

EVERY DAY, WE ADVISE SINGLE PEOPLE WHO NEED HOMES.

People like David, who was evicted from his property after the landlady died. People like Ryan, whose relationship broke down. People like Sarah, who had no choice but to leave when her landlord became abusive.

In Cambridge and around, affordable accommodation is hard to find. Many people in this situation struggle to find somewhere suitable to live.

We're looking to help people before their problems mount. Our vision is to see people welcomed into good quality homes and given the support they need to get back on their feet.

So here's the big question: can you help? Do you have a spare room in your house that would be suitable for a lodger? If we provided full training and support, could we make this work?

If so, read on.

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

We're looking for rooms in good-quality homes in Cambridge, South Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire and East Cambridgeshire. Ideally, you should be within a reasonable distance of local facilities and public transport links.

We strongly recommend that anyone looking to take on a lodger seeks advice from the council or an advice agency first.

Details of the government's Rent-A-Room scheme can be found at:

www.gov.uk/rent-room-in-your-home

For further information, please contact:

Cambridge City Council
PO Box 700
Cambridge
CB1 0JH

Tel: 01223 457920

Cambridgeshire Supported Lodgings is an initiative led by Cambridge City Council, in partnership with the local community and in partnership with Huntingdonshire, East Cambridgeshire and South Cambridgeshire District Councils.



HOSTS HOMES HOPE

Do you have a spare room in your house?

Could help someone who needs somewhere to live?

If so, read on.

HOSTS

If you're considering taking in a lodger, you're doing nothing extraordinary.

In the UK, around 3% of homeowners now have a lodger, compared with around 1.5% in 2009.

However, if you're considering taking on a lodger through our Supported Lodgings Service, you're providing a stable, secure, welcoming home for someone who has nowhere to live. You're providing someone with the opportunity to get their feet back on the ground, to rebuild and move on.

And that in itself is extraordinary.

How does it work?

We're looking to match:

- Suitable, well-vetted tenants, with
- Friendly, welcoming hosts, into
- Good quality houses.

We have a team of people who are experts at helping people who need accommodation. We carefully assess people who approach our service,

HOMES

and create a bespoke action plan to help them manage their personal circumstances.

We also have a team of people who can work with you to make sure you are well-prepared for taking on a lodger. We can advise you on a wide range of potential issues, including property standards, rent collection, tax and benefits.

Most importantly, we work hard to make sure you are matched to a suitable lodger. We arrange initial viewings and will be there to answer any questions you have.

We will help you produce an agreement between you and the lodger so that you both know what to expect from each other from the outset. We'll then provide regular initial support to you and the lodger to make the placement a successful one.

A typical lodger might stay with you for between three and nine months - though we are happy to negotiate shorter-term arrangements. We would then work with the lodger to move them on into appropriate longer-term accommodation.

HOPE

What are the benefits?

Renting out a room can be a good way of earning extra money. We can help you negotiate a fair rent, and help you assess the tax and benefits implications - such as how to take advantage of the Government's Rent-a-Room scheme.

However, the main benefit of renting out a room is the impact you'll have on someone's life.

We believe that safe, affordable accommodation is critical to someone's wellbeing and recovery. You, and your home, could change the path of someone's life.

So, if you're interested, contact us.

We're led by Cambridge City Council, who have been working with local private landlords since 2003. We work in partnership with the local community, and would love to discuss how you could get involved.