

A guide to choosing a home through Shropshire HomePoint



This easy to read guide tells you how to get a
home using Shropshire HomePoint

What is Shropshire HomePoint?



Shropshire HomePoint is a new way to rent a home from:

Shropshire Council
South Shropshire Housing Association
Meres and Mosses Housing Association
Sevenside Housing Association

The old way of renting a home meant that you applied for a home and you stayed on a waiting list until you were offered one.

Shropshire HomePoint is different. Homes that are available to rent are advertised and you choose the homes you are interested in – this is called bidding.

The homes that are available for rent are advertised on the internet, in housing offices and in newsletters.

There will be a group of people who have bid for the home. If you need the home the most you will then be asked if you want it.

How does Shropshire HomePoint work?



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
APPLICANT	DATE	REFERENCE NO.	
ADDRESS	JOINT APPLICANT		

Housing Register Application Form

IMPORTANT

PLEASE READ THE NOTES IN THE INFORMATION LEAFLETS CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING THIS FORM

Your place on the Housing Register will be determined by your housing need, which will be assessed under Shropshire Council's current allocation policy

Your priority will be assessed according to the answers you give on this form, which will be checked before you receive an offer. You should therefore answer all the questions fully and carefully.

If you need assistance in completing this form please do not hesitate to contact the HomePoint team on 01568 676240 and ask for help. You can also email us at homepoint@sh-ha.org.uk.

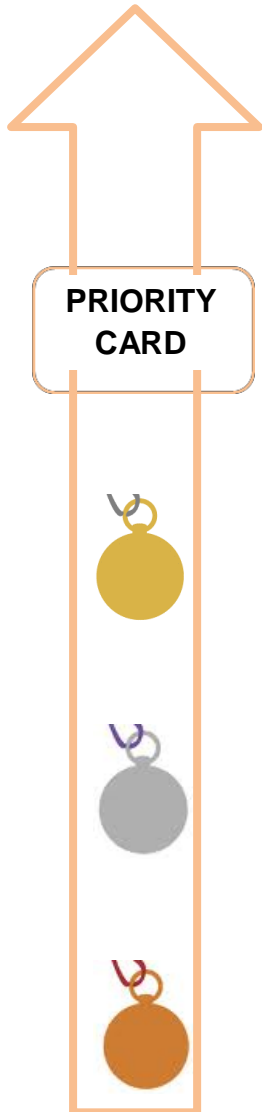
To enable your application to be processed it may be necessary to contact other agencies such as Housing Benefit, Council Tax or the Housing Options Team at the Council, your Landlord or Building Society, Probation Services, Doctors, Social Services, Police, Substance Misuse Team, Drug Rehabilitation and the Community Mental Health Team. At the end of this application form you will be asked to sign the declaration agreeing to this.

You will need to apply

You will need to complete a HomePoint application form. You can ask for help with this from the HomePoint team.

You will need to say why you need to move out of the home you have now.

Your doctor, social worker or someone who knows you well may need to give more information.



When you apply you will find out which band you are in.

A band is a group of people who have a similar need for a home.

The bands are Priority, Gold, Silver and Bronze.

The band you are given says how much you need a new home, for example:

Priority = people needing a new home the most, for example people who are unable to stay in their current home

Gold = people needing a new home quickly

Silver = people who need a new home but can wait a little longer

Bronze = people who need a home but have no urgent need to move

Some homes advertised are only for people who are over a certain age.

Some homes advertised are only for people with a disability.

You will be told which type of homes you can choose. For example, if you are single then you may not be allowed to move into a three or four bedroom house.

You must tell us if anything changes so that we can check that you are in the right band.



Choosing a home

You can choose up to 3 homes a week. You will be given a number which you need to use every time you choose a home.

When you choose a home this is called bidding.

Homes are advertised on the internet, in housing offices and in newsletters. You can ask for a newsletter to be sent to you if you cannot access a computer.



You can say you are interested in a home in different ways

- By telephone
- By internet
- By post
- At the HomePoint offices
- A person you choose can bid for you



Getting a home

Each home belongs to a landlord. They look at a list of everyone who has chosen their home.

You may be asked to go and see a home you have chosen. You will then be asked if you want it.

Until you are offered a home that you want to live in it is important that you keep choosing homes that you like.

The website and the newsletter will tell you why someone else was given the home you wanted, like which band they were in and how long they have waited.



Agree the rules and get your keys

You will be asked to decide whether you want the home you have looked at.

If you do not want to live in this home then you must decide straightaway. You can then carry on choosing homes that you like.

You will be asked to agree the rules about having your home – this is a legal document called a tenancy agreement.

When you agree the rules you will get your keys to your new home.

You will find out who to contact if you need any help in your new home.



Getting help

You can get help to make an application

You can get help to say which homes you like

You can get other people to choose for you

You can get extra time to decide on the offer of a home if you need it because of your disability

You can get help to look at other ways to get housing

SHROPSHIRE
HomePoint



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