

EXPANSION OF HOME SWAP SERVICE IN DUBLIN AND CORK



An online home exchange service, which provides a platform for UK social housing residents to find and enquire about potential relocations, has been expanded to include Dublin and Cork, thereby enabling council tenants in both cities to swap properties for free. The overall aim is to roll out the HomeSwapper service to all social tenants in Ireland during 2021.

HomeSwapper – the online platform operated by Housing Partners (an MRI Software company) – has already enabled the exchange of more than 260,000 homes swapped by tenants in the UK.

Cork City Council and Dublin City Council are taking part in this pilot project with HomeSwapper.ie in Ireland to help their tenants find a mutual exchange (home swap). It will now enable council tenants in both cities to swap properties for free. The solution is part of MRI Social Housing, a suite of applications supporting millions of social housing tenants and their home providers.

HomeSwapper gives social housing tenants greater flexibility and choice, allowing them to switch homes for a number of reasons. These can include moving to a new job, school, or dealing with a change in family circumstances.

The mutual exchange scheme allows two local council or housing association tenants to officially swap their homes anywhere within – or even between – the two cities.

“The council has a substantial waiting list of tenants who have applied for transfer to other social housing areas,” said Suzanne Lacey from Dublin City Council. “The reason tenants seek a transfer can vary from overcrowding, wanting to move closer to family or friends, to having a larger tenancy than they require.”

A MUTUALLY-BENEFICIAL MOVE

She added that this self-service platform allows tenants to look for a transfer match that will suit their household bedroom requirements. “HomeSwapper will allow our tenants to make moves that are mutually beneficial without waiting for years on lists.”

“The online platform makes searching simple. If you are a tenant of Cork City Council or Dublin City Council, you can now

register for the service for free and start the search for your new home. Once a swap has been found, your housing team will begin to process the application.”

HomeSwapper’s Account Director, Eddy Irvine, said he was excited to work with both city councils in Dublin and Cork to mirror the success of mutual exchange in the UK. “We want to assist social tenants in Ireland to find the perfect home through swapping rather than spending a long time on a waiting list. Once the initiative is fully up and running for Dublin and Cork, we will look to roll it out to all social tenants in Ireland in 2021.”



The HomeSwapper app can be download from the Apple Store or Google Play for free, or alternatively, tenants may register on www.homeswapper.ie.