

Oxford Rent Guarantee Scheme

Helping you to a successful
TENANCY



Building a world-class city for everyone

What is the Rent Guarantee Scheme

Our Rent Guarantee Scheme offers guaranteed rent and other benefits to private sector landlords who agree to provide tenancies to families at risk of homelessness. Our housing coaches work with tenants in Rent Guarantee Scheme properties to improve their financial circumstances and ability to maintain their tenancies.

How the Rent Guarantee Scheme supports tenants

The Rent Guarantee Scheme can help you find a suitable and affordable home in the Oxford area.

If we offer you a Rent Guarantee Scheme tenancy, we will collect your rent and pay it to your private landlord. We guarantee your landlord's rent payments, meaning that there is less risk of them evicting you. At the same time, one of our housing coaches will agree an individual support package with you that will help maintain your tenancy by improving your financial situation.

This may mean coaching support to improve your employability, help you to find work or increase your working hours. It can also involve helping you claim other welfare benefits, housing advice or a referral to independent debt and money management advice.

We may be able to offer temporary top ups to your housing benefit or Universal Credit housing costs payments to offset any shortfall between your benefit and the rent you pay us. These are payable on condition that you are taking steps to improve your financial position, as agreed with your housing coach.

During the first year of your tenancy, we will also undertake checks of your home every three months to ensure it remains a safe place for you to live.

What properties are available under the Rent Guarantee Scheme

We offer private rented properties with at least two bedrooms through the Rent Guarantee Scheme.

Your tenancy will not be temporary accommodation or a council tenancy – if you claim housing benefit or Universal Credit housing costs payments you will need to provide the landlord details on your tenancy agreement.




Who is responsible for repairs in a Rent Guarantee Scheme home

Your private landlord is usually responsible for repairs. If your landlord is unreasonably delaying carrying out repairs, contact your housing coach who will take this up with your landlord.

How long is a Rent Guarantee Scheme tenancy

You will sign a fixed term tenancy that will usually be for a year initially. During a fixed term your landlord cannot change your rent or any other terms of your tenancy.

After the fixed term ends, your tenancy does not end automatically but continues on a month to month basis until:

-  your landlord serves notice to end it or
-  you serve notice to end it or
-  you sign a new fixed term tenancy agreement

“I’m very happy with the help and support I received from the Rent Guarantee Scheme that resulted in me and my children being housed.”

Ms H of Oxford

Contact the Rent Guarantee Scheme



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www.oxford.gov.uk/rentguarantee

If you would like this information in large print or another format, please let us know.