

Are you ready to leave home?

There are many things you will need to decide on before you make a move to set up on your own. You will need to decide where to apply for housing, and consider the typical costs of running your own home. This will help you to decide what choices to make and to consider if now is the right time, or if you feel that you need more time to plan and make proper arrangements.

Preparing to Leave Home

If you are under 18, you may find moving home more difficult than most, and you should make the best use of the help that is available to you.

Help may be available from Connexions and Social Services. For more information go to **www.connexions-direct.gov.uk** or call **080 800 13 2 19**. You can also contact the Housing Options Service for advice.

It is important to consider things carefully before you make a decision. You should never leave your home without making arrangements for where you will live, as this might affect the decision the council makes if you need to apply as homeless.

As well as your rent, you will also need to be able to pay:

- 🏠 **Deposits and rent in advance (for private sector housing)**
- 🏠 **Gas charges**
- 🏠 **Electricity charges**
- 🏠 **Water charges**
- 🏠 **Council Tax**
- 🏠 **TV Licence**
- 🏠 **Food**
- 🏠 **Furniture**
- 🏠 **Other living and travel costs**

You can speak to the Housing Options Service, or call the Citizen's Advice Bureau on **0845 1221 300**, for advice on how much these things will cost, depending on the size of property and the area you chose to live in. We can also help you work out if you can afford this, based on how much money you have coming in.

If you need to leave your home and you have nowhere else to go, you should contact the Housing Options Service on 0800 694 0280 as soon as possible.





Contact Us

Housing Options Service

Tel: 0800 694 0280

9am – 5pm Mon – Fri (9am – 4pm Wednesday)

(An out of hours service is available on this number in an emergency)

You can also get this information in other languages and formats.

Please phone Customer Services on 0151 443 4031

or email customerservices@knowsley.gov.uk

www.knowsley.gov.uk