



CUNNINGHAME  
HOUSING ASSOCIATION

*Making Our Communities Better Places -  
More Than Just A Landlord*

## **Coronavirus (COVID-19): guidance on moving home**

### **Advice to the public**

This guidance sheet is provided by Cunningham Housing Association Ltd to give you information to assist you when moving to a new house via a mutual exchange during the Covid-19 situation. The information contained in this document is taken from the Scottish Government website.

Full Details of the Scottish Government guidelines can be found at:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-moving-home/pages/advice-to-the-public/>

### **Local restrictions**

If you, or anyone in your chain, is affected by additional COVID-19 restrictions imposed in your, or their, local area, you must comply with these restrictions. You are also advised to have regard to any relevant guidance in relation to your, or their, local area. How this affects your plans will depend on the restrictions and guidance applying to the area. For example, it may be advisable to postpone viewings of properties or delay a home move, where this is possible.

### **Information for people who are at high clinical risk**

Those who are at high clinical risk from COVID-19 will need to carefully consider their personal circumstances and may wish to seek medical advice before deciding whether to commit to or go ahead with a move. You can keep up to date with the most recent advice at [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): shielding advice and support](#).

Individuals at high clinical risk will need to carefully consider their personal situation and the circumstances of their own move and may wish to seek medical advice before deciding whether to commit to or go ahead with a move. Some moves are likely to be lower risk, for instance where the home is empty, all travel can take place in their own transport and contact with others can be avoided.

We would encourage individuals at high clinical risk who are intending to move to be clear about their status to all involved in the process.

### **Property moves while measures to fight COVID-19 apply**

In order to minimise public health risks and allow home moves to happen as safely as possible, the following measures should be followed:

- initial viewings should be done virtually wherever this is possible
- you should not view the property if you have COVID-19 symptoms or are self-isolating

- when physically viewing properties, where possible, you should avoid touching surfaces, wash your hands with soap and water before entering the property or use alcohol-based hand rub (hand sanitiser), use a face mask where you are unable ensure physical distancing
- the number of people attending a viewing at one time should be restricted so that physical distancing can be practised. You should only be accompanied to viewings with members of your current household. If you need to be accompanied by young children, you should try to stop them touching surfaces and ensure they wash their hands regularly
- if people are being shown around your current home, while you are still living there, you should open all internal doors and ensure surfaces, such as door handles, are cleaned before and after the viewing with standard household cleaning products
- where possible, we recommend that you vacate your property whilst viewings are taking place, unless you are conducting the viewing. This is in order to minimise your contact with those not in your household
- when moving between properties, you and those in your household should try to do as much of the packing yourself as you can. Where this is not possible, you should speak to removal firms in advance. There is further advice about this below
- **properties should be deep cleaned in the period between the property being vacated and a new tenant moving in.**

**Everyone involved in any aspect of the moving process must follow government guidelines on physical distancing, handwashing and the use of face coverings to minimise the spread of the virus. You should also keep up to date with current advice on keeping yourself and others safe.**

## **Face coverings**

We recommend that you consider wearing a face covering when in contact with other people from outside your household involved in activities related moving home.

\*Please note use of face coverings is **not** a substitute for physical distancing practices, which must be maintained wherever possible\*

## **Steps in the moving home process**

### **Viewings**

- before viewing a property, all parties should wash their hands with soap and water or use alcohol-based hand rub (hand sanitiser) and avoid touching surfaces where possible. We also recommend that you consider using a face covering. You should restrict the number of people who accompany you on a viewing so that physical distancing can be practised. Only those in your immediate household and/or your agent should accompany you. If you need to be accompanied by young children, you should try to keep them from touching surfaces and ensure they wash their hands regularly
- all surfaces, such as door handles, should be cleaned with standard household cleaning products before and after each viewing.
- when renting a property from a social housing they will usually make contact by phone to establish that you are in a position to accept an offer and are able to

move in by the date of entry agreed. They will also explain the process for viewing the property and signing the tenancy agreement.

### **Moving your belongings**

Adjustments will need to be made to usual procedures in order to ensure moves happen as safely as possible. If you are not using a removal firm but have asked other people to help you, everyone involved should still follow all relevant advice.

- we encourage you to contact removal firms, and others including van rental firms, as early as possible in advance of your move
- you and your household should also try and do as much of the packing yourself as possible. However, where this is not possible, and you are using a removal firm, you should speak to your removal firms in advance
- we ask that, where possible, you clean your belongings with standard domestic cleaning products before they are handled by others, including removal firms
- whilst the removers are in your home, you should ensure any internal doors are open and seek to minimise your contact with the crew by following government guidelines on physical distancing
- all parties should regularly wash their hands with soap and water or use alcohol-based hand rub (hand sanitiser) and avoid touching surfaces where possible to reduce the risk of transmitting COVID-19. We also recommend that you consider using a face covering
- you should ensure removers have access to hand washing facilities, using separate towels or paper towels if possible, which should be washed or disposed of safely afterwards.
- if you are moving into or out of a property which has common areas and/or shared access, physical distancing and relevant public health advice should be followed
- **properties should be deep cleaned in the period between the property being vacated and a new tenant moving in.**

**PROPERTY SERVICES**

**DISCLAIMER - COVID – 19 / Mutual Exchange**

I confirm that I have been provided with this guidance sheet containing summary details of the Scottish Government - Coronavirus (COVID-19): guidance on moving home.

I confirm that I have read the guidance and accept I am responsible for ensuring that all guidelines are complied with.

I confirm that I accept that Cunninghame Housing Association Ltd take no responsibility in relation to my mutual exchange for the failure of any party involved in the mutual exchange to adhere to these guidelines.

I confirm that the process for viewing the property and signing the tenancy agreement have been explained to me.

**Signature(s) of Applicant(s) 1 :** \_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print) : \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

Contact telephone number : \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date signed : \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature(s) of Applicant(s) 2 :** \_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print) : \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

Contact telephone number : \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Witness of behalf of Cunninghame Housing Association:**

Name : \_\_\_\_\_ Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Designation: \_\_\_\_\_