



# HomeShare Oxford

**Supporting Independence, Affordability and Friendship**

**Applying as a Householder – what you need to know**

**Homeshare Oxford**

**Telephone:** 01865 410 670

**Email:** [homeshare@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk](mailto:homeshare@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk)

**Webpage:** [www.homeshareoxford.org.uk](http://www.homeshareoxford.org.uk)



## Homeshare Oxford

**Homeshare Oxford carefully matches up older people who live in Oxfordshire and who may need a bit of help to continue to live independently at home, with another person who needs affordable accommodation, wants to be part of a home and can lend a hand.**

In return for the accommodation the Sharer gives the Householder up to 10 hours of their time each week as a combination of companionship and practical help.

Each Homeshare match is individual and carefully agreed. It may include some cooking and light housework, help with computers and technology, maybe some shopping or gardening, spending time together over a meal or cup of tea as well as occasional trips out.

A Homeshare match does not involve any personal care.

## Fees and costs

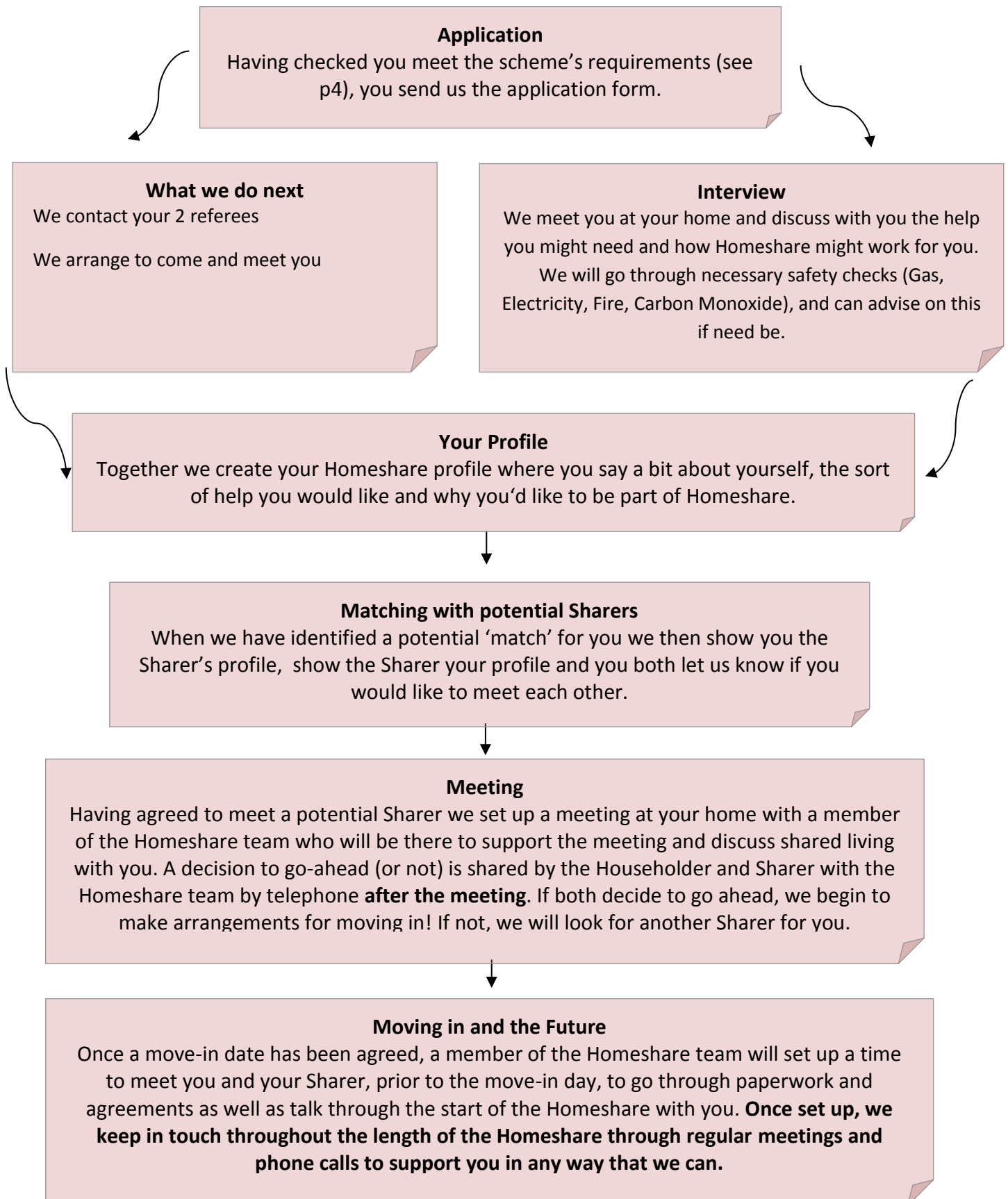
The Householder pays a 'Set-up fee' to Homeshare Oxford of £75 once a match with a Sharer has been agreed.

Monthly fees are payable to Homeshare Oxford by Householder and Sharer. The Householder pays £100 per month which works out at just over £3 per day. The Sharer pays £200 per month. These fees pay for the regular ongoing support provided by the Homeshare team to the Homeshare arrangement and enable Homeshare Oxford to be run as a sustainable scheme.

The Sharer makes a contribution to the Householder of an agreed amount towards household costs.



## The set-up stages for Householders



## Checklist for Householders

**Before you make an application to become a Householder it's important to be sure that Homeshare is right for you and that you are right for Homeshare. Please check and make sure you meet the following criteria:**

- You feel you would enjoy living with someone of a different generation and are happy to welcome them into your home.
- You are friendly and considerate and are happy to share living space (e.g. kitchen, living room, bathroom) with another person.
- You would like to have up to 10 hours a week of time as help around the home and companionship.
- You appreciate a clean and tidy home.
- You will respect the Sharer's personal space and possessions.
- Your spare room meets minimum legal size of 6.5 meters<sup>2</sup> / 70 feet<sup>2</sup> and has at least a bed and a wardrobe.
- You will be willing to keep to living arrangements as agreed with the Sharer (and set up with the support of the Homeshare Oxford team) and work through any issues, should they arise, to find solutions, with support as needed from Homeshare Oxford.

### **You agree to:**

- Provide contact details for 2 referees.
- Obtain and show us gas and electrical safety certificates.
- Have working smoke alarms on every floor of your house, and a carbon monoxide alarm where you have a fire or boiler burning solid fuel or gas.
- Tell us about any spent or unspent criminal convictions— they may not automatically exclude you, but we need to know about them.



This Checklist explains what we ask of the Sharer you may be matched with.

## Checklist for Sharers

**Before you make an application to become a Sharer it's important to be sure that Homeshare is right for you and that you are right for Homeshare. Please check and make sure you meet the following criteria:**

- You feel you would enjoy living with someone else, most likely of a different generation to you.
- You are kind, friendly and considerate and are happy to share living space (e.g. kitchen, living room, bathroom) with another person.
- You agree to stay a minimum of six months with a Householder, though a Homeshare is usually of a longer duration.
- You are willing to provide up to 10 hours of your time each week as help around the home and companionship
- You will keep living spaces and your room clean and tidy
- You will respect the Householder's home, personal space and possessions
- You will be willing to keep to living arrangements as agreed with the Householder (and set up with the support of Homeshare Oxford team) and work through any issues, should they arise, to find solutions, with support as needed from the Homeshare Oxford team.

**You agree to:**

- Provide contact details for 3 referees
- Tell us about any spent or unspent criminal convictions – they may not automatically exclude you, but we need to know about them.
- An enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.
- Show us evidence of your financial situation (eg bank statement, pay slip, student funding letter).
- Demonstrate that you have the 'right to rent' in the UK as Homeshare Oxford needs to ensure that we meet the legislation. We will advise you about appropriate documents (eg passport, driving license, residence permit, birth certificate) to meet this requirement.



## Other Information

### Safeguarding, Confidentiality and Equality & Diversity

Homeshare Oxford is part of Age UK Oxfordshire (AUKO) and adheres to AUKO policies and procedures which ensures that the scheme is run in a safe and supported way. Both Householders and Sharers are advised of our Confidentiality and Equality & Diversity policies and Safeguarding procedures and are asked to follow these. All Sharers have a completed enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check.

### Home insurance - is this affected?

You will need to tell your home insurance provider if you decide to take part in a Homeshare. We advise Sharers to have their own insurance cover for personal possessions.

### Can Homeshare work for couples too?

Couples are welcome to apply to Homeshare. A Homeshare arrangement can often be reassuring if one person is a carer for the other.

### Householders with Dementia

For Householders living with dementia, please do contact us and we can talk to you and/or a friend or family member to discuss if, and how, a Homeshare arrangement might work for you.

## Making an application to Homeshare Oxford

We hope you now have enough information to decide whether you would like to apply to Homeshare Oxford. **Please let us know if you would like us to send you an application form.** If you would like any further information or would like to arrange a phone conversation, please do get in touch.

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## Contact details that may be useful

**Age UK Oxfordshire Helpline:** Phone: 0345 450 1276 Email: [helpline@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk](mailto:helpline@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk)

**Carers Oxfordshire:** Phone: 0845 0507 666 Email: [carersoxfordshire@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:carersoxfordshire@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

**Dementia Oxfordshire:** Phone: 01865 410 210 Email: [info@dementiaoxfordshire.org.uk](mailto:info@dementiaoxfordshire.org.uk)

