

North Ayrshire Housing Register offices

Irvine

Bridgegate House
Irvine, KA12 8BD
Phone **01294 324 870**

Kilwinning

Howgate
Kilwinning, KA13 6EJ
Phone **01294 552 261**

Ardrossan

9-11 Glasgow Street
Ardrossan, KA22 8EP
Phone **01294 605 258**

Saltcoats

27 Vernon Street
Saltcoats, KA21 5HE
Phone **01294 602 611**

Stevenston

1 Main Street
Stevenston, KA20 3AA
Phone **01294 605 281**

Kilbirnie

34-36 Main Street
Kilbirnie, KA25 7BY
Phone **01505 685 177**

Beith Dalry

2 Townend Street
Dalry, KA24 4AA
Phone **01294 835 355**

Largs

Brooksby Medical and Resource Centre
31 Brisbane Road
Largs, KA30 8LH
Phone **01475 687 590**



NORTH AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL

www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk



Sovereign House,
Academy Road
Irvine, KA12 8RL
Phone **01294 313 121**
www.ancho.co.uk



44-46 Bank Street
Irvine, KA12 0LP
Phone **0845 112 6600**
www.irvineha.co.uk



CUNNINGHAME
HOUSING ASSOCIATION
More than just a landlord

82-84 Glasgow Street
Ardrossan, KA22 8EH
Phone **01294 468 360**
www.cunninghame-housing.org

Please read this
guide before you
fill in the form



Accessible Housing Assessment Guide

This document is available in other formats such as audio tape, CD, Braille and in large print. It can also be made available in other languages on request.

該文件還有其他形式，如語音磁帶、CD、盲文版本及大字體版本。如有需求，還提供其他語言版本。

ਇਹ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਮਿਲ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ, ਜਿਵੇਂ ਸੁਣਨ ਵਾਲੀ ਟੇਪ 'ਤੇ, ਸੀ ਡੀ 'ਤੇ, ਬ੍ਰੇਲ ਅਤੇ ਵੱਡੇ ਅੱਖਰਾਂ ਵਿਚ। ਮੰਗ ਆਉਣ 'ਤੇ ਇਹ ਹੋਰ ਬੋਲੀਆਂ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ।

یہ دستاویز دیگر شکلوں میں بھی دستیاب ہے، جیسے آڈیو ٹیپ، سی ڈی، بریل اور بڑے حروف کی چھپائی میں۔ درخواست کرنے پر یہ دستاویز دیگر زبانوں میں بھی مہیا کی جا سکتی ہے۔

Ten dokument jest do uzyskania w różnych formatach: na taśmie dźwiękowej, płycie CD, brajlem i dużym drukiem. Na żądanie, można go także otrzymać w innych wersjach językowych.



Who can apply for an accessible housing assessment?

You can apply for an accessible housing assessment if you are on the North Ayrshire Housing Register (NAHR) and you (or someone in your household) are having difficulty in your current home because of a health condition or disability.

What is an accessible housing assessment?

An accessible housing assessment is not about a person's health condition. It is about the way the condition affects how the person manages at home. All assessments are carried out by a fully qualified occupational therapist.

The assessment focuses on the person's ability, or inability, to perform essential day to day tasks within their home. This can also include looking at how the person's carers or family support them to manage these tasks. The occupational therapist looks at the following aspects of daily living.

- Mobility (how easy it is for you to move around)
- Access (getting in and out of your home and rooms in it, and getting to necessary equipment and facilities in your home)
- Stairs
- Transfers (for example, getting in and out of bed)
- Personal care (washing, dressing and so on)
- Domestic tasks
- Present lifestyle and social interactions

The occupational therapist also considers whether the person's health condition is progressive (will get worse) and how this may affect the person (such as the need for specialist equipment) in the future. Only the aspects that can be improved by moving to a new home will be considered in awarding you 'accessible housing' points.

What priority can I be awarded?

- Grade 1 (100points) will be given when:
 - o the person's quality of life is severely reduced or restricted by their current housing; or
 - o the person's current housing is severely aggravating a medical condition or disability or making it worse.

This grade would apply to people who cannot use toileting or bathing facilities in their home or who cannot enter or leave the property.

- Grade 2 (75 points) will be given when:
 - o the person's quality of life is significantly reduced by their current housing; or
 - o the person's current housing is aggravating a medical condition or disability; and
 - o moving to a new home would allow them to live more independently within their home.
- Grade 3 (50 points) will be given when:
 - o the person's quality of life is mildly affected by their current housing; or
 - o the person's housing situation may, over time, aggravate a medical condition or disability, or make it worse.

No priority will be awarded if the person's current home meets their assessed long-term needs, or can be reasonably adapted to meet those needs.

How do I apply?

You apply by filling in an Application for Accessible Housing. You should fill in the form describing your own needs or the needs of the member of your household who has a medical condition or disability. Please answer all the questions on the form. If a question does not apply, write 'Doesn't apply' in the box. Don't leave boxes blank. If you leave any boxes blank, we may need to return the form to you.

You can get a form from any of the NAHR landlords' offices listed on the back of this leaflet. You can also download the form from www.northayrshirehr.co.uk.



What if there is more than one person in the household whose needs should be assessed?

You need to fill in a separate form for each member of the household who is having difficulties at home. If there is more than one person in the household who qualifies for accessible housing points, we will only award the points for the person with the highest need.

Can I get help to fill in the form?

Yes. You can ask a friend or relative to help you fill in the form. If you want you can also nominate someone to act for you by putting their details in the box at the end of the form.

You can also ask any of the landlords to help you fill in the form. Contact us to arrange an appointment at one of the offices or we can arrange a home visit if you need one.

Would a letter from my doctor or health professional improve my chances of getting an award?

No. The assessment is based on what you tell us on your form so it is important you give us as much information as possible.

The occupational therapist may ask appropriate medical professionals for extra information about your health condition. You will be told about this if it happens.

What will happen during the assessment?

We may be able to assess your application based on the form, or we may need to phone you or your representative. If your case is complex, we may need to visit your home. If we need to visit you we will send you a letter telling you the date and time of the visit.

At the visit you will be asked to show how your home is affecting you (for example, climbing stairs or getting in and out of the bath). If the problems you are having are not affected by the type of home you are in, and moving home would not allow you to cope more independently, you will not be awarded accessible housing points.

The occupational therapist may offer you equipment such as a bath seat or a small adaptation such as a banister to help you overcome difficulties.

If I'm offered equipment or an adaptation, will accepting this mean that I don't get points?

Whether or not you accept the equipment will not affect the number of points you are given. If your home can be made suitable for you, you will not get accessible housing points, regardless of whether or not you accept the equipment or adaptation.

What if I'm in hospital?

If you are in hospital we cannot carry out an assessment. We will put your application on hold and ask you or your representative to contact us when you return home. If this is the case we will send you a letter to tell you your application is on hold.

What if I have a mental-health condition?

If you need to move because of a mental-health condition, you (or the member of your household) must be on the current caseload of a consultant psychiatrist. A member of the mental-health team should also confirm that moving home is likely to significantly help you and that your symptoms are not expected to improve using other treatments alone. We consider applicants with severe and 'enduring' mental-health problems on a case-by-case basis. An 'enduring' mental-health condition is one which cannot be completely cured but can be controlled in some cases.

What are the circumstances that don't qualify for points?

The accessible housing assessment does not consider any of the following things.

Overcrowding	We consider these needs elsewhere in our housing allocation policy.
Sharing with friends or relatives	
Under-occupying your home (you have unused bedrooms)	
Your home needs repairs or upgrading	
You are affected by antisocial behaviour	There are other services available to help with these issues. Please ask your landlord or North Ayrshire Council for more information.
You are being harassed by, or having problems with, your neighbours	
You have difficulty looking after your garden	North Ayrshire Council has a grass-cutting service available to people who qualify and live in North Ayrshire.
Visitors have difficulty getting into your home	
You are pregnant or you have young children	
You, or a member of your household, has an illness you are expected to recover from	
You, or a member of your household, has a health condition that does not affect your (or their) ability to carry out daily living activities in your current home	

Will my house type choices be restricted?

Yes. If you get accessible housing points, this usually restricts the house types you can get (for example, ground floor only). The house types you chose on your application for housing will be amended to match the house types recommended by the occupational therapist. If you do not want to be considered for the house types recommended by the assessment, you will not receive the accessible housing points.

Can I apply again after I have been assessed?

The accessible housing assessment takes account of conditions that will get worse over time, such as respiratory conditions and arthritis, so you will not usually need to be assessed again. However, you should phone the occupational therapist on 01294 324877 to discuss your needs if, since your assessment:

- you have not recovered from a condition that you were expected to recover from;
 - your health has deteriorated significantly; or
 - you have developed further health conditions;
- and this has significantly affected your ability to manage your day-to-day tasks.

What if my circumstances change?

If your home is adapted to meet your needs, or your health condition improves, you need to let us know so that we can assess your circumstances again.

Will my accessible housing assessment be reviewed?

We may review your accessible housing assessment. This is because a person's health needs can change over time and it is important to make sure the accessible housing points you have reflect your circumstances. If we review your assessment and find that your circumstances have changed, the number of accessible housing points you have could change.

How do I appeal?

If you don't agree with our decision you can appeal against it. You can appeal in writing within 14 days of receiving your award letter. Please address your appeal to the Housing Manager at the office which dealt with your application. The offices contact details are over the page.