

Top Ten Tips to Moving On - It's Rocket Fuel!

R

Register, register, register! - You need to register with your local housing provider as soon as possible, your support worker will help you do this. The sooner you register the better the chance you will have of gaining accommodation. If you are told you are unable to register ask for a letter explaining why and then you can work towards the actions you need to take. If you hand your housing application in by hand as for a receipt and keep it safe.



O

Organise - Set up repayment plans for any former tenancy debts you may have. Housing providers need to know that you are serious about having a tenancy, regularly repaying housing debt at an amount you can afford shows them that you are keen.



C

Choice Based Lettings - This is a system which most housing providers, operate, it's a bit like an auction but gives you the choice to get a property where you most want it. Once you have registered and are ready to move-on, you need to bid for appropriate accommodation regularly. Ask your key worker to show you how.



K

Kettle, toaster, fridge - You are going to need some furniture and other bits and bobs when you move in. If you are eligible you can apply for a Community Care Grant, you need to fill this in as soon as possible with a list of things that you need. Ask your key worker to help you. Furniture projects exist in many areas and offer furniture at discount prices, find yours locally.



E

Enough money? - If you are considering renting privately, many landlords ask for a bond (its like a guarantee written on paper) many local authorities have their own schemes, call in and ask them about it. Private landlords may also ask for rent in advance, you may need to apply to the Social Fund or you could ask your local authority if they provide this facility.



T

Tenancy - Once you are in you need to know what you can and can't do. When you sign your tenancy agreement it will have certain terms and conditions in it such as who needs to clean the stairs, can I have a pet etc. If you are unsure about this ask your housing officer/support worker to explain.



F

Food - Don't forget you are now going to have to feed yourself. Check out your local supermarkets and work out how much money you have to spend on food each week.



U

Utilities or bills as they are better known - You will need to register for various services and tell people where you have moved to (See the list). If you forget to tell people this could lead to your benefits stopping or your post going missing. Make sure you fill in a housing benefit application form as soon as possible.



E

Emergencies, okay so you have just moved in, you need to check where to turn off your water, gas and electricity. You will also need to check your smoke alarm regularly. It's a good idea to make a list of useful phone numbers.



L

Lets make a go of it, remember you got this far, don't be afraid to ask for help if you are a bit stuck, it can be hard work having your own pad. You can always contact your local Citizens Advice Bureau, your housing officer or your support worker. Remember everyone wants to see you succeed. Good luck



Who do I need to tell that I am moving?

Here are a few suggestions with space for you to write their telephone numbers and a box to tick when you have told them.

	Organisation	Address	Tel N°
<input type="checkbox"/>	Doctor		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dentist		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Benefits agency		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bank, Building Society or Post Office		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mobile phone company		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gas supplier		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Electric supplier		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Water supplier		
<input type="checkbox"/>	TV licence		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Internet provider		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Probation Officer		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Debt agencies		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friends		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Housing benefit		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Council Tax benefit		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Job Centre/DWP		