

Housing With Care



Contents

Page 1	What is Housing with Care?
Page 2	How do I apply?
Page 3	Who can apply?
Page 3	How will my housing situation be assessed?
Page 5	Directory of Housing with Care
Page 5	Can I be housed by other housing providers?
Page 6	How many offers will I get?
Page 7	What facilities and services are provided?
Page 8	Pets
Page 8	What is an individually assessed care package?
Page 9	Can I get help with the costs?
Page 10	Other Housing Options
Page 11-13	Useful addresses and telephone numbers

What is Housing with Care?

In later life, many people benefit from living in a smaller, more manageable home where they can live independently while enjoying the companionship that goes along with living beside other older people in a grouped setting.

Housing with Care is housing for older people who are physically frail and need care and support services at home. Many of the houses have been designed or adapted to make living easier for older people.

Housing with Care may be able to meet your needs by giving you a house with care and support services which will be tailored to meet your needs.

There are three levels of Housing with Care:

- Level 1 (used to be called very sheltered housing)
- Level 2 (used to be called sheltered housing)
- Level 3 (used to be called amenity housing)

Although Housing with Care is a term used to describe Falkirk Council schemes some Housing Associations will continue to use the terms Very Sheltered, Sheltered and Amenity Housing

Information about the facilities and services that Housing with Care provides is given on pages 7 and 8 of this leaflet.

How Do I Apply?

If you think it would help you to move to a house where extra support is given you should fill in the application form for Housing with Care.

You can get an application form by telephoning, writing or calling into one of our Neighbourhood Offices / One Stop Shops, the Accommodation Resource Centre or local Social Work Offices. A list of addresses and telephone numbers is provided at the end of this booklet. You can also download an application form from the Council's web site www.falkirk.gov.uk

Please contact us if you would like this information available in audio, Braille, large print or another language.

If you need help to fill in the application form staff from the Accommodation Resource Centre, Neighbourhood Offices / One Stop Shops or Social Work Community Care Teams will be happy to give advice and assistance. Our staff can give you detailed information about the Council's Housing with Care as well as Housing Associations with similar facilities in the Falkirk area.

To help us process your application as quickly as possible you should make sure you answer all the relevant questions on the application form.

When you have filled in your application form you should return it to the Accommodation Resource Centre or Neighbourhood Offices/ One Stop Shops. Contact details are provided at the end of this booklet.

If you wish to apply for a house managed by a Housing Association you can apply to them directly. A list of addresses and telephone numbers is provided at the end of this leaflet. For more information about Housing Associations see page 5 "Can I be housed by other housing providers as well as the Council?".

Who can apply?

To qualify for Housing with Care you must normally be aged 60 or over and have support needs. In the case of joint applicants, one person must be aged 60 or over with support needs. Exceptions can sometimes be made if you suffer from ill health or a disability and you would benefit from the type of housing or services provided.

How will my housing situation be assessed?

The availability of Housing with Care is limited and demand for it is high, so we need to make sure that houses are allocated to those who are most in need. We aim to make sure that access to Housing with Care is based on need and that all applicants are given equal opportunity.

When you have filled in the application form for Housing with Care we will ask you for more information about your health, the support services you receive just now and what you might need if you move. In most cases we will arrange for a specialist housing worker to visit you at home to talk about your situation. However, if you live outwith the Falkirk Council area, you can give this information by completing a questionnaire.

The form asks questions about how you manage activities in and out of your home e.g. making a cooked meal, walking around the house, doing laundry and shopping. We also need to know about the help you have at home and the social activities that you are able to take part in.

We will use the information to identify the type of Housing with Care which appears to be best for you. In the case of joint applicants our assessment will be made on the higher level of need.

Once the assessment has been carried out we will be able to advise you on your housing options i.e. give you information about the housing developments that offer the type of housing suitable for your needs. For example, if the assessment makes it clear that your need for help and support would be met by Level 2 Housing with Care we will give you information about all the Level 2 developments throughout the Council area. You will then be able to choose which of these developments you would like to live in.

It is important to note that priority is not given for the length of time you have been on the waiting list. The allocation of Housing with Care reflects your need at the time you apply.

How can I find out where there is housing that suits my needs?

We have prepared a Directory of Housing with Care which gives useful information about Falkirk Council and Housing Association developments that provide support and/or care services. The Directory is available at all our Neighbourhood Offices/One Stop Shops, the Accommodation Resource Centre and Social Work Offices. The Directory is also available on the Council's website www.falkirk.gov.uk. The information in the Directory is correct at the time of printing however, information gets out of date quickly and you may want to check the details with the landlord of the development you are interested in.

Can I be housed by other housing providers as well as the Council?

You can also choose from a range of Housing Associations who provide Housing with Care for rent throughout the Council area.

Housing Associations are non-profit making landlords (often with charitable status) which provide a range of different types of housing from mainstream to specialist housing e.g. Housing with Care for people with care and support needs.

The Council has nomination arrangements with these Housing Associations which mean that some of the Association's properties, which become available (normally 50%), will be allocated to applicants from the Council's housing list.

You can be nominated to a Housing Association by answering “yes” to the question on the application form (Section 7, Question 1). You can also apply to them directly. A list of Housing Associations providing Housing with Care in the Council area, is shown at the back of this booklet.

Please note, if we nominate you for a house owned by a Housing Association this will count as one of your housing offers. If you turn down the offer it will be recorded as a refusal and, if you accept the offer your application will be cancelled.

How many offers will I get?

You can receive up to two offers of Housing with Care. If you refuse both of these offers we will carry out another assessment of your care and support needs to confirm that your needs have been properly identified.

What facilities and services can I expect to find with Housing with Care?

The facilities and services that you can expect to find with Housing with Care vary depending on whether the scheme is classed as Level 1, 2 or 3.

Level 3 Housing with Care (used to be called Amenity Housing).

Individual flats or houses (living room, bedroom, kitchen and bathroom or shower room) with extra safety and security features such as a 24 hour call system provided by MECS (Mobile Emergency Care System).

- Individually assessed care packages if required
- Home Care Services can provide a range of services including meals where they are needed
- Help to look after any garden

Level 2 Housing with Care (used to be called Sheltered Housing).

These are individual flats or houses which have been purpose built or adapted. They have the same features as Level 3 Housing with Care plus some extra features listed below:

- A communal lounge area for use by tenants to help social contact and companionship
- Laundry facilities
- Lift access to upper floors is available in all Falkirk Council facilities. However, some Housing Association developments do not have lift access.
- CCTV system at entrance to building in some schemes
- May have a resident warden
- Often have a guest room so that it is convenient for visitors to stay

Level 1 Housing with Care (used to be called Very Sheltered Housing)

Similar to Level 2 Housing with Care but with extra features listed below:

- Communal areas for use by tenants usually including a lounge, dining room and laundry
- Meals are prepared on site and served in the dining room. There is a charge for meals.

Will Housing with Care be suitable for me if I have a pet?

The Housing with Care schemes provided by Falkirk Council are generally not suitable for you if you have a dog as a pet. However, some of the Housing Associations have properties that may be suitable for you if you are a dog owner. For more information about keeping pets, you should ask the landlord of the scheme you are interested in.

What is an individually assessed care package?

If you have specific care needs that cannot be met by the usual facilities available in Housing with Care, you can ask for an assessment of your personal care and health care needs to decide the type of care and support services you need. Packages can be customised to meet your individual needs.

A financial assessment is also carried out to decide if you will need to pay (and how much) for the care package provided to meet your needs.

Can I get help with the costs?

Rents are normally paid monthly and vary depending on the size and type of property. Housing Benefit is available to those who qualify to meet all or part of the basic rent and the service charge (excluding heating and meals where they are provided). Information about the rental charges for individual developments is provided in the Housing with Care Directory which is available from our Neighbourhood Offices/One Stop Shops or the Accommodation Resource Centre, local Social Work Offices and the Council's website www.falkirk.gov.uk.

Information and advice on Welfare Benefits, including Housing Benefit, are available from the following places:

- Neighbourhood Offices/One Stop Shops
- Accommodation Resource Centre
- Local Social Work Offices
- Citizens Advice Bureau
- The Pensions Service

Are there other housing options for older people?

As well as Housing with Care there is mainstream or general needs housing which has been identified as suitable for older people. These houses may have been adapted and, depending on your circumstances you may be provided with:

- an individually assessed care package
- 24 hour emergency call system provided by MECS
- help to look after your garden

A list of these houses is available from our Neighbourhood Offices/One Stop Shops or the Accommodation Resource Centre. These houses are allocated in line with the Council's Housing Allocations Policy and more information is available in the leaflet "A Guide to Applying for a House in the Falkirk Council Area".

We hope that the information in this leaflet has been helpful and has answered your questions. If you have any other queries about Housing with Care then you can contact the Accommodation Resource Centre on 01324 504025.

Useful Addresses and Telephone Numbers Falkirk Council Accommodation Resource Centre and Neighbourhood Offices/One Stop Shops

Accommodation Resource Centre

21-25 High Street
Falkirk
FK1 1ES
01324 504025
E-mail: arc@falkirk.gov.uk

Bo'ness One Stop Shop

24 East Pier Street,
Bo'ness, EH51 9AB,
Tel: 01506 778899
E-mail:
housing.boness@falkirk.gov.uk

Camelon One Stop Shop

308 Main Street,
Camelon,
Falkirk, FK1 4EQ,
Tel: 01324 503640
E-mail:
housing.camelon@falkirk.gov.uk

Dawson Centre

David's Loan
Falkirk
FK2 7RG
Tel: 01324 501450
E-mail:
housing.dawson@falkirk.gov.uk

Denny One Stop Shop

Carronbank House,
Carronbank Crescent,
Denny, FK6 6GA,
Tel: 01324 504050
E-mail:
housing.denny@falkirk.gov.uk

Falkirk One Stop Shop

Unit MSUI,
Callendar Square,
Falkirk, FK1 1ZF,
Tel: 01324 506868
E-mail:
housing.falkirk@falkirk.gov.uk

Grangemouth One Stop Shop

5 York Lane,
Grangemouth, FK3 8BD,
Tel: 01324 504550
E-mail:
housing.grangemouth@falkirk.gov.uk

Stenhousemuir One Stop Shop

398 Main Street,
Stenhousemuir, FK5 3JR,
Tel: 01324 503340
E-mail:
housing.stenhousemuir@falkirk.gov.uk

Falkirk Council Social Work Offices

Bo'ness Social Work Office

Kinglass Health Centre
Gauze Road
Bo'ness, EH51 9UE
01506 778668

Camelon Social Work Services

108b Glasgow Road
Camelon, FK1 4HS
01324 501200

Denny Social Work Office

Carronbank House
Carronbank Crescent
Denny, FK6 6GA
01324 504160

Falkirk Social Work Office

155 Grahams Road
Falkirk, FK2 7BQ
01324 506595

Grangemouth Social Work Office

Oxgang Road,
Grangemouth, FK3 9EF
01324 504343

Meadowbank Social Work Office

1 Salmon Inn Road,
Polmont, FK2 0XF
01324 503883

Stenhousemuir Social Work Office

130 King Street
Stenhousemuir, FK5 4HS
01324 503503

Social Work Falkirk District Royal Infirmary

Majors Loan
Falkirk, FK1 5QE
01324 616139

Housing Associations

Bield Housing Association

12 Somerset Place
Glasgow, G3 7JT
0141 270 7200

Cairn Housing Association

15 Claremont Street,
Glasgow, G3 7NR
0141 353 1944

Castle Rock Housing Association

1 Hay Avenue,
Edinburgh, EH6 4RW
0131 657 0600

Hanover Housing Association

Watling House
Callendar Business Park
Falkirk, FK1 1XR
08451 400 100

Link Housing Association

33/35 Wellside Place
Falkirk, FK1 5RL
08451 400 100

Margaret Blackwood Housing Association

Suite 102,
Pentagon Business Centre
30 Washington Street,
Glasgow. G3 8AZ
01410 221 1606

Other Useful Addresses and Telephone Numbers:

Abbeyfield Society

“Thornville”

Ladysmill

Falkirk

FK2 9AU

01324 634357



Falkirk Council
Housing & Social Work Services

June 2006