

Applying as homeless



This page lists useful items you should try to take with you when you go to the council housing department to make a homelessness application. Try to bring as many things as possible that apply to you, as this can speed up your application. Don't worry if you haven't got anything that's on the list: you can still apply for help, and the council still has a responsibility to look into your situation.

ID

- Birth certificate
- Passport
- Proof of immigration status
- Driving licence
- Medical card
- National Insurance card
- Travel pass with photo

Evidence of why you are homeless or about to become homeless

- Letter from your parents/friends/relatives saying you have to leave
- Notice to quit from your landlord
- Repossession letter from mortgage lender
- Eviction documents from the court

Evidence of where you live

- Your tenancy agreement
- Utility bills (phone, gas, electricity) in your name

A letter addressed to you, or which says where you have been living, from:

- your school, university or college
- your doctor or hospital
- your employer
- the Department of Work and Pensions or Jobcentre
- your solicitor
- your social worker

Other evidence of your personal circumstances

- Birth certificates for your partner and children
- Child benefit book
- Wage slips
- Benefit book
- Proof of pregnancy, if you or anyone else in your household is pregnant
- Hospital ante-natal record book
- Doctor's/hospital letter about any health problems
- Written discharge from the armed forces
- Crime number or copies of relevant police reports (for example, if you are leaving home because of violence or harassment)

If you have any problems applying to the council as homeless, call Shelter's free housing advice helpline on **0808 800 4444** or go and see an adviser at a housing aid centre, Citizens Advice Bureau or other local agency. Use Shelter's Advice Services Directory to find details of agencies in your area. An adviser can help you make your application and can ensure that the council gives you the help you're entitled to.