

## **Budgeting for moving home**

Now that your Homefinder application is activated and you are able to bid on homes, you should start to think about the costs of moving into a new home. Moving home can be stressful time and the cost of the move can be a big part of this.

Council Homes will be let to meet a basic Moving in Standard which is detailed in the attached document (link). However, there will still be many things that you will need to do to make your house a home.

## **Decorating**

Decorating the home is the responsibility of the tenant. When the property is empty the Council will present the property to a reasonable standard, but will not complete decoration works or strip old wall coverings.

The Council do not provide decorating materials or vouchers. You will need to think about preparing for the costs of decorating your new home and may wish to begin setting money aside for this.

## **Window coverings**

The Council do not provide window coverings and it will be your responsibility to purchase your own blinds or curtains. You need to consider these costs and may wish to begin setting money aside for this.

## **Flooring**

The Council do not provide floor coverings, although floors should be in a decent condition to enable to lay your chosen floor covering easily. You need to consider the cost of flooring your new home and may wish to begin setting money aside for this.

## **Furniture**

If this is your first home, or you will require more furniture when you move, you need to consider the costs of this. The Council can provide a partially furnished let with basic furniture pack if this is required. Furniture provided will be rented by you, not owned and will be at an additional cost on your rent each week. Renting a furniture pack from the Council can be one of the most expensive ways of furnishing your home. People on certain benefits may have some or all of their furniture pack paid for by the DWP or Housing Benefit Team.

## **Kitchen Items / bedding**

The Council do not provide or offer any assistance with the cost of small kitchen appliances, crockery, cutlery, pots and pans or bedding. You will need to consider these costs and may wish to begin setting money aside for this.

## **Moving Costs**

The Council do not assist with the cost of moving home and you should think about how you will move your belongings. You may wish to begin setting money aside for this.

## **Starting your Tenancy**

When you accept a tenancy, your tenancy will normally commence the next day. Rents on North Tyneside Council homes are payable for 52 weeks of the year. There are no rent-free weeks.

Your first rent payment is due at the start of your tenancy. Your rent is then due every Monday for the week ahead. If you wish to pay your rent over longer periods, for example fortnightly or monthly, you must pay in advance for the fortnight or month ahead.

You should consider setting money aside so you can pay the rent at the start of your tenancy.

Example costs for setting up your home:

	One Bedroom	Two Bedroom	Three Bedroom	Four Bedroom
Decorating (basic paint)	60	75	90	120
Basic carpeting	400	600	800	1000
Basic blinds/ curtains	£60	£75	100	130
Small kitchen items (kettle toaster, pans, cutlery, plates etc)	£80	£80	£180	£180
Bedding	£45	£75	£105	£135
Council furniture pack (rented)	£21.53 per week	£31.32 per week	£36.54 per week	£41.10 per week