



HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS

Housing associations in the United Kingdom are independent, not-for profit organisations which provide low-cost (usually rented) "social housing" for people in housing need, as an addition to the other two rented accommodation options of Council and Private accommodation. Housing associations were developed with the aim of making rental accommodation available and affordable for all, but they now also offer a way for people to become home owners. Housing associations are sometimes called "registered social landlords", along with hostels etc.

- **Staffordshire Housing Association** 308 London Road, Stoke, S.O.T, Staffs, ST4 5AB. Tel. 01782 744533. www.staffshousing.org.uk Opening times, 8.30 – 5.30, Mon – Fri. **Properties:** 1 bed flats, 2 and 3 bed houses, and some bungalows. Choice-based Lettings (bidding) system, not waiting list; list available every 2 weeks. (***Please note:** not currently accepting any applications for those only interested in 3 bed properties)
- **Blue Mountain Housing Association** Tel. 01782 744533 Address, and website as above for Staffs Housing. (A subsidiary of Staffordshire Housing Association). A specialist housing provider, providing housing and tenancy support services to refugees, and customers from minority ethnic communities. Blue Mountain manage properties on behalf of Staffs Housing, and a variety of private landlords.
- **Sanctuary Housing** (Formerly **Beth Johnson Housing**) 2 – 4 Woodhouse Street, Stoke, Stoke On Trent, Staffs, ST4 1EJ. www.sanctuary-group.co.uk. Tel. 0800 288 9782 (free from landline) for lettings, and housing applications. Tel. 01782 219200 for other enquiries. Email: midlands@sanctuary-housing.co.uk, providing general rented, sheltered, and home ownership accommodation. **Properties:** Studio flats, 1 and 2 bed flats, 2 and 3 bed houses, in Hanley, Fenton, Middleport, Shelton, Leek, Brown Lees, and Kingsley.

- **Midland Heart Housing Association** Local office: Duncalf Street, Burslem, S.O.T, Staffs, ST6 3LI. www.midlandheart.org.uk. Tel. Customer Services: 0345 60 20 540. Email: customer.service@midlandheart.org.uk. Applications by phone to customer services. Waiting list, operated on a points system linked to housing need. **Concentration of properties** in Burslem and Middleport.

- **EPIC Housing** 131 – 141 Ubbberley Road, Bentilee, S.O.T, Staffs, ST2 0EF. Tel. 01782 252575. www.epichousing.co.uk. 1 and 2 bed flats, and a limited number of houses. All with fully fitted kitchens, bathrooms, UPVC double glazing, and central heating. **Properties only** in Bentilee. Application by personal visit, online, or by telephone. Bidding system; average waiting time for 1 to 2 bed flats is quoted as 22 to 24 weeks.

- **William Sutton Housing** 37 Greasley Road, Abbey Hulton, Stoke On Trent, Staffs, ST2 8JD. Tel. 0845 217 8601. www.affinitysutton.com. 2, 3 and 4 bed houses, and 2 bed bungalows in Abbey Hulton. **Properties:** 1 and 2 bed flats, and 1 bed bungalows in Trent Vale. 2 bed flats and 3 bed houses in Kidsgrove. S.O.T customers advised to apply via telephone, not the website, as S.O.T, is not featured in the list of locations for their properties.

- If you contact one of these Housing Associations, you may find it useful to ask the following questions:
 1. **Is your waiting list still open?** (Sometimes Housing Associations will Close the waiting list if they there are too many applicants on it).
 2. **How do I apply?** (If they tell you the waiting list is still open)
 3. **Where are your properties?** (This is an important question, because it may Be that they have their properties in places that you do not want to live)

* **Please note:**

Most Housing Associations may be reluctant to re-house you, or even to allow you to register with them, if you still owe rent arrears on a previous (or current) Council or other Housing Association Tenancy. In such circumstances, they may ask you to pay off the arrears or begin a repayment plan, before they consider registering you.