

Can I become the tenant of my home?



This leaflet tells you what happens to someone living with a council tenant if the tenant dies or moves out.



The rules about this can be complicated. The rules might change in the future.



You should talk to your housing officer or care manager for more information.



Sometimes people can take over the tenancy and stay in their home when the tenant dies if they are a close relative or a partner.



This is called succession.



Usually there can only be one succession for each council tenancy. Sometimes the council's own rules allow an extra succession to happen, but this is very unusual.

Example 1

Andrea always lived with her mum and dad in their 3 bedroom council flat (they were joint tenants).



When Andrea's dad died her mum became the only tenant (this was a succession).



When Andrea's mum died, Andrea spoke to her housing officer.



She could not take over the tenancy because there had already been 1 succession. Instead the Council offered her a smaller flat in the same area.



Example 2

Mary has lived with her grandmother for 5 years. When her grandmother died she was able to become the tenant of the flat. This was a succession.



Mary carried on living at the flat. As it was a 2 bedroom flat, the Council asked her if she would move to a smaller place. She decided to move to a council flat near to her sister's family in Kentish Town.



If a council tenant moves out of their flat, they can sometimes give the tenancy to someone else.



They can only do this if the person has been living with them for some time (usually over 1 year) and if they are a close relative or a partner.



This is called assignment. Tenants must ask the Council for permission before they assign their tenancy.





Example 3

Mohammed has always lived with his mum, who is a council tenant. Mohammed's mum has been very ill. She needs to go into a care home where she can be looked after properly.



The housing officer helps Mohammed's mum fill in some forms.



She gives her tenancy to Mohammed. This is an assignment. The housing officer helps him to fill in new Housing Benefit forms.



Mohammed is able to stay in his home after his mum has moved out.



Example 4

John went to live at his cousin's council flat 6 months ago. His cousin is now moving abroad to work. He would like John to take over the tenancy.



They talk to the housing officer. John cannot take over the tenancy as he has not lived at the flat for long enough.



The Council helps John to find a private rented flat.



If you would like more advice or information, talk to your housing officer or to your care manager

There is more detail in Chapter 9 of the Tenants' Guide. This is on the council's website www.camden.gov.uk



We might not be able to promise what will happen in the future, but we can help you to plan.



Contact your housing officer on:
020 7974 4444

Housing support group
3rd floor, 5 Pancras Squ
c/o Town Hall, Judd St London
WC1H 9JE