a housing co-operative providing homes throughout the North East of Scotland in Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Angus and Moray.



Aberdeenshire Housing Partnership

T 01224 548000 **E** enquiries@a-h-p.org.uk

www.a-h-p.org.uk

22 Abercrombie Court, Arnhall Business Park, Westhill,
Aberdeenshire, AB32 6FE

As well as general needs housing in Aberdeenshire, the Partnership has properties designed for people with a disability. It also provides supported housing and very sheltered housing for people with support needs.



Castlehill Housing Association

T 01224 625822 **E** info@castlehillha.co.uk

www.castlehillha.co.uk

4 Carden Place, Aberdeen, AB10 1UT

Castlehill Housing Association provides housing for those in greatest need as well as providing appropriate care and support for vulnerable members of the community.



Tenants First Housing Co-operative

T 01224 628400 **E** info@tenantsfirst.com

www.tenantsfirst.com

23 Albert Street, Aberdeen, AB25 1XX

Tenants First is Britain's largest housing co-operative. It is owned and run by its tenant members for the benefit of its tenant members. The Co-operative has over 1,200 properties.



Grampian Housing Association

T 01224 202900 **E** info@grampianhousing.co.uk

www.grampianhousing.co.uk

Huntly House, 74 Huntly Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1TD

Grampian Housing Association has over 3,000 properties for rent and low cost home ownership suitable for a range of client groups.

Hanover (Scotland) Housing Association

T 01343 548585 **E** northinfo@hsha.org.uk

www.hsha.org.uk

North Area Office, 12 Institution Road, Elgin, IV30 1QX

Hanover (Scotland) Housing Association provides a range of specialist housing for people with support needs, as well as housing for families. The Association has more than 5,000 properties throughout Scotland.

Langstane Housing Association

T 01224 423000 **E** info@langstane-ha.co.uk

www.langstane-ha.co.uk

680 King Street, Aberdeen, AB24 1SL

Langstane Housing Association is committed to meeting the needs of single people as well as housing couples and families. The Association has over 2,500 properties.



Blackwood

T 0131 317 7227 **E** info@mbha.org.uk

www.mbha.org.uk

Aberdeen Office, Top Floor, Raeden Court,
Midsocket Road, Aberdeen, AB15 5PF

Blackwood has over 1,500 properties across Scotland. Blackwood Homes provides general needs housing, housing with support and housing for people with a disability. Blackwood Care provides varying levels of care and support to tenants and those living in the community, enabling people with a disability and their families to live as independently as possible.



LOW COST HOME OWNERSHIP

Shared Ownership

This scheme could enable you to part-buy and part-rent your home at a price you can afford. Shares of 25% or 50% or 75% can be purchased and you pay an occupancy payment to the housing association to cover the remaining share. The monthly cost should be less than buying the property outright. After the first anniversary of purchase you may increase the share you own and progress to full ownership in the future.

For further information about shared ownership please contact Castlehill, Grampian, Hanover (Scotland) or Langstane Housing Associations.

Hanover (Scotland) Housing Association also offers an option of purchasing properties outright.

Low-cost Initiative for First-Time Buyers



LIFT (Low-cost Initiative for First-Time Buyers)

If you would like to buy your own home but cannot afford to pay the full price for a property, LIFT could help. The scheme is funded by the Scottish Government and includes:

New Supply Shared Equity scheme

This scheme covers new developments and allows you to buy an equity share of between 60% and 80% of the property. The remaining equity share is held by a housing association (no rent is paid on this share).

Open Market Shared Equity Pilot scheme

This scheme aims to help people on low incomes who wish to purchase a home on the open market but cannot afford to pay the full market price for a property. The applicant pays for the majority share (normally between 70% - 90%, based on their income) with grant from the Scottish Government to help fund the remainder of the price of the property. Limits are set on the prices based on the size of the property and area. After the initial purchase owners can proceed to buy the property outright after a two year period or to increase their share. Owners cannot reduce their share.

The LIFT initiative aims to help first time buyers or people who have experienced a significant change in circumstances or have specific housing needs. Priority is given to tenants of councils and housing associations and waiting list applicants.

For further information about LIFT please contact Grampian Housing Association:

T 01224 202900

E ownership@grampianhousing.co.uk



SHELTERED HOUSING

Sheltered and very sheltered housing provide independent living with the reassurance that assistance is available, day or night. Sheltered housing is available to people who meet certain criteria regarding their health and support needs. These tend to be (but are not always) older people.

Sheltered housing developments consist of a network of flats or houses linked to a warden service through an emergency alarm system.

Many schemes have a communal lounge offering activities for residents, for example classes, clubs, day trips and social events. Some also have a laundry for residents and a guest room where visitors can stay.

Very sheltered housing offers additional facilities for people who require more care and support than normally available in sheltered housing, including the provision of hot meals.

Sheltered and/or very sheltered housing is provided by the following:

- Aberdeenshire Housing Partnership
- Castlehill Housing Association
- Hanover (Scotland) Housing Association
- Tenants First Housing Co-operative



HOW TO APPLY

Anyone aged 16 or over can apply to any of the organisations in this leaflet. The first thing you will have to do is complete an application form. Following this your case will be assessed and based on your housing circumstances and housing need, you will be awarded either points or a priority pass, depending on the organisation. There are some differences in the way that organisations allocate properties, but all have a policy of offering housing to the applicant with the greatest housing need.

To apply, contact the relevant housing association or co-operative directly. If you need help filling in the form ask staff, who can arrange for an interview and an interpreter if you need one.

In general, the demand for our housing usually far outweighs the number of properties available and we are not always able to assist everyone who applies. In order to increase your chances of getting a house we therefore recommend that you apply to as many of us as possible and also, if you are able, to apply to the local council in the area where you wish to be housed. Even if you have a very high priority it can take a number of months, or longer, for suitable accommodation to become available for us to offer you.

