



HomeShare Oxford

Supporting Independence, Affordability and Friendship

Applying as a Sharer – what you need to know

'I would recommend everyone to consider Homeshare as an alternative way of living; I believe it is an opportunity that really does have the potential to transform lives.'

Sharer, Oxford, August 2017

Homeshare Oxford

Telephone: 01865 410 670

Email: homeshare@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk

Webpage: 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.

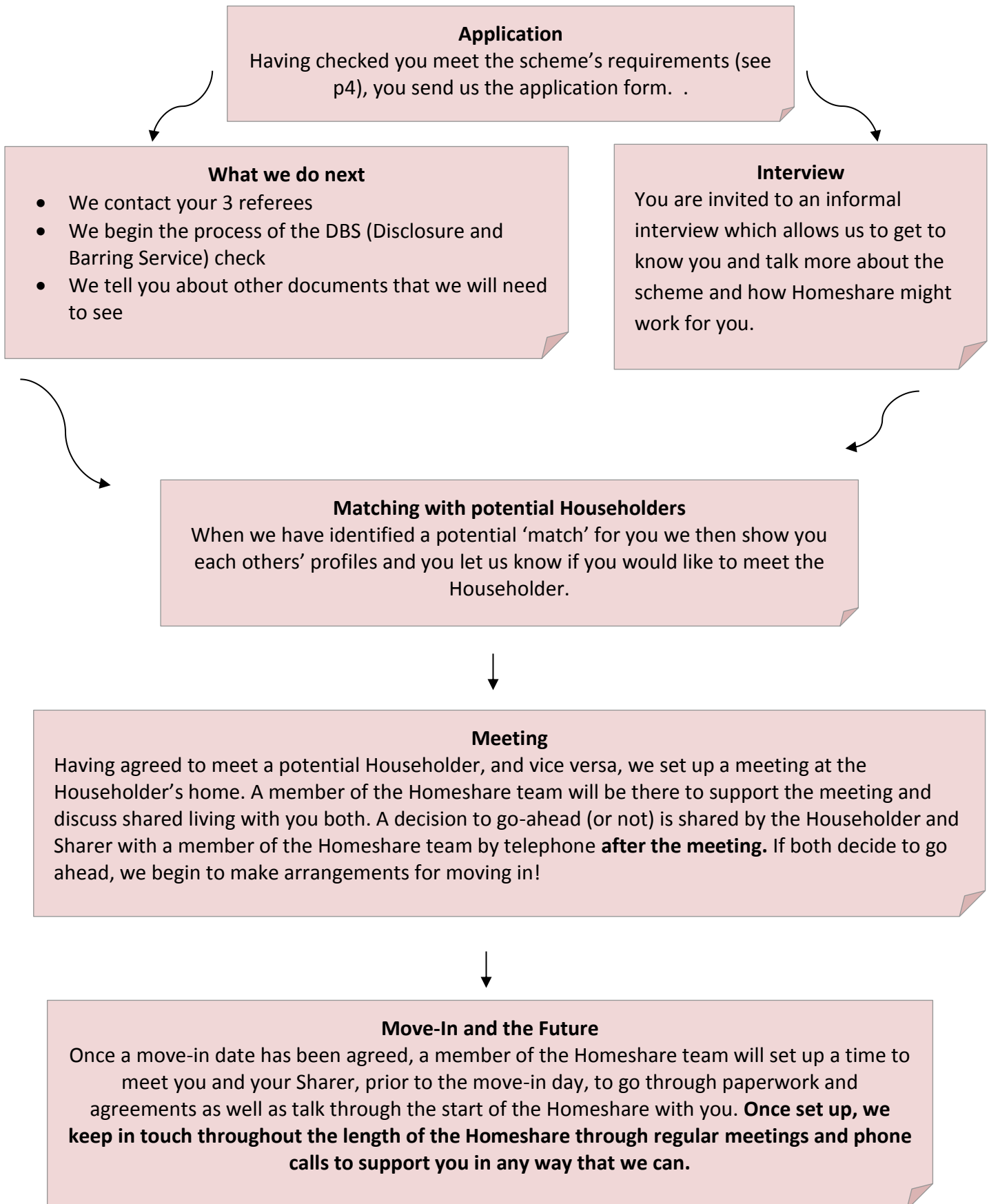
A Homeshare match does not involve any personal care.

Fees and costs

Monthly fees are payable to Homeshare Oxford by Householder and Sharer. The Sharer pays a monthly fee of £200 and the Householder pays £100 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 Sharer



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) 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 (e.g. bank statement, pay slip, student funding letter etc.)
- Demonstrate that you have the 'right to rent' in the UK as Homeshare Oxford needs to ensure that we meet that legislation. We will advise you about appropriate documents (eg passport, driving license, residence permit, birth certificate) to meet this requirement.

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

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 meters² / 70 feet² and has a 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 the Homeshare Oxford team.

You agree to:

- Provide contact details for 2 referees.
- Obtain and show us current 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.



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.

We offer training (on-line and face-to-face) which might be of interest to you. Such training may include areas such as Safeguarding, Equality & Diversity and First Aid.

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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