

## **Affordable Rent Tenancies**

### **What is Affordable Rent Tenancy**

Affordable Rent Tenancy (ART) is a new type of affordable housing intended to provide an alternative to, but not replace, social rent. At present this only applies to housing association (HA) tenancies. A proportion of both new homes and existing properties available for re-let, will be let on the terms of the new ART; existing tenants transferring should seek further information from the Registered Provider of the property they are interested in applying for, their current Landlord, or the Local Council. This will not affect existing tenants who are not seeking to move from their current home. Properties let under the ART will cost up to 80% of the gross open market rent. Where tenants are eligible for Housing Benefit it will continue to be paid in the same way as for social rented properties at present.

### **How long is the tenancy?**

ART in Bristol could be let on a time-limited basis, for a minimum of 5 years, however they could be offered for longer or be lifetime tenancies depending on the housing association.

### **How will Affordable Rent Properties be advertised?**

Affordable Rent Properties will be advertised through the HomeChoice Bristol scheme, and will be allocated in the same way as social housing, with some additional assessment criteria. The new ART advertisements will clearly indicate that the property is an Affordable Rent Tenancy and will include details of the rent and the length of tenancy.

### **What happens if I am offered an ART?**

If you are offered a fixed term tenancy, Landlords will discuss the various housing options with their tenants well before the end of the fixed term, and offer support and advice with regard to rehousing, where this is appropriate. Many tenants will need to stay in affordable housing, either in their current home or a more suitable property; others will be able to move on to low cost home ownership or private rented housing.

With a large number of housing associations and council landlords advertising properties through HomeChoice Bristol, applicants are advised to contact the landlord of the relevant property or the local Council if they require further details regarding ART. For all contact details please [click here](#).