

If you are a sheltered housing tenant, your spouse, civil partner or cohabitee of more than 12 months' duration will succeed to the tenancy as long as they were living in the property as their only or main home with you at the time of your death. If you do not have a spouse living with you, the tenancy could pass to a partner or family member as long as they are eligible for sheltered housing and were living with you for at least 12 months before you die. Failing this, we may consider granting a tenancy of another suitable property.

### **3.12 Right to assign**

If you are a secure tenant or an introductory tenant, you can under certain circumstances, assign (legally transfer) your tenancy.

If you are a secure tenant or an introductory tenant, the law allows you to assign your tenancy to a person who would have been able to succeed to your tenancy if you had died immediately before assigning it. This means that, if you are a sole tenant, you can assign your tenancy to your spouse, civil partner, or to a family member, including cohabitee, or same-sex partner who has been residing with you for 12 months at the time of assignment. If you are a joint tenant you cannot assign the tenancy to another family member if they are not the other existing joint tenant. Effecting an assignment means that there will no further right to succession upon the death of the tenant to whom the tenancy has been assigned.

If you are a secure tenant, you have the right, provided certain conditions are met, to assign your tenancy by exchanging with one of our tenants or the tenant of another local authority or a housing association.

This right of mutual exchange does not apply to introductory tenants.

The court has the right to assign a secure or introductory tenancy on the breakdown of a marriage or relationship.

If you are a joint tenant and your relationship has broken down and you wish to transfer the tenancy into your sole name, we will ask you to obtain a court order from the County Court.

You must not assign your tenancy unless you have our written permission to assign your tenancy.

If we have begun court action against you for any breach of the Tenancy Agreement, or any other matter such as an injunction, we will refuse your request for a mutual exchange.

### **3.13 Right to Buy**

Existing secure tenants will normally have the Right to Buy the freehold or leasehold of your home after they have been a tenant for 5 years.

You cannot buy your property during your introductory tenancy, but your period of introductory tenancy will count towards the 5 years.

If you are a sheltered housing tenant, under the Housing Act 1985, you do not have the right to buy your home.

If you have been guilty of anti-social behaviour, we can apply to court to request an order suspending your right to buy for a period that the court may specify.

You will not have the Right to Buy if we have obtained a suspended Possession Order against you.

### **3.14 Right to manage**

This allows tenants' organisations to take over the management of their homes and to run services that we would normally be responsible for such as rent collection and the repairs service. A tenants' organisation is eligible for the right to manage if it can show that it represents the views of all its members and does what they ask of it.

### **3.15 If we end your tenancy**

We may terminate your tenancy by leaving at your property, a Notice of Seeking Possession or a Notice to Quit or any Notice required by law.

All notices we leave in connection with your tenancy, including any Notice of Seeking Possession or Notice to Quit or other similar Notice, will be treated as properly served and received by you if left at the tenancy address, addressed to you.