

## **Allocations policy**

## What you need to know about how we let our homes

We don't hold our own Housing Register – we think the fairest way to decide who can rent one of our social or affordable home is to use local authority housing registers. We've got agreements in place with local authorities which set out how we can help customers find a home that best suits their needs.

The majority of our homes will be advertised via choice based letting allocation schemes.

This means that customers who want to live in one of our social or affordable homes will need to register with the local authority in the area they want to live. Once registered, they can bid on homes that become available. Each local authority has criteria to decide who's accepted and will advise how homes will be allocated based on their eligibility and priority.

All social and affordable homes will be offered a starter tenancy for 12 months, unless the customer already has an assured tenancy. After 12 months, customers will be automatically moved onto an assured tenancy unless there have been some issues, for example anti-social behaviour or unpaid rent.

We offer different types of tenancies. These include:

**Market rented homes** – these are let on a first come first served basis and usually advertised on Rightmove.

**Shared ownership** – these are part buy and part rent homes. They're advertised by our Space Homes team and there's set criteria that customers will need to meet.

**Rent to buy** – this is a scheme for customers who want to buy a home but are struggling to save. The rent of these homes is set at 80% of the market rent to help customers save towards a deposit to get a mortgage.

**Intermediate rent** – this is a scheme for customers to rent a home at 80% of the market value. It's aimed at customers who can't afford to rent on the open market but wouldn't be eligible for social housing, or customers who want to save a deposit to buy a home outright.