

We will then send you a “Expression of Interest & Self Assessment Form” to complete and return.

What happens next?

The Council and Riverside are aware of the demand for this type of accommodation and wish to make the best use of the special facilities provided to meet the needs of local residents. For this reason, a panel representing Riverside Housing and Halton Borough Council will consider all applications and decide on the priorities of people who can be offered a tenancy. The aim is to maintain a balance of people with low, medium and high support needs. You will be notified of the panel’s decision by letter. If we are unable to offer you a tenancy immediately, we may be able to hold your application on a waiting list for future vacancies.

Before the Panel meets, the Scheme Manager will visit you to talk about the details of your application.

www.halton.gov.uk www.riverside.org.uk

If you need this leaflet in a different format such as large print, audiotape, Braille or another language, please contact our Customer Services on

01928 704466 or 01928 704406

Minicom on both numbers

If you find it difficult to communicate in English please ring 0161 234 3282

閣下如在英語溝通上有任何困難，請致電 0161 234 3282

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आपनाय यदि इंग्रजीते कथा बलते असुविधा हय ताहले योगायोग करुन 0161 234 3282 एई नबरे।

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SS76
08/06



Health & Community Directorate

Dorset Gardens

Extra Care Sheltered Housing



What is Dorset Gardens?

Dorset Gardens is an attractive new rented Extra Care Sheltered Housing scheme. It is provided by Riverside Housing and Halton Borough Council, working in partnership.

It is located in Charlton Close, Palacefields, Runcorn and the flats will be ready for occupation from October 2006.

If you are interested in moving to Dorset Gardens, please let us know as soon as possible, using the contact details on the next page.

What accommodation is available?

37 one bedroom and 3 two bedroom high quality, self-contained flats. They are on three floors with a lift, ensuring easy access for all. There is also a communal lounge, community restaurant and a range of regular social activities. A self-service laundry area is also provided and there are communal gardens.

What is Extra Care Housing?

Extra Care Housing provides older people with choice, independence, control and privacy. It provides care and support in a flexible way, designed to meet your varying needs, whilst enabling you to retain your own tenancy and independence.

What safety and security is there?

There is a friendly and supportive Scheme Manager, backed up by a 24-hour, on-call alarm service which provides emergency support to tenants when required. This operates at the pull of a cord or push of a button. There is also a remote control entry system and a camera linked to tenants' televisions, so you can see who you are letting into the building. Dorset Gardens is also monitored with CCTV surveillance.

What are the costs at Dorset Gardens?

- **One bedroom:** £55 rent and £33 service charge per week
- **Two bedrooms:** £59 rent and £35 service charge per week

Both of these costs are payable to Riverside Housing. The Service Charge covers things like cleaning, communal areas, exterior window cleaning, grounds maintenance, lift, security systems, for example. It also covers the cost of heating, hot water and water charges. If you are eligible for Housing Benefit or Council Tax rebate, you will receive help with most of this. Housing Benefit does not cover the heating and hot water charges for your own flat.

• Support Charges and Care Costs

If you require additional support and care, then a financial assessment will be undertaken to determine any financial assistance you need and any benefits you may be entitled to before being charged for these services.

• Electricity

There is a meter in each flat and you pay your own bills.

• Council Tax

This is your responsibility but you may be eligible for help from the Council with paying this.

Who can apply for a tenancy?

Anyone aged 55 and over who meets eligibility criteria.

How do I apply for a tenancy at Dorset Gardens?

Please contact:

The Scheme Manager, c/o Damian Nolan,
Halton Borough Council, Catalyst House,
Sankey Street, Widnes, WA8 0GH.