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Top Tips for Successful Bidding

Bedsit



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Top tips for successful bidding

People often think there are lots of empty properties waiting for tenants but this is not the case. Sometimes properties take longer to let because they are offered to the customers who have successfully bid for them but then they have refused. Although it is okay to turn down a property if it is not right for you, there are times when the wasted time that this involves for customers, councils and housing associations, could be avoided. Remember that if you refuse suitable offers, your banding priority may be reduced or your bids will be restricted, so you should place your bids carefully.

1. Location

Is the property in an area you would want to live in? Have you considered visiting the area? Is it far from family and friends?

2. Local information

Will there be enough local services for all your needs i.e. schools, shops, public transport? Make sure that you also click on the **Full Property Info** and that you read the notes as this will tell you if preference will be given to certain applicants and/or if there are any restrictions.

3. Head for heights

Many flats and maisonettes are on upper floors. Make sure you click on the **Full Property Info** button to find out what floor level the property is on and whether a lift service is available.

4. Use your bids wisely

Only use your three bids on properties and in areas you want to live in. Do not waste your bids on properties that you will not qualify for, such as those for people aged 50 and over, if you are under 50 or do not have a recommendation for this type of property. The scheme does not operate on a 'first come, first served' basis so do take your time to get it right. Bidding is open from 12.01am on a Thursday until 23.59pm the following Tuesday each cycle and you can bid anytime during these six days.

5. Track your bids

The website shows your position in real time and how many other applicants have bid. You can change your mind and withdraw a bid and use it on another property you may have more success with, while bidding is open. However it is always worth leaving bids in place on properties you would consider. If the highest priority applicant refuses the property we work through the list, in priority order, until an applicant accepts. Sometimes the property has to be re-advertised if the shortlist is out of date.

6. Be flexible

Some areas and property types are very popular. If you can be flexible in your area choices, you may be able to improve your chances of successfully bidding on a vacancy.

If we don't contact you within five days of bidding closing, it is unlikely that you have been successful but you should track your bids for more information. Please do not contact us to find out if you have been successful as you can check the feedback on the website. If unsuccessful, try again in the next cycle bearing these tips in mind.