Get in touch

Call 01620 827 827, email us or visit your area office to speak to your Community Housing Officer.

Dunbar

Bleachingfield Centre, Countess Crescent, Dunba housingdunbar@eastlothian.gov.uk

Musselburgh

The Brunton, Ladywell Way, Musselburgh musselburgharea@eastlothian.gov.uk

Haddington

John Muir House, Brewery Park, Haddington haddeast@eastlothian.gov.uk

Prestonpans

Aldhammer House, High Street, Prestonpan prestonpansarea@eastlothian.gov.uk

North Berwick

Library & Customer Services, School Road, North Berwick housingnorthberwick@eastlothian.gov.uk

Tranent

George Johnston Centre, Tranent tranentarea@eastlothian.gov.uk

Versions of this leaflet can be supplied in Braille, large print, audiotape or in your own language. Please phone Customer Services if you require assistance on 01620 827199



Moving in

Your new council tenancy



fold



fold

Moving in

A guide for people who have been offered and accepted a council tenancy.

Contents

Being offered a council property	3
Viewing properties	3
Our Lettings Commitment	4
Signing your Tenancy Agreement	5
Applicants moving from temporary accomodation	5
Decoration Pack	5
Repairs which need completed after you move in	5
Tenancy Support	6
Paying rent	6
Universal Credit	6
Housing Benefit	6
Council Tax	7
Help to furnish your property	7
Waste & recycling	8
Mail redirection	8

Council Tax

You will be responsible for paying Council Tax from the day your tenancy starts. The Council Tax Reduction Scheme is available if you are out of work or on a low income and can help reduce your Council Tax charge.

You can claim Council Tax Reduction whether you're working, unemployed, disabled, single, married or in a civil partnership.

To qualify for Council Tax Reduction, you must:

- be on a low income
- be the person responsible for paying Council Tax

You may be eligible for other Council Tax discounts or exemptions, for example you could be living alone, a student, a care leaver or caring for a family member. You can find out more information and access our online forms at www.eastlothian.gov.uk/counciltax

Help to furnish your property

Scottish Welfare Fund - Community Care Grant

Applications can be made for essential items such as furniture, household equipment, and removal expenses.

You can apply if you are over the age of 16, normally have a low income and be entitled to one of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- **Universal Credit**
- Savings Pension Credit
- **Guaranteed Pension Credit**
- Payment on account of one of the above or have no means of support.

You can apply online at: www.eastlothian.gov.uk/swf or call 01620 828 790 Alternatively you can contact your Area Housing Office.

Recycling First

Recycle first offer starter packs for people moving into their first home who lack essential household items such as cutlery, crockery and bed linen, these packs are FREE to eligible people.

They support referred families & individuals living in East Lothian with basic, pre-used furniture and electrical items to turn their house into a home. They work on a referral basis in order to assist local residents and charge a small delivery fee for this service.

Speak to your Housing Officer at sign-up to request a referral to Recycling First.

Waste & recycling

Find your bin and box collection dates at: www.collectiondates.eastlothian.gov.uk

If you need to order a new bin, recycling boxes or food waste caddy contact Waste Services on 01875 824 305 or visit: www.eastlothian.gov.uk/recycling

Mail redirection

To make sure you continue to receive mail from your previous address you can redirect your mail. You can do this at your local post office or online at: www.royalmail.com/redirection









