

BARKIS HOUSE

Address

Portsmouth City Council
Portsmouth Homes - Building Safety
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Guildhall Square
Portsmouth
PO1 2AL

t. 02392 84 1674

e. decants@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Important - update on your housing block

Date: 27th July 2026

Dear Resident,

I am writing to let you know about a proposal that could affect your home.

We understand receiving a letter like this may be worrying. We want to be open and honest with you about what is being proposed and why, and how we would look to support you. **This letter explains that we are very likely to rehouse you by 2030.**

A proposal affecting **Barkis House** will be considered by the Cabinet Member for Housing and Tackling Homelessness at a meeting on **5 August 2026**. A report setting out the details will be published on **28 July 2026** on the Portsmouth City Council website.

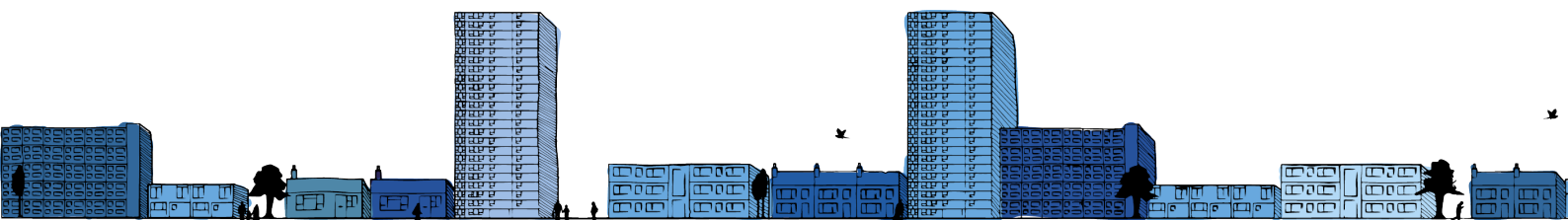
The proposal covers a plan leading up to **2030**, nothing would need to change straight away. We understand that your home is much more than a building - it is where you feel settled and connected to your community.

The report will recommend that residents living in **Tipton House, Edgbaston House, Barkis House and Nickleby House** are permanently rehoused into other homes. If agreed, this would happen over four years, with support provided to every household throughout the process.

This recommendation is linked to the way the buildings were built. Expert surveys have found that residents can continue to live safely in their homes and there are no immediate safety concerns. However, the surveys also found that the buildings do not meet the standards we would expect from homes built today.

We looked at whether the buildings could be updated instead. However, the amount of work needed would be very large and would cause a lot of disruption to residents. People would need to move out of their homes for a long time while the work was carried out. Even after the work was finished, the buildings would still have a limited lifespan. Because of this, Portsmouth Homes believes that helping residents move is the best long-term option.

One of the first questions you may have, is if you are safe in your home between now and 2030. The clear advice from the experts is **yes**. Residents can continue living safely in their homes while any rehousing is planned and delivered.



If the proposal is approved, we will work closely with every household to understand their circumstances, needs and preferences. A member of our team will arrange a meeting with you to discuss your situation, answer your questions and explain the support available. The report also includes a package of support for residents including a home loss payment. We will provide more information about this when we meet with you.

From today, there are several ways you can get information, ask questions and speak to someone about this news:

- Speak directly with Portsmouth Homes staff. We are visiting every flat and will return to homes where residents are unavailable today.
- Attend a drop-in session in the community room on the ground floor. Staff will be available between 9am and 7pm on the 27 July and 9am and 5pm on the 28 July, 29 July and 30 July and 9am and 4pm on 31 July
- Read the information provided alongside this letter in your own time.
- Visit the information point in the community room.
- Speak with your dedicated Decant Housing Officer, **Marie Hattersley**.
- Call our dedicated helpline on **02392 84 1674**.
- Email **decants@portsmouthcc.gov.uk**.
- Visit the Portsmouth Homes website for the latest information and frequently asked questions **portsmouth.gov.uk/barkishouse**

We know this is a lot of information to take in and that you may feel worried or uncertain about what this could mean for you and your family. Please be reassured that any changes would happen gradually over a number of years.

We will continue to keep you informed and support you throughout the process. If it would help, please let us know if there is a family member, friend, carer or someone else you trust that you would like involved in future conversations.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information.



Director of Housing, Neighbourhood & Building Services
Portsmouth Homes
Portsmouth City Council

