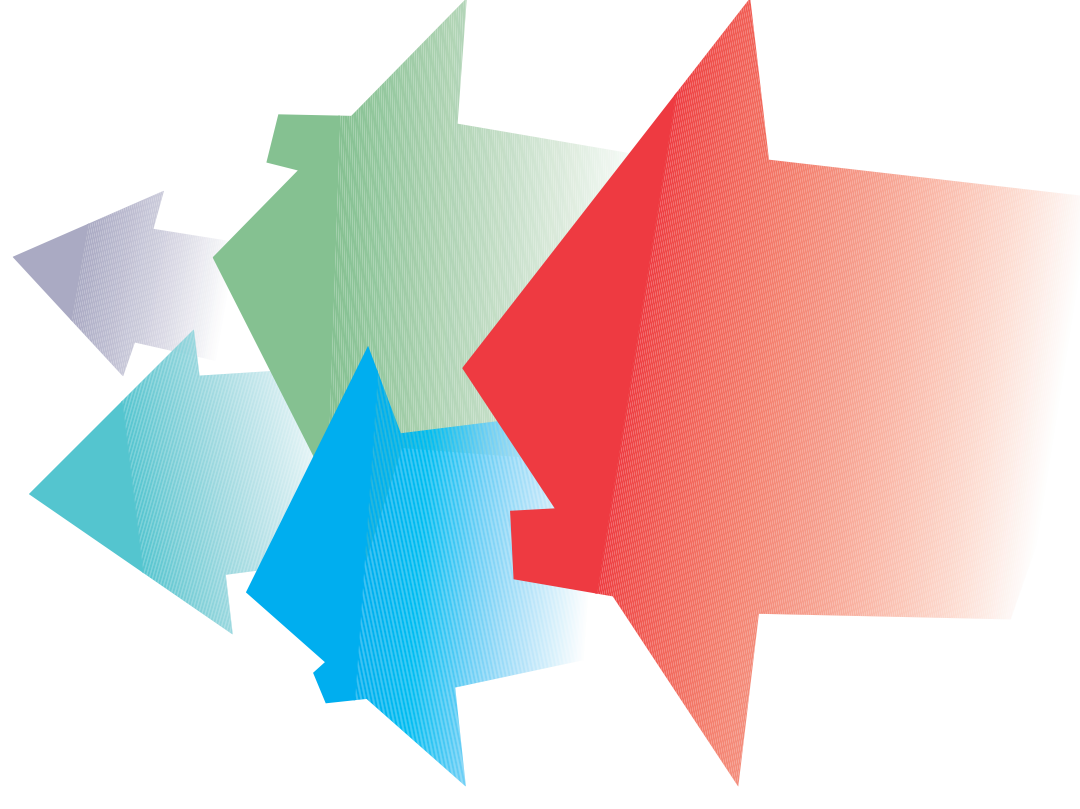


# HOUSING SERVICES



## How will I know if I have been awarded Band one status?

The Support Worker will provide additional information supporting your request for additional priority. All of the information provided will be considered by a panel of senior officers who will decide if you are eligible for Band one status.

You will be notified of their decision in writing.

## How to contact us

For more information contact the Health and Housing Support Team.

Call us: 0191 433 2913

Email us: [healthandhousingupport@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto:healthandhousingupport@gateshead.gov.uk)

Write to us: Health and Housing Support Service  
Housing Services  
Community Based Services  
Civic Centre  
Regent Street  
Gateshead NE8 1HH

## Different formats

This information is available on request in a different language, in large print, audio tape/cd or in Braille call 433 2735.

# Medical Priority



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**This leaflet gives you more information about the help you can get if you need to move home because of a medical condition.**

**Do you need to move home because of your medical condition?**

**Is your home making your medical condition worse?**

**Would a move to a different type of property ease the symptoms you are experiencing?**

If you can answer yes to all of the questions above, you may qualify for Band one status priority, to improve your prospects of rehousing, under the terms of the HomeChoice scheme.

**You may qualify for band one status if:**

- You are in hospital and cannot be discharged as your current home is not suitable to your needs
- You have moved from hospital and are living temporarily with friends, relatives or are in respite provided by the council until a permanent home can be found
- A specialist health professional has stated that you are at risk in your present home due to a physical health condition and includes serious and degenerative illnesses such as Parkinson's Disease, Multiple Sclerosis etc
- A consultant psychiatrist has recommended that because of your psychological ailment your life would be at risk if you were not rehoused

**Housing and Medical Priority Application forms** are available from all local housing offices and from Housing Services based in the Civic Centre. Help to complete the form is available in all offices.

**What will happen once I complete a medical priority application form?**

If you live within the Gateshead borough and meet the above criteria arrangements will be made for a housing officer to visit you at home to discuss the difficulties you are having.

The Support Worker will be able to offer advice and assistance in connection with:

- The lettings procedure
- Bidding for advertised properties
- The availability of suitable properties
- The provision of small items of assistive equipment to help to alleviate the difficulties until a suitable property is available
- Alleviating the difficulties identified e.g. reducing the risk of falling by removing rugs and loose carpets
- Maximising your benefits

If you do not live in the Gateshead area you will be asked to provide any additional information required to consider a priority award.

The Support Worker will gather additional information to support your request for a priority award.