

NEWS

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FAMILIES IN NEED OF HOMES

The number of families requiring housing at any one time in North Dorset is, unfortunately, never matched by the number of family homes available to rent.

The majority of people looking for homes are families but most properties that come available in the district for affordable letting are smaller flats. Last year 80% of affordable housing homes that were re-let were flats in towns with only 20% being family houses.

North Dorset District Council is actively looking for three-bedroom flats/houses situated in Blandford, Sturminster Newton and Shaftesbury to join its private sector lease scheme. All privately leased properties are managed by a housing association on behalf of the Council.

If you own a suitable property, which has off road or allocated parking, and you are looking for a secure letting option with guaranteed rent and no hassle, the Council would be interested in talking to you.

Owners who join the private letting scheme are guaranteed:

- Regular monthly rent slightly below full market valuation.
- No administration charges for tenant or contract management.
- No loss of rent between tenants.
- No council tax or utility liability incurred during the contract.
- The property will be maintained at no cost during the lease period.
- Free annual gas safety certification.
- The property returned in good condition at the end of the lease.

Anyone requiring more information about this scheme is urged to contact Jo Rickman, Housing Enabling Officer at North Dorset District Council who will be happy to meet you, view the property and give a rent appraisal to join the scheme. There are no fees to pay for this service. Buy-to-let mortgagees must have their lender's permission to lease to a Registered Social Landlord.

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For more information contact: Jo Rickman, Housing Enabling Officer, on 01258 484377 or the Communications Manager on 01258 484100.

