



Housing Options for those experiencing relationship breakdown

You and your partner may feel that your relationship is worth fighting for and there are organisations such as Relate which can help you resolve your relationship problems.

If however, you no longer wish to remain in the relationship, and you have reached the point where you have decided to leave, you should carefully consider the following points before leaving:

- If you and your partner own or are buying a property and you have no dependent children, you should remain in the property until you have made a legal agreement regarding your share of the equity in the property. You should ensure that you have suitable alternative accommodation to go to, prior to leaving the property.
- If you and your partner live in rented accommodation with a joint tenancy and you have no dependent children. You should ensure before leaving that the rent is paid up-to-date and that your name is removed from the tenancy and that the landlord is informed of the day that you leave the property. You should not leave the property without first securing suitable alternative accommodation.
- If you and your partner do have dependent children it is in the interest of the children that they remain in the family home with the person responsible for the primary care of those children. If you own or are buying the property you should seek legal advice about your interest in the property before leaving. If the property is rented, you should ensure before leaving the property that the rent is paid up to date and that your name is removed from the tenancy and the landlord is aware of the date that you left the property. You should not leave the property until you have first found suitable alternative accommodation

It may be advisable to contact a the housing options service on 01204 335900.

If you are homeless during out of office hours you can ring the emergency duty team on 01204 337777 or go to your local police station.