How to apply for a home with the council or a housing association
How to apply

Finding a safe and secure home suited to your needs can be difficult if you need to move. There are many options you could consider including shared ownership, private renting, sheltered housing or social housing.

Social housing is affordable housing provided by a local council or registered social landlord (often a housing association). To access social housing in Islington you need to apply to join the housing register.

Living out of the borough
Please note: that Islington Council does not take applications from anyone living outside the borough and these applicants should contact their own local authority for advice and assistance.

The first step is to complete the online housing application form available on the Islington Council website www.islington.gov.uk/housing.

Applicants approved for housing will need to provide satisfactory evidence of identity and past and current residence for themselves and all household members. The council will request documentary evidence from each applicant and will carry out enquiries to confirm the information as necessary.
How to bid

If you are approved for housing you will be given details on how to bid.

Home Connections is a Choice Based Letting scheme (CBL). This means instead of the council allocating you a home, you can have more choice about the location and type of home you live in.

You can choose a home from the list available each week, the list is published on line and is also available at local housing offices.

To be able to bid, you must have been assessed on the council’s housing list and been awarded 120 points or more.

- Information about the homes that have been previously let are published on the home connections website, this information will provide you with a good idea of how popular a particular property or area is.

- You can bid for property with fewer bedrooms than your household is assessed as needing, as long as you won’t become overcrowded.

- You are not able to bid for larger properties than you need.

- You can bid for three properties each week. Properties are available for bidding on Thursdays and bidding closes at midnight on the following Sunday each week.

Change of address or circumstances

It is the responsibility of all applicants to notify Islington Council in writing of any change in their housing or household circumstances. It may be necessary to provide documentary evidence to support the change in circumstances. Applications maybe de-activated whilst the council reassess the information provided. The re-assessment of the application may result in an increase or decrease of points. All applicants will be notified in writing of any changes.
### The Points Scheme

#### Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>TR</th>
<th>HA</th>
<th>HL</th>
<th>WL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>Applicants who are resident in the borough or have a relevant local connection with the borough.</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Opposite sex overcrowding; where two people of the opposite sex have to share a bedroom and one is 10 years or older (unless they are over 16 and living as a couple).</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Where there is more than one occurrence additional points will be given per occurrence.</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Additional points for households lacking 2 or more bedrooms (per household).</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Sharing or lacking access to facilities i.e. cooking facilities, hot or cold water or toilet.</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Medical needs.</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40, 80, 150</td>
<td>Welfare needs.</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>Islington Key Workers scheme.</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>Islington care leavers.</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Points System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>TR</th>
<th>HA</th>
<th>HL</th>
<th>WL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>Applicants who are resident in the borough or have a relevant local connection with the borough.</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Opposite sex overcrowding; where two people of the opposite sex have to share a bedroom and one is 10 years or older (unless they are over 16 and living as a couple).</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Where there is more than one occurrence additional points will be given per occurrence.</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Additional points for households lacking 2 or more bedrooms (per household).</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Sharing or lacking access to facilities i.e. cooking facilities, hot or cold water or toilet.</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Medical needs.</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40, 80, 150</td>
<td>Welfare needs.</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>Islington Key Workers scheme.</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>Islington care leavers.</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Key

- **TR**: Council tenants
- **HA**: Housing Association tenants
- **HL**: Homeless applicants
- **WL**: All other applicants
The points scheme

Applicants are given points for housing need factors and these points are added together. The needs of all individuals in the applicant’s household will be taken into account when points are given. Points may be reviewed at any time and may be varied upwards or downwards depending on changes in circumstances.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TR, HA, HL, WL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opposite sex overcrowding; where two people of the opposite sex have to share a bedroom and one is 10 years or older (unless they are over 16 and living as a couple. Where there is more than one occurrence additional points will be given per occurrence</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For each additional bedroom required.</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional points for households lacking 2 or more bedrooms (per household).</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharing or lacking access to facilities i.e. cooking facilities, hot or cold water or toilet.</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical needs</td>
<td>40, 80, 150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welfare needs</td>
<td>40, 80, 150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islington key workers scheme.</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islington care leavers</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Services</td>
<td>150 or 200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Generation scheme:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Beds</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Beds</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where an NGS applicant has a disability.</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decants</td>
<td>100 or 200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major works</td>
<td>60 or 120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management transfers</td>
<td>60 or 120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relationship breakdown</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under occupying social housing tenants – points per bedroom under occupying.</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under occupying tenants in two bedroom properties.</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All applicants will receive 5% of their total housing needs points for each year on the list starting from the week that housing needs points are added to an application – residence and waiting time points are not included.

For homeless applicants this will be from the date of application. *Except those in reception centres.*
You can bid in the following ways

Internet
www.islington.gov.uk/homeconnections

Text
Key in, bid # your ID number # your pin # advert number to 07800 140 724. Please do not put spaces in your text.

Television
If you are a Sky or Virgin customer you can bid in the following ways:

Sky users:
Sky subscribers can navigate to the site by using their remote control:
• Go to Community Channel (539)
• Press Red

Virgin Media customers should:
• press the Home button
• Choose Interactive button
• select Local & Directory Enquiries
• select Looking Local
Or
• Go to Community Channel (233)
• Press Red
Further housing options available

**Shared ownership**
Schemes to part rent/part buy a property.
For more information please visit
[www.sharetobuy.com/firststeps](http://www.sharetobuy.com/firststeps)

**Sheltered Housing**
Housing for older people.
For more information on please visit
[www.islington.gov.uk/housing](http://www.islington.gov.uk/housing)

**Seaside and country scheme**
Housing for older people out of London.
For more information please visit
[http://seaside.housingmoves.org](http://seaside.housingmoves.org)

**Under Occupation Scheme**
Help for older people who are under occupying their home.
For more information please visit
[www.islington.gov.uk/housing](http://www.islington.gov.uk/housing)

**Homeswapper**
Homeswapper is a national mutual exchange scheme.
For more information please visit
[www.homeswapper.co.uk](http://www.homeswapper.co.uk)

**New Generation Scheme**
A scheme for the son’s and daughters of council, housing association or private sector tenants.
For more information please visit
[www.islington.gov.uk/housing](http://www.islington.gov.uk/housing)

**Key worker housing**
Housing for social workers, metropolitan police officers, occupational therapists, teachers and nurses working in Islington.
For more information please visit
[www.islington.gov.uk/housing](http://www.islington.gov.uk/housing)

**Homeshelter**
For more information please call
020 7527 2000 or visit
[www.islington.gov.uk/housing](http://www.islington.gov.uk/housing)

**Housing moves**
A London wide housing mobility scheme for council and housing association tenants.
For more information please visit
[www.housingmoves.org](http://www.housingmoves.org)
Do you need this information in another language or reading format such as Braille, large print, audio or Easy Read? Please contact 020 7527 2000.

**Portuguese**
Se pretender esta informação na sua língua por favor contacte 020 7527 2000.

**Bengali**
যদি আপনি এই তথ্য গুলো আপনার নিজ ভাষায় পেতে চান তাহলে দয়া করে 020 7527 2000 নম্বরে যোগাযোগ করুন।

**Somali**
Haddii aad jeclaa lahayd macluumaadkan oo ku qoran luqadaada fadlan la xidhiidh 020 7527 2000.

**Turkish**
Buradaki bilgilerin Türkçesini istiyorsanız, lütfen 020 7527 2000 numaraya telefon edin.

**Greek**
Εάν θέλετε αυτές τις πληροφορίες στη δική σας γλώσσα παρακαλώ τηλεφωνήστε στο 020 7527 2000.

**Spanish**
Si desea esta información en su idioma, llame al 020 7527 2000.

**Useful contacts**

**Housing Options Team**
Housing Aid Team
Islington Customer Centre,
222 Upper Street, London, N1 1XR
020 7527 4140
020 7527 4136
Minicom 0800 073 0536
rehousing@islington.gov.uk
www.islington.gov.uk/housing

**Housing Solutions Team**
Housing Aid Team
Islington Customer Centre,
222 Upper Street, London, N1 1XR
020 7527 2000
020 7527 6307
Minicom 0800 073 0536
advice.housing@islington.gov.uk
www.islington.gov.uk/housing

**Benefit service**
PO Box 34750, London, N7 9WF
020 7527 3628
020 7527 4976
Minicom 020 7527 3628
benefits.service@islington.gov.uk
www.islington.gov.uk

Printed on environmentally friendly paper.
PUBLISHED JUNE 2017