



Shetland Islands Council



Housing Advice and Information Provided by:

Shetland Islands Council—Housing Service
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www.shetland.gov.uk/housingoptionsguide/

Produced by Shetland Islands Council and Hjaltland Housing Association May 2011

Shetland Islands Council—Housing Service
Department of Education and Social Care



Housing Information and Advice

This leaflet sets out any issues that may arise within your current housing situation. If you have recently applied for Shetland Islands Council Housing or have been on our waiting list for a period of time or if you feel you are going to be homeless within the near future, please find below some essential housing options:

⇒ **Do you have internet access?**

Useful Websites

www.shetland.gov.uk/housingoptionsguide

www.shetlandtoday.co.uk (Click on the “Properties” Link)

www.shetland.gov.uk/housingoptionsguide/informationandadvice/documents/Websiteleaflet.pdf

⇒ **Have you looked at any other Private Rented Accommodation?**

There are many ways of seeking alternative housing. For example: Check the “To Rent” column of the Shetland Times, advertise in the “Wanted” column of the Shetland Times, add your name to mailing list for Solicitors rented properties, advertise or look at the notice boards in the Lerwick branch of Co-op or Tesco supermarkets.

⇒ **As well as the SIC Housing Service, have you applied for housing with Hjaltland Housing Association (HHA)?**

By completing an SIC Housing Application form, you are asked if you wish to be considered for SIC, HHA or both. To keep all your options open, it would be suggested to tick both. If you have not already done so, you can contact Hjaltland Housing Association on **01595 694986** or look at their website: www.hjaltland.org.uk.

⇒ **Has your Private Rented (PR) landlord asked you to leave? Or do you feel you cannot stay in your current PR accommodation anymore?**

Please speak to Citizens Advice Bureau on **01595 694696** regarding your private rented tenancy, financial/benefit issues or any other issue.

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If you have any repair issues within your own property or your landlord's property, you would be advised to speak to Environmental Health on **01595 744800** for further assistance from their officers, and see: www.shetland.gov.uk/environmentalhealth/Housing.asp

There is free legal housing advice available to you by contacting Shelter Free Housing Advice Helpline **0808 800 4444** or website scotland.shelter.org.uk/

There is a Tenancy Checker that you can complete which will give you full legal housing advice from the questions answered.

It is very important to follow up your rights to a private rented tenancy, even if you feel you do not want to stay. As this may have repercussions on any homeless presentation you may make in the future to the SIC Housing Service.

⇒ **Have you thought about buying or building a property?**

HHA has further grants and advice available to help people build new properties.

Please contact HHA on **01595 694986** or look at the website www.shetland.gov.uk/housingoptionsguide/. You can contact all the local Solicitors from the local telephone directory or websites, also see www.shetland.gov.uk/housing/LocalSolicitorsandEstateAgents.asp.

The SIC Housing Service has a duty to provide advice and assistance to anyone. We recognise that not all of these options will be applicable to you.

Notes or Comments

This section can be used if you are speaking to the Citizens Advice Bureau, an SIC Housing Officer, HHA staff or any alternative housing and advice sought by yourself.

Which agency have I spoken to regarding my housing situation and what alternative housing options have I tried?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SIC Housing Service | <input type="checkbox"/> Shetland Times |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hjaltland Housing Association | <input type="checkbox"/> Solicitors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter | <input type="checkbox"/> Citizens Advice Bureau |

Other: _____

What advice was I given regarding my housing situation?

What Private Rented landlord have I phoned from Shetland Times or solicitor?
