

# Housing Options for single people and couples without children who are Homeless Today



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Most healthy single people and couples without children will not qualify for emergency or temporary accommodation. This leaflet will tell you about your housing options if you do not qualify for housing by Enfield Council.

Enfield Council's Housing Options and Advice team also have a website with advice on how to find a home.

Visit **[www.enfield.gov.uk/housing](http://www.enfield.gov.uk/housing)** for advice

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## I am homeless today, will you give me somewhere to stay?

If you are homeless today, we will assess your housing circumstances and tell you if you qualify for housing by the Council. If you do not qualify for housing, we will be able to give you advice and assistance to help you find somewhere else to live.

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## I do not qualify for housing, where will I go?

The help we can offer you is limited, if you are homeless today and have no friends or relatives that you can stay with then you may need to find an emergency hostel.

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## How do I find an emergency hostel?

**London Street Rescue** helps rough sleepers off the streets and into accommodation. You can call them on 0300 500 914.

Information is also available on their website [www.thamesreach.org.uk](http://www.thamesreach.org.uk)

Homeless London can offer you informal advice, support, hostels and supported accommodation for homeless people and those at risk of homelessness in London.

Please visit their website at [www.homelesslondon.org](http://www.homelesslondon.org)


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## Telephone advice


**Shelter** is a charity that works to alleviate the distress caused by homelessness and bad housing. They do this by giving advice, information and advocacy to people in housing need.

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Shelter's national advice line:

 0808 800 4444

Shelter's London advice line:

 0344 515 1540

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## No Second Night Out

No second night out focuses on helping those who find themselves sleeping rough on the streets of London for the first time.

Please visit their website at  
<http://www.nosecondnightout.org.uk/>

If you see someone sleeping rough or are sleeping rough yourself call Streetlink  
 0300 500 0914

You can also notify them online at  
<http://www.streetlink.org.uk/>

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## What are the hostels like?

Most of the hostels are dormitories. This means you may have to share a large room with other people.

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## Where are the Emergency Hostels?

There are no emergency hostels in the Enfield Borough. The hostel vacancies could be anywhere in London. Most hostels are run by charities.

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## How much are Hostels?

The hostels are not free. Most hostels charge between £150 and £200 per week.

You will also be expected to pay a separate service charge. The amount you will have to pay will vary from between £7 to £25 per week, depending on the hostel you go to.

If you are working and on a low income then you may be able to get some help with the hostel charges by claiming Housing Benefits.

If you have no money and no right to claim housing benefit to help pay for the hostel charges, then you will not be able to find a hostel.

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## Are there hostel places for couples?

Most hostels are for single people and it is very difficult to get hostel places for couples. Couples who are homeless usually have to go to separate hostels.

Even if you are prepared to take a single room each, if you have a joint income support or job seekers allowance claim, many hostels will not agree to take you because the Department for Work and Pensions will not split the claim.

If there are no hostel places, can you give me Bed and Breakfast accommodation so that I have somewhere to stay?

Unfortunately, we will not be able to arrange Bed and Breakfast accommodation for you or give you a single room or self-contained accommodation.

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## Where can I find out about hostels?

You can find the address details and contact Information for hostels on the Homeless London Website

<http://www.homelessuk.org/>

All Enfield libraries provide one hour free internet access per day and staff are available to assist if you require help.

You may need to make an appointment for assistance during busy periods.

# Other Housing Options

## Renting from a Private Landlord or Letting Agent

Most people who do not qualify for re-housing by the Council will rent privately from a Landlord. We have produced information leaflets to help you find somewhere to live.

They include:

- Finding a private rented home
- Top tips for private renting

Please note, that as of January 2012, those under the age of 35 will no longer receive Housing Benefit based on one bedroom self-contained accommodation. It will be based on the shared accommodation rate.

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## Shared Housing Schemes and Supported Housing Scheme

We will assess whether or not you have support needs and tell you about any shared housing or supported housing schemes in Enfield that have vacancies or a waiting list.

If this type of accommodation is suitable for you, there is a referral system in place


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# Housing Options for young people

## FAST (Family Accommodation Support Team)

If you are homeless, aged between 16 and 17 and are from the London Borough of Enfield, you should contact FAST where your case will be considered.

FAST (Family Accommodation Support Team)  
Unit 9, Claverings Industrial Estate, 3 South Way,  
Edmonton N9 0AB

 020 8379 5800



FamilyAccommodationSupportTeam@enfield.gov.uk

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# Enfield's Housing Register

## How many people are on Enfield Council's Housing Register?

Enfield Council currently has over 2,500 people registered for housing and over 2,700 households in temporary accommodation.

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## How many homes are let to people on Enfield Council's Housing Register?

Enfield has a serious shortage of social rented homes. Less than 700 council and housing association properties were let through the housing register last year. Approximately half of these were bedsits or one bedroom properties. Only half of these homes were let to families who had been living in temporary accommodation for many years.

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## I am homeless today. Will I be awarded extra priority for a council or housing association home through Enfield Council's Housing Register?

No, we do not award extra priority for those who are homeless today.

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## If I am of no fixed address, can I still put my name down on Enfield's Housing Register?

Yes, however you must be aged 18 or over.

A points system is used for assessing housing need and points are awarded based on where you are living

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## If I am subject to immigration control, can I put my name down on Enfield's Housing Register?

Certain people who have restrictions on their immigration status cannot go on the Housing Register.

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## How do I put my name down on Enfield's Housing Register?

Please visit [enfield.gov.uk](http://enfield.gov.uk), and go to the "Housing" page to read further information regarding the Housing Needs Register.

The information on the website will help you check whether or not you are eligible to go on the Housing Register.

You can check if you are eligible to go on the housing register by using Enfield's Online Housing Advisor [\*\*www.enfield.gov.uk/oha\*\*](http://www.enfield.gov.uk/oha)

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## Should I tell the Council if my circumstances change?

Yes. You should keep official letters and bills as a proof that you live at a particular address, even if it was only for a short while.

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## Shared housing options in Enfield

Enfield can refer eligible single homeless people to shared housing schemes. Some of these schemes are located outside of the borough of Enfield.

The schemes have a waiting list and waiting times differ for all schemes.

Email [hoa@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:hoa@enfield.gov.uk) to find out if you are eligible to be referred to one of these hostels.

You will need to make your own housing arrangements while your application is being looked at.

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## Referral organisations

HOPE Worldwide

Origin Housing

North London YMCA

New Horizon Youth Centre  
(Under 25 yrs)

Beck House



