

Getting ready for your new home

- a guide to things you will need to do

This factsheet gives you information about the things you will need to think about before moving in to your new home. Some of these things you can start preparing for now, such as planning how you will move your furniture in to your new place as we cannot assist with moving. There are others things which will need to wait until you sign for your keys. However, it's worth thinking about them now so that you are ready for when you are made that offer.

What to do	Who to contact	Notes
Paying for your home (rent/Council Tax)		
Arranging rent payments Rent Cards Direct Debits	Your Housing Officer will normally tell you how to do this when you sign for your keys. Remember paying your rent on time is an essential part of your tenancy agreement, and if you think you will have any problems paying speak to your local Area Housing Team as soon as possible.	
Housing Benefit applications	Visit Housing and Council Tax Benefits at Pullar House. Or you can call them on 01738 476049 or email HBenquiries@pkc.gov.uk	
Council Tax - Making payments or applying for Council Tax Reduction	You will need to pay Council Tax on any property you rent unless you are exempt, for example because you're under 18 or a student. However, if you are exempt from paying Council Tax you will still need to fill in an exemption form. For details visit Housing and Council Tax Benefits at Pullar House, call them on 01738 476049 or email HBenquiries@pkc.gov.uk	

Client name:

What to do	Who to contact	Notes
Make your house a home		
Gas and/or electricity supplies	<p>Nearly all Council properties are supplied by SSE plc who can be contacted on 0800 22 33 77 to change accounts into your name.</p> <p>Housing association properties have a range of suppliers and will normally provide you with the correct contact information with your keys. If you're not sure ask your Housing Officer.</p>	
Getting water switched on or gas boiler services (If required)	<p>You will be given contact numbers and instructions on how to do this when you get your keys from the Council. Housing associations will normally have arranged this for you. If in doubt ask.</p>	
Furnishing your home	<p>You will need to find furniture for your home, you can source this cheaply, and occasionally for free, through online sources such as www.gumtree.com or http://uk.freecycle.org/</p> <p>Local organisations such as The Salvation Army 40:20 Furniture Re-Use Project at Unit 101, Riverview Business Park, Perth (01738 442562) or the Castle Furniture Project at 54-56 Victoria Street, Perth offer reasonably priced used furniture. Anybody on housing benefit can also get a 20% discount off at Castle Furniture Project.</p>	

Client name:

What to do	Who to contact	Notes
Make your house a home cont...		
Home contents insurance	While your landlord will insure your building, this will not cover any damage to or loss/theft of your personal belongings (including furniture). Remember if you don't have insurance you'll have to pay to replace all these items yourself if they are lost, stolen or damaged.	
TV licence	You must have a TV licence to watch or record television in your home. Call 0300 790 6115 to apply for a licence or transfer an existing one to your new address.	
Who to tell		
Doctor/Dentist	If you are still near enough to go to your current GP or dentist remember to let them know your new address. If you need a new GP or dentist visit www.nhs.uk	
Schools	If you school or nursery age children let the school know your new address. If your children need to move schools, or are just approaching school age check on www.pkc.gov.uk about how to register with a local school. You can also call 01738 475000 for advice and help.	
Benefits	If you receive any benefits, including Child Benefit, Disability Living Allowance, etc, contact the relevant agency to give them your new address. Contact details will be on letters about your benefits, or visit www.direct.gov.uk	

Client name:

What to do	Who to contact	Notes
Who to tell cont...		
Electoral Register	To register to vote from your new address go to www.aboutmyvote.co.uk	
Miscellaneous		
Scottish Welfare Fund	<p>In certain circumstances you may be able to apply to the Scottish Welfare Fund for a grant for essential items. Grants may be available to people who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are leaving care • Need help to remain in the community rather than going into care • Who are taking part in a Resettlement Programme to set up home after an unsettled way of life. • To help families facing exceptional pressure • To help care for a prisoner/young offender on release/temporary licence. <p>For more information on the Scottish Welfare Fund visit www.pkc.gov.uk/welfarerights or phone 01738 476900.</p>	
Home Safety	Tayside Fire & Rescue offer free home safety checks to everyone living in the area. This includes checks on electrical equipment and gas appliances, fire safety advice, electric blanket testing and checks on smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Call 01738 476476 to make an appointment.	

Client name: