



Help to Buy Rent to Buy

Your guide to your rental options

Rent to Buy is sometimes referred to as discounted rent and there are generally a mix of both new and re-let homes available.

The rents are approximately 20% cheaper than those on the open market, and the expectation is that you would save this money towards a deposit to buy a home through another of the Help to Buy schemes at a later date, usually within 3 – 5 years. If your circumstances change and you are no longer able to afford to buy at the end of the rental period your landlord may review your tenancy, however there is no guarantee that your tenancy will be reviewed.

Am I eligible?

To be eligible for a home being offered under the Rent to Buy scheme, you will need to be registered with Help to Buy South and want to live in a home in Hampshire & Isle of Wight, Wiltshire, Berkshire, Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire, Mendip, Bristol, Bath & North East Somerset and North Somerset.

- You must have a household income of less than £80,000 per year
- You must have enough savings to cover one months rent up front and one months rent to be used as a deposit
- You must also demonstrate the ability to save towards a deposit while benefiting from a reduced rent

Priority will be given to:

- **Serving military personnel**

To be considered as a serving member of the MOD, you must have completed your basic (phase 1) training and are either regular service personnel (including Navy, Army and Air Force), clinical staff (with the exception of doctors and dentists), Ministry of Defence Police Officers or uniformed staff in the Defence Fire Service.

Ex-regular service personnel who have served in the Armed Forces for a minimum of six years and they apply to buy within two years (24 months) of the date of discharge from service will also be prioritised. You must also produce a Discharge Certificate (or similar documentation) as proof.

Priority will also be given to surviving partners of Regular service personnel who have died in service, where they apply to buy within two years (24 months) of the date of being

bereaved.

Exceptions

Some properties may need to be prioritised by the Housing Association / Local Authority offering the home due to planning conditions.

If applicable, priority will be given to:

- Council and housing association tenants
- Serving military personnel
- Applicants given a high priority by the Local Authority. For example this may be families or people living or working in the area

This will vary from development to development and advertised where necessary. Contact the Housing Association directly for more information when expressing an interest in a specific home.

Who can apply?

You will need to complete an application on the helptobuysouth.co.uk website. Once your application has been approved you will then be registered with Help to Buy South and will be able to start your search for a home. Unless stated otherwise, all homes for this scheme are offered on a first come first served basis.

What are the costs involved?

You will need to have enough savings to cover one month's rent up front and the equivalent to one month's rent held as a deposit. For example:

Monthly rental figure:	£600
One month's rent up front:	£600
One month's rent held as deposit:	£600
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Total savings required:	£1,200

Other costs to consider include:

- Council tax
- Utility bills
- TV licence
- Contents insurance

What homes are available?

Homes available to rent with Rent to Buy will be listed on the helptobuysouth.co.uk website.

Contact us

If you require any further information please get in touch

By Post

Help to Buy South
Collins House
Bishopstoke Road
Eastleigh
Hampshire
SO50 6AD

By Phone

0800 456 11 88

By Email

info@helptobuysouth.co.uk

Via the Website

www.helptobuysouth.co.uk

The advice team is available to take your phone calls

Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm.

Help to Buy South is also on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Search for 'Help to Buy South' and like our page and follow our updates.