

How will we select who gets the home?

Once the deadline for bids has been reached we will select the successful applicant from everyone who bid for a home based on:

- whether they are eligible for the home
- their band
- how long they have been in that band.

How do I know if my bid is successful?

If you are offered a home, the Landlord will contact you to make an arrangement for you to view it as soon as possible. You can decide to accept or refuse the offer when you view the property.

We will not contact you if your bid is not successful. You will be able to find information on the outcomes of your bids on the Devon Home Choice website.

We will also publish general feedback on homes that have been let. This will include the number of bids for each home, the band of the successful applicant and their band start date.

This will help you decide which homes to bid for in the future, and your realistic chances of success.



Choice for you, in the whole of Devon



Our map here shows the county of Devon. You will now have the choice and ability to move within Devon.



For more information, please contact your local authority housing team:

East Devon District Council	01395 517469
Exeter City Council	01392 265726
Mid Devon District Council	01884 255255
North Devon Council	01271 325757
Plymouth City Council	01752 305496
South Hams District Council	01803 861234
Teignbridge District Council	01626 361101
Torbay Council	01803 208723
Torrige District Council	01237 428700
West Devon Borough Council	01822 813600

If you require this leaflet in an alternative format, please contact your local authority.

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Introducing a new choice based letting scheme for Devon



Devon Home Choice

Local authorities in Devon are working together to provide a new choice based letting scheme. Find out more inside and how you can apply.

What is Devon Home Choice?

Devon Home Choice is a new choice based letting scheme that will cover the whole of Devon. Devon Home Choice will be introduced from December 2009.

Council and housing association homes available to let in Devon will be advertised each week. You will be able to bid for homes that meet your needs. Homes will still be offered to those assessed as being in the most need.

Why is Devon Home Choice being introduced?

The ten Devon local authorities are working together with housing associations in Devon to provide choice for people seeking housing and the ability to move within Devon. For example, if you need to move to take up a new job.

How do I join the Devon Home Choice scheme?

If you are already on the housing register or waiting list of one of the local authorities or housing associations in Devon, we will write to you to tell you how your application will be transferred to Devon Home Choice. You may be asked to provide some further information.

Your application will need to be reassessed. You will be placed in 1 of 5 bands (see over for details).

If you are not already on a housing register or waiting list, you will be able to apply online at the Devon Home Choice website when the scheme goes live. If you are not able to apply online please contact your local authority for assistance.

If you want to apply for housing before Devon Home Choice goes live, please contact your local authority housing advice team.

Telephone numbers of your local authority are on the back page of this leaflet.

How will I know when Devon Home Choice starts?

If you are already registered we will write to you in November to confirm the date that Devon Home Choice will start in your area.

We will confirm what band you are in and the reason for this, together with the size of homes that you are eligible to bid for. We will provide more information on how Devon Home Choice works. You will be asked if you need any support to take part in Devon Home Choice.

The target date for the launch of Devon Home Choice is December 2009. Look out for the publicity about the scheme on your local authority's website, in the local press, and in council offices and libraries throughout Devon.

What are the bands?

You will be placed in 1 of 5 bands. This will be based on our assessment of your housing need, and whether or not you have a local connection to Devon:

- **Emergency** - If your housing need is exceptional and you have an urgent need to move
- **High** - For example you have been accepted as statutorily homeless by a Devon local authority
- **Medium** - For example you lack 1 bedroom in your current home
- **Low** - For example you have been assessed as having a low health/wellbeing need
- **No housing need** - If you are adequately housed.

How will the bands affect my current housing application?

We will reassess your current application in line with the Devon Home Choice policy. You will then be placed in 1 of the 5 bands depending on your housing need.

When we write to you to tell you what band you are in we will give you the reason for it.

How will homes be advertised?

Each week all available council and housing association homes in Devon will be advertised. Homes will be advertised:

- on the **Devon Home Choice website**
- in **newsletters and on posters that will be widely available across Devon**
- via **Digital TV**.

The advert will tell you all about the property, for example how many bedrooms it has, what the rent is, who the landlord is and if any restrictions apply.

How can I bid for homes I like?

You can bid for up to 3 homes each week for which you are eligible:

- on the Devon Home Choice website
- using an automated telephone service
- using Digital TV
- in person at council offices.

How will I know which homes I will be eligible for?

When we write to you to confirm your band, we will also confirm what homes you are eligible for. This will include:

- the size of homes you can bid for
- whether you need a certain type of home or an adapted home because of your mobility needs
- whether you need older persons housing.

The adverts will state any restrictions on particular homes. For example, if you need a local connection to a specific part of Devon.

