

## What rate of local housing allowance will I qualify for?

The rate of Local Housing Allowance (LHA) that you qualify for will depend upon;

- The number of bedrooms that your household needs (not the size of the property that you are actually living in) and
- The location of your property
- If you live in self-contained accommodation or shared accommodation.

**'Shared accommodation'** is accommodation where you only have sole use of one room and you share the rest of the facilities (e.g. bathroom, kitchen etc.) with other people who also live in the property, but who are not part of your household.

**'Self-contained accommodation'** is accommodation where you and your household occupy the whole of the property and do not share it with anyone else.

If you live in shared accommodation, your housing benefit entitlement will be based on the 'shared accommodation rate' of LHA.

If you live in self-contained accommodation, the LHA rate that your housing benefit entitlement will be based on will depend on the number of people in your household and the number of bedrooms required.

**Most people who are under 35 and who live alone, will only be able to get Housing Benefit based upon the shared accommodation rate even if they live in self-contained accommodation.**

## When you can get more than the shared accommodation rate if you live alone?

The shared accommodation rate doesn't apply if you are under 35 and are entitled to :

- PIP – daily living component or
- DLA – middle or higher rate of the care component or
- armed forces independence payment

In these circumstances, you will get the self-contained rate even if you are living in shared accommodation.

To find out which area your property falls into, to work out the number of bedrooms that you / your household are entitled, and to see the LHA rate that is likely to apply, please go to the following website -

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-housing-allowance>

Alternatively you can contact us at:

Telephone:

01454 86 8002

Visit us:

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