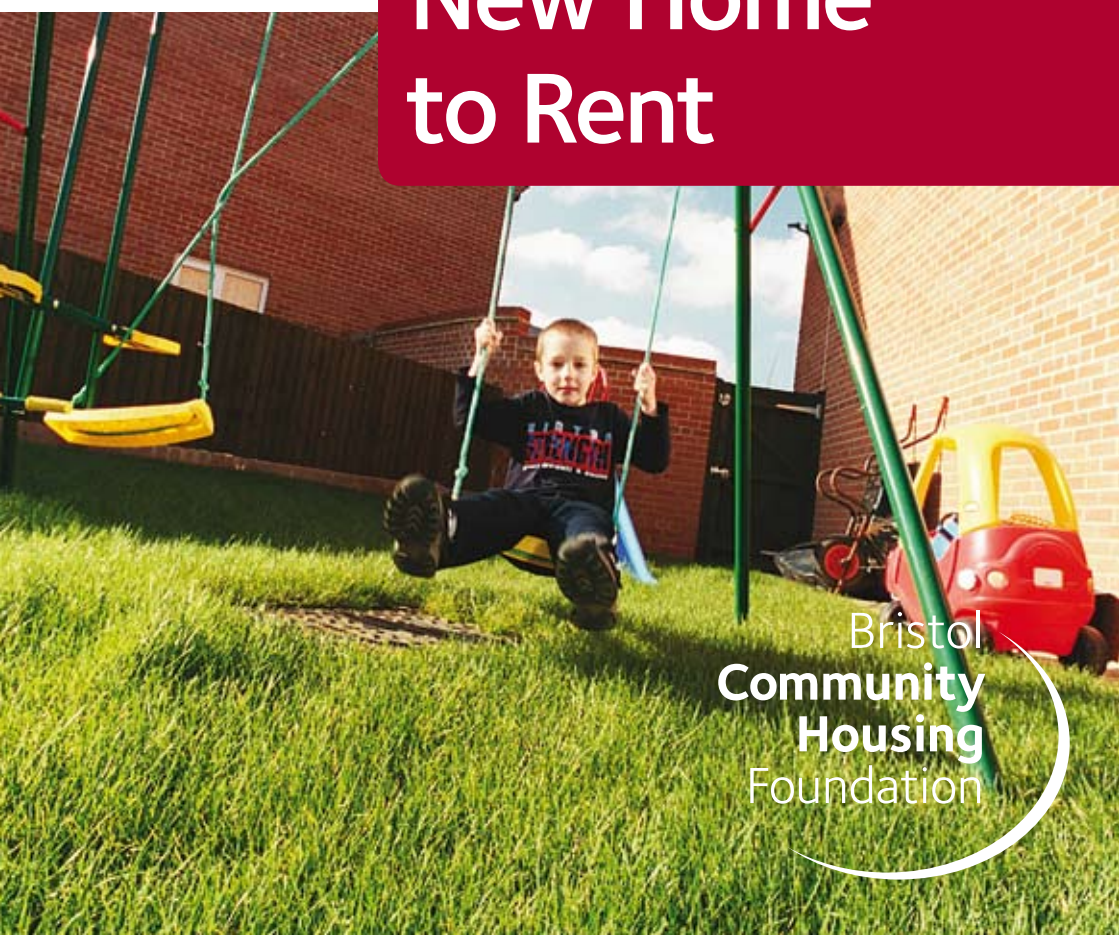




Finding a New Home to Rent



Bristol
**Community
Housing**
Foundation

If you wish to find yourself a new place to live, you can look in the private sector to find a property rented out by a private landlord, which may be the easiest option, or apply for more affordable rented housing which is owned by the council or by a housing association.

Applying for affordable housing

- Whether you have a tenancy at the moment, or are a new applicant, your first step is to apply to be on the council's list by filling out a homechoicebristol application form. You can get one at **BCHF** and send it in to Bristol City Council or apply online: **www.homechoicebristol.co.uk**
- The council will assess your priority to move and let you know. This could be from Band 1 (highest) to Band 5 (lowest). If you wish to query your priority or provide additional information, you should contact Bristol City Council's re-housing section tel. **0117 9222400** or email: **rehousing.enquiry@bristol.gov.uk**
- You are then able to bid for properties advertised in the Evening Post on a Tuesday and on the **Home Choice Bristol** website, using the reference number given to you by the Council. Vacant BCHF properties are advertised in this way, as are most council and housing association vacancies in Bristol.
- BCHF will usually contact the person on the top of the computerised list of people bidding to arrange an interview.
- At this interview, a questionnaire will be completed which gives us information about you. We can check that the information provided by the council is up to date, that the property is suitable and find out about any support needs you may have.



- For a new build property, we will show you plans and photographs and you will need to make a decision whether you want the property from the information we provide. If the home has been let previously, we can show you round before you decide.
- If you are offered a new home, we will arrange for you to come into the office before the property is ready so that we can go through the Tenancy Agreement with you. We will also give you a Tenants' Handbook and other information about the area, and help with any queries. We will explain the ways in which your rent can be paid, and help you notify Housing Benefit if that is appropriate.
- If it is possible, we will give you the keys to your new home on the Friday before your tenancy starts. If you are moving into a property that is being re-let, we will do all this on the same day.
- When you move in, we will meet you there and explain various aspects of your new home.



Shared ownership:

- A number of housing associations have homes available for shared ownership. You will need to be on the housing register to apply, and be earning enough to pay part mortgage part rent. Information is provided by Home2Own. Website: www.home2ownnorth.org.uk
Email: info@home2own.org.uk
Tel. **0300 100 0021**

Further advice from Bristol City Council:

- If you are without dependent children, you can get advice from the HUB, 13-17 Cumberland Street, Bristol BS2 8NL tel. 0117 3534007 or email: the.hub@bristol.gov.uk
- If you wish to contact the Family Homelessness and Prevention Team, tel. 0117 3534007 or email: family.homelessness@bristol.gov.uk

If you would like this leaflet in a large print or a different format, or translated into a different language, please contact us.