

Extra care housing and associated costs

We hope this leaflet will answer any questions you have, but if you need any help to understand this information please contact:

Adult Social Care on **01635 503050** or email adultcare@westberks.gov.uk

What is extra care housing?

Extra care housing is similar to sheltered housing in that the accommodation usually consists of individual, self-contained properties, each with its own front door.

The difference is that the level of personal care available is much higher and can be arranged according to individual needs. Care can include things like domestic support, help with meals, as well as opportunities to access a range of social and leisure activities.

Extra care can be a good option if you need the security having care staff on-site 24 hours a day but do not want to lose the independence of living in your own home. In West Berkshire extra care housing schemes are built and run by housing associations.

Who can apply?

To apply for extra care accommodation, you will need to have:

- a social care need and
- a local connection to the West Berkshire Council area.

Depending on which scheme you are considering, there may be a requirement to have a social housing need. To access social housing you have to be on the West Berkshire Housing Register. You can register at www.homechoicewestberks.org.uk Alternatively, you can contact the Housing Allocations Team on **01635 519530** or email housingallocations@westberks.gov.uk



What will I pay for living in extra care housing?

There are three parts to the cost of living in an extra care scheme:

- cost of housing, payable to the housing provider - the cost of buying, renting or shared ownership of your home
- service charge, payable to the housing provider - for home maintenance and communal facilities
- *care and support costs, payable to West Berkshire Council

*Care and support - **includes** a core care element which covers the cost of providing the on-site 24/7 response service, the amount of the core care element depends on the scheme and is payable **regardless of whether you access this service or not**. Plus the cost of any individual support identified in a care needs assessment which is completed using the national eligibility criteria as set in The Care and Support (Eligibility Criteria) Regulations 2014, also listed on our webpage www.westberks.gov.uk/careassessmentandeligibility

Most people have to contribute something towards the cost of their care. The amount that you are required to contribute to the cost of care and support will depend on your individual financial circumstances. You will be offered a financial assessment to work out exactly how much you can afford to pay and we will advise you of benefits you may be entitled to that could help you.

If you move into extra care housing while still owning your previous home the value of that property could be taken into account when calculating how much you will be asked to pay towards care and support in your new home.

Further information and guidance notes are available on our 'Charges for your Care' webpage: www.westberks.gov.uk/chargesforyourcare

Extra care scheme locations

- **Redwood House, Hungerford**
Redwood House is a purpose-built Extra Care scheme with views over Hungerford Common. Redwood House provides 25 self-contained spacious one-bedroom apartments and 21 self-contained, spacious two-bedroom apartments. On-site facilities include a restaurant, shop, hair salon and communal lounge. A range of day-time activities and groups will also be available in the shared lounge area. The core care element at Redwood House is currently £30.90 per week.
- **Alice Bye Court, Thatcham**
Alice Bye Court is situated in the heart of Thatcham with easy access to local shops and facilities. Alice Bye Court has 39 one and two bedroom apartments for rent and 12 shared ownership apartments. On-site facilities include a shared lounge area, restaurant, hair/beauty salon, bookable guest room and a range of day time activities. The core care element at Alice Bye Court is currently £32.20 per week.
- **Audrey Needham House, Newbury**
Audrey Needham House provides 41 flats, 39 one bedroom apartments and 2 two bedroom apartments. On-site facilities include guest facilities and hairdressing salon. Regular social activities, coffee morning, afternoon tea and 'Singing for the Brain' organised by scheme staff and tenants. The core care element at Audrey Needham House is currently £30.90 per week.

Further extra care housing information on our webpage: www.westberks.gov.uk/extracarehousing

Additional information also available on the West Berkshire Directory in the section titled 'Looking for care homes or extra care living?' <https://directory.westberks.gov.uk>