



## Alternative Accommodation (Decant) for secure tenants Policy - Quick Guide (V1.0).

### What this policy is about

A quick guide to how residents are supported if they need to move temporarily or permanently due to essential works, safety issues or redevelopment.

### Who it applies to (See policy: Scope, p.3)

This policy applies to secure tenants who need to move temporarily or permanently, households affected by major repairs, safety issues or redevelopment, and the staff or contractors involved in planning or delivering moves.

### The commitment (See policy: Purpose & Our Responsibilities, p.3–4)

Moves will be managed fairly and respectfully, with support to minimise disruption and ensure residents are not financially disadvantaged or lose tenancy rights as a result of a required move.

### When a move may be needed (See policy: Assessing Habitability and the need to move requirements, p.7–8)

A move may be required where it is not safe or practical to remain in the home, including for major repairs, safety works, long-term damp or mould, structural issues, fire or building safety improvements, or redevelopment. Where possible, we will assess whether works can be completed safely without a move.

### How decisions are made (See policy: Habitability Assessment & Identification and Planning, p.7)

A habitability assessment is used to decide whether it is safe and practical to remain in the home during works. Decisions consider health and safety, the urgency of the works and household needs. Any required move will be confirmed as temporary or permanent and explained clearly, including review rights.

### Assessing needs and support (See policy: Assessment of Needs & Assessing the Housing Needs, p.5 & 8)

Household needs will be assessed, including health, disability, caring responsibilities and other additional needs. Reasonable adjustments and appropriate support will be provided where required, including signposting to relevant wellbeing or support services.

### Temporary moves (See policy: Temporary Moves, p.8–10)

Temporary moves are for a set period; with a return home once works are completed. The original tenancy and right to return are retained, accommodation is reviewed for suitability, and support is provided with moving out and returning home. For temporary moves, Portsmouth Homes staff will assess needs and support requirements.

### Permanent moves (See policy: Permanent Moves, p.10–11)

Permanent moves are required where the home is no longer suitable or available. A suitable permanent home will be offered with no less security, and Home Loss or Disturbance Payments may apply where eligible. Preferences and needs will be considered where possible. Permanent rehousing is assessed by Portsmouth City Council (via Housing Needs Advice & Support) in line with their allocations policy and criteria.

### Financial support and costs (See policy: Financial Support and Costs, p.5)

Support is provided so residents are not financially disadvantaged. Statutory and reasonable moving costs will be covered, responsibilities for rent, utilities and belongings will be explained, and advice or support will be available where needed.

### Resident responsibilities (See policy: Your Responsibilities, p.6–7)

Residents are asked to allow access where needed, share relevant information, report issues promptly, and prepare to return home when it is confirmed safe.

### Respect and fairness (See policy: Fairness, Respect and Equality (including Data and Privacy), p.4)

Everyone is expected to treat each other with courtesy and respect, with decisions made through consistent and transparent processes.

### Further information

This is a summary only. For full details, including assessments, financial support, reviews and compensation, please refer to the Alternative Accommodation (Decant) Policy or contact Portsmouth Homes.

Information is available in alternative formats on request.

[Link: Alternative Accommodation \(Decant\) policy for secure tenants](#)

