



MAKE YOUR MOVE

**HAVE YOU CONSIDERED
DOWNSIZING YOUR HOME?**



London Borough
of Hounslow

Hounslow Housing



Have your children left home? Do you want to reduce the running costs of your household? Or is your home just too big to manage?

If you are a Hounslow Council tenant with one or more spare bedrooms you could qualify for our downsizing scheme.

If you are a housing association tenant and want to downsize, we can still assist you to make a move from your large property. Please contact us to find out more information.

WHAT IS THE DOWNSIZING SCHEME?

The downsizing scheme is managed by Hounslow Council and has been introduced to meet the high demand for large, family sized homes in the borough. We're offering the opportunity for tenants to downsize if the property you live in is too large for your needs.

You can join the scheme if you want to move to a property with fewer bedrooms than your current home. For example, you can move from a 3 bedroom property down to a 1 or 2 bedroom home.

WHAT SUPPORT WILL YOU GET?

- We will prioritise your application and work with you to ensure a smooth transfer
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- We will provide financial and practical assistance as well as a personalised aftercare service.

WHY SHOULD YOU CONSIDER MOVING?

- Your housing needs may have changed and you may no longer need all of the space in your home
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- Moving to a smaller property can reduce the running costs of your home including your utility bills and council tax
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- Depending on your needs, sheltered housing could suit you if you want to live independently but need a bit more support, or if you want to live in a smaller and easier-to-manage home. It is usually only available to those aged 55 and over
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- You will be releasing a much needed property to help a family that needs a larger home. We have a great need for three bedroom properties in particular.

Whatever your reason for wanting a smaller property, we would like to help you!



WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

We offer the following incentives to Council tenants giving up one or more bedrooms:

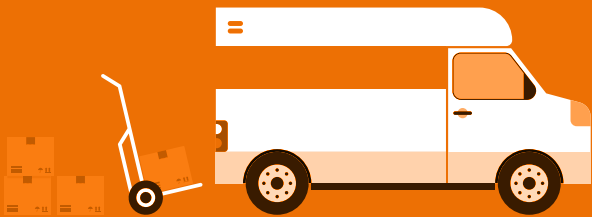
- £1,000 payment
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- We will redecorate the home you will be moving to, in the colours of your choice
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- We will provide a handyman service which will assist you with fitting curtain rails, blinds, bathroom accessories and setting up your flat-packed furniture and other small tasks that can help to make your new property a home.

WE WILL HELP RELIEVE THE STRESS OF MOVING TO A NEW HOME BY:

- taking care of your removal costs
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- helping with the reconnection of your appliances

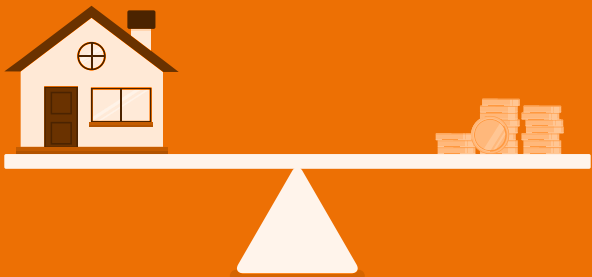


If you are giving up two or more bedrooms, you will also qualify for the supply and fitting of brand new carpet for two rooms of your choice



AFTER YOU MOVE INTO YOUR NEW HOME

Once you have moved into your new home we can schedule an appointment with a handyman if you need a helping hand to settle in.



MONEY MATTERS

Having high rent arrears can be an obstacle if you want to downsize. If you are experiencing problems in managing your finances, and you have rent arrears, we can support you. We can arrange for you to receive money advice that can sometimes lead to identifying benefits that you may be entitled to, which can be used to help pay off your debt.



HOW TO APPLY

You can contact us by telephone, email or you can apply directly online through the council's website.

 020 8583 4452

 downsizing@hounslow.gov.uk

 www.hounslow.gov.uk/downsizing

or visit us: Hounslow Housing, Civic Centre,
Lampton Road, TW3 4DN

When you contact us we will explain the scheme to you and check that you qualify. You can then consider whether this is something you would like to take up.

If you apply online, we will contact you as soon as possible to answer any queries you may have. If you agree to downsize we will then proceed with your application and work with you throughout the move process.