

Contact us:

To apply for Extra Care Housing contact the Older Adults helpdesk on:

01204 333365.

For more housing information and advice contact:

Housing Advice Services **01204 335900**

Large print, translations, text-only audio formats of this guide can be produced on request. Please call 01204 334117 or e-mail marketing-bolton@bolton.gov.uk

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Living at home



Extra Care Housing for older people

www.bolton.gov.uk

Bolton
Council

What is Extra Care Housing?

Extra Care Housing supports you to live independently for as long as possible. The scheme consists of self-contained flats, designed to suit the needs of older people. Care staff are based on site to support the needs of the people who live there.

It gives you the security and privacy of your own home, with additional facilities on the premises and care and support staff based on site.

What's different about it?

- You are living at home – not in a home.
- You have your own front door and decide who comes in.
- Couples can stay together.
- There is a mix of able and less able older people.
- Care and support staff are on duty 24 hours a day.
- You get support to keep your independence.
- You can join in social activities – or you can be private.
- You retain control over your finances.

Why you may consider moving into Extra Care Housing?

You may be thinking of moving or have to leave your old home because of life changes, health problems or you may not feel safe. You may simply be unhappy with where you are living now and want to live in a more supportive environment.

Some questions you may already be asking yourself

- I am managing on my own but my health is not good. Would Extra Care Housing be suitable for me?

Yes. Some tenants get a lot of care and support, others live independently. The accommodation should be easy for you to manage and the amount of care and support will increase to meet your needs.

- Does it matter if I own my own home or do I need to be a Council tenant?

No it doesn't. Some schemes offer homes to buy, others offer only rented accommodation.

- I already live in ordinary sheltered housing – how is Extra Care Housing different?

Care and support staff are on the premises 24 hours a day.

- My husband/wife is unwell and we get a bit of help from our family and friends. Could we move into Extra Care Housing together?

Yes. You can stay together and your family and friends can continue to help as before if they want to, with the added support of the on-site care and support staff.

- What happens if my health gets worse while I am living in Extra Care Housing?

It is expected that your needs will change over time – and not always for the worse! There may be times when you need a lot of care and support.

The care staff will be flexible and ask you what you need, and they will support you to stay living independently. If they are unable to meet your needs a referral would be made to a social worker for a re-assessment.

- My mother/father has early signs of Alzheimer's disease. Can they move into Extra Care Housing?

Yes, as long as the care and support staff can provide the support they need.

- What facilities are available on-site at Extra Care Housing?

All schemes are compatible for Telecare equipment Schemes also have different facilities, ranging from luncheon clubs, lounges, hairdressers, organised social activities, holidays and day trips. Each scheme also has more specialist disabled facilities such as flats adapted for wheelchair users.

- Who is in charge of Extra Care Housing?

Some Schemes are built and run by Housing Associations and some by Bolton Council. Extra Care tenants are involved in making decisions on aspects of the community they live in.

- Can I stay until I die?

Extra Care Housing aims to provide you with a home for life as long as the care staff continue to be able to meet your needs.

- Is there Extra Care Housing in my area?

There are Extra Care Housing schemes across Bolton. They are very popular and often have waiting lists, we are aiming to provide more Extra Care Housing in the future.

How do I apply for Extra Care Housing?

Please contact our Older Adults helpdesk on 01204 333365 to ask for a social work assessment. An assessment is an opportunity for you to talk through your circumstances with a social worker. Together we can decide the best way to support you. If Extra Care Housing can meet your needs, your social worker can arrange for you to visit your local or preferred scheme to see if you like it before you apply. Your social worker will apply on your behalf and will let you know when you have been allocated a flat.



How much does Extra Care Housing cost?

You pay rent under a tenancy agreement, and the usual utility bills you would pay for in your own home i.e. council tax, electricity, water. Depending on your income, you may qualify for housing benefit for your rent. If you get housing benefit or income support you may also be entitled to free council tax, care and support services.

Depending on which unit you live in you may have to pay service charges associated with your home, for maintenance of any communal facilities.

The amount you pay for your care and support costs will vary depending on your individual financial situation. You may have to pay for all the costs, or you may be entitled to a reduction of these charges.

Once you move in someone from Bolton Council will visit you to discuss and complete a financial assessment. This person will let you know what the charge will be and will check to see if you are entitled to claim any other benefits.

You may find that your care and support needs fluctuate. This means that you may need different services at different times, and as a result, your care and support costs may increase or decrease.

What our tenants say about Extra Care Housing

“I feel safe and secure”

“I am more content”

“There is always someone around to talk to”

“I can approach the staff about anything”

“I have re-gained my independence”

