Looking to rent social housing in Lichfield District 2025? What to expect

Lichfield District Council manages the <u>Lichfield District Homes</u>

<u>Register</u> in partnership with housing associations across the district. The register lets eligible people bid on social housing in the district. Because there is limited social housing in the district, housing is allocated to residents in the greatest housing need.



We've put this snapshot together to help anyone looking for a social rented home in the district (whether you are a new applicant or want to move between social rented homes) to understand what to expect, based on information from 1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025.

How many people joined the register last year?

Of the 1,082 people who applied, 55% (590) were eligible to join the housing register to find a new home for them or their family. The number of people applying who were not eligible contributed to customer wait times – <u>use our eligibility checker to find out if you are eligible before you apply</u>. We also host regular <u>housing advice roadshows</u> where you can find out how to apply and more.

590 people joined the register

388 homes advertised

How many homes were advertised on the register?

388 homes were advertised. Of these, 319 homes were let within the year. Homes that were not let didn't meet people's needs – for example not enough bedrooms or not the right area.

Who were offered properties, based on their priority band?

Half (50%) of properties advertised were let to residents in the **emergency band**, nearly half (47%) were let to residents in **priority band 1**, and the remainder (3%) to residents in **priority band 2**.

Every applicant on our register is given a priority band based on their circumstances. Their banding affects how their bids are shortlisted, and their chance of being offered a property.

You can be placed in one of three bands – emergency, band 1 or band 2 – <u>find out</u> more.



How many bedrooms did properties have?

Most properties that were let had either one bedroom (42%) or two bedrooms (40%). Only 47 (15%) properties had three bedrooms, only 9 (3%) had four bedrooms and just 1 (0.3%) had five bedrooms.

How many people are currently waiting for a new home?

591 people are currently waiting for a new home. 229 people need a one-bedroom property, 144 need a two-bedroom property, 160 need a three-bedroom property and 58 need four or more bedrooms.

These figures are just a snapshot in time and change every day, but give a good idea of who is on the register at any one time.

How long do people tend to wait?

Waiting times vary considerably and depend on your priority band, how many bedrooms you need, and what areas you are happy to live in. People who are in the emergency band wait the shortest time (average 140 days) and those who need two-bedroom properties (regardless of their banding) also have a shorter wait (average 173 days). Anyone looking for a four-bedroom property could wait more than a year for a property, depending on their priority band.

Between 121 and 533 days

What were the average waiting times last year?

Based on priority band or bedroom need alone, the average wait times were:

| Average wait times by priority band | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|--|
| Emergency | 140 days | |
| Band 1 | 278 days | |
| Band 2 | 145 days | |

| Average wait times by bedroom need | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|--|
| 1 bedroom | 197 days | |
| 2 bedrooms | 173 days | |
| 3 bedrooms | 355 days | |

Based on priority band and bedroom need, the average waiting times were:

| Average wait times - emergency band | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|--|
| One bedroom | 177 days | |
| Two bedrooms | 142 days | |
| Three bedrooms | 254 days | |
| Four+ bedrooms | 420 days | |

No data available for band 1, 5 bedrooms, or band 2, 3,4 or 5 bedrooms.

| Average wait times – band 1 & 2 | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|--|
| Band 1, 1 bedroom | 224 days | |
| Band 1, 2 bedrooms | 197 days | |
| Band 1, 3 bedrooms | 533 days | |
| Band 1, 4 bedrooms | 490 days | |
| Band 2, 1 bedroom | 121 days | |
| Band 2, 2 bedrooms | 176 days | |

Where were most properties advertised?

Most properties were let in Armitage with Handsacre, Whittington & Streethay and Curborough. Visit www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/districthomesmap to see the areas social rented homes are located.

| Area | 1 bedroom | 2 bedrooms | 3 bedrooms | 4+ bedrooms |
|-------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Armitage with Handsacre | 11 | 20 | 6 | 2 |
| Whittington & Streethay | 14 | 10 | 6 | 0 |
| Curborough, Lichfield | 13 | 11 | 4 | 1 |

Where do most people want to live?

Most people waiting on the register would prefer to live in Boley Park, Curborough or Chase Terrace. **Very few properties were let in these areas.**

| People waiting in each area | 1 bedroom | 2 bedrooms | 3 bedrooms | 4+ bedrooms |
|-----------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Boley Park, Lichfield | 31 | 20 | 15 | 5 |
| Curborough, Lichfield | 24 | 12 | 18 | 7 |
| Chase Terrace | 18 | 17 | 20 | 3 |

Were any new social rented properties built?

84 new properties were created for social rent – we continue to push for new social rented homes to be built across the district in line with our homelessness and rough sleeping strategy. We are also investing in new temporary accommodation.

84 new homes built