Sheltered accommodation for ex-Service people (full article)

Independent living housing - also known as sheltered accommodation - is a type of accommodation which is usually aimed at elderly and disabled people. Independent living housing schemes often offer self-contained accommodation with the security of an alarm system and a warden. This type of housing may be right for you if you worry about safety and security but would still like to maintain an independent lifestyle.

However, these schemes do not provide personal or nursing care, or help with day-to-day tasks. If you require this level of care, a dedicated care home may be more suited to your needs.

Sheltered housing schemes (sometimes referred to as retirement housing) are aimed at people over 60 years of age, although some schemes are available for over 55s. You can find below a list of places offering independent living housing.

Royal British Legion Industries Independent Living Housing

Royal British Legion Industries
Royal British Legion Village
Aylesford
Kent
ME20 7ML

Telephone: 01622 795954
Fax: 01622 716657
Email: welfare@rbli.co.uk
Website: www.rbli.co.uk

Housing is an important part of welfare services provided by RBLI. Within the 60 acres of The Royal British Legion Village in Aylesford we own 80 houses and bungalows. Ex-Service families, many of whom are or have been employees of RBLI and those with disabilities are accommodated where possible. There are 48 houses and 33 bungalows in the village and many are adapted for disabled use.

Mountbatten Pavilion is a modern, purpose-built sheltered housing scheme for single ex-Service men and dependants, especially for those with disabilities. It has 24 bedrooms, some en-suite, and facilities that allow wheelchair access for those with limited mobility. This scheme is covered 24-hours-a-day and with out-of-hours staff support.

Assisted Living Flats opened in July 2005. The building comprises of 40 flats: 38 1-bed and two 2-bed rooms. All flats are disabled accessible and meet all new requirements for the Disability Discrimination Act. There are communal areas for tenants to meet and the building is staffed to provide a full range of personal care and support services for people of 65 years and over, applicants should also require two hours personal care a day (not to be confused with domestic help).

Royal Commonwealth Ex-Service League

199 Borough High Street
London
SE1 1AA

Telephone: 020 3207 2410
Fax: 020 3207 2115
Email: mgordon-roe@commonwealthveterans.org.uk
Website: www.commonwealthveterans.org.uk

**Prince Phillip Lodge** consists of six self-contained flats providing temporary accommodation for members of the overseas ex-Service community. It is located at The Royal British Legion Village, Aylesford, Kent. The League has 57 members of the overseas ex-Service community. It acts as a link for ex-Service organisations throughout the Commonwealth and provides financial assistance for ex-Service men, women and widows whose difficulties are beyond the means of their local organisations.

**Ainslie House**
4 St John St
Hereford
HR1 2NB

Telephone: 01432 264737 (housekeeper)
Email: abbefield.hereford@virgin.net

**The Abbeyfield SSAFA Hereford Society’s House** provides sheltered housing in addition to companionship with independence for lonely elderly people who are still active. The scheme is for, or of particular interest to, ex-Service men and women and their relatives, but also for those without connection with the Armed Forces. Two main meals a day are served in the dining room. Includes mobility standard and wheelchair properties. Renovated in 1996.

**Barrowmore Village Settlement**
Great Barrow
Chester
CH3 7JA

Website: www.barrowmore.co.uk
Telephone: 01829 742570
Fax: 01829 742571

**Barrowmore House** offers high standard of quality supported accommodation for people with disabilities. It provides treatment and rehabilitation for disabled persons. Preference is given to persons who have served in the Armed Forces.

**Belvedere House**
Woodmansterne Lane
Banstead
Surrey
SM7 3HA

Telephone: 01737 360106
Fax: 01737 353436

Principal a marine charity offering accommodation for elderly persons or their widow(er) who have served at sea or have some connections with the sea. Sheltered housing and nursing care is provided in Banstead, Surrey and residential care in Eastbourne, Sussex.
Royal Alfred Seafarer's Society
SBC House
Restmor Way
Wallington
Surrey
SM6 7AH

Telephone: 020 8401 2889
Fax: 020 8401 2592
Email: royalalfred@btopenworld.com

CESSA (Housing Association)
1 Shakespeare Terrace
126 High St
Portsmouth
PO1 2RH

Telephone: 023 9282 9319
Fax: 023 9282 4018
Website: www.cessaha.co.uk

The association has 206 flats on six sites in the Portsmouth/Gosport area for letting as assured tenancies to former Servicemen and women and their spouses, partners, widows and widowers of all Services, who are over 60 years of age. Parents and children of Service personnel of the same age are also accepted as are former Reserve Forces and MOD civilian employees. Flats are allocated on a basis of need. Tenants need to be able to look after themselves but with assistance from relatives or social services.

CESSAC Housing Association
1 Shakespeare Terrace
126 High St
Portsmouth
PO1 2RH

Telephone: 020 9282 9319
Fax: 023 9282 4018
Website: www.cessaha.co.uk

CESSAC is the sister organisation of CESSA HA. It manages flats owned by Greenwich Hospital, a Crown charity and located in Southsea, Saltash and Greenwich. These are sheltered housing with resident scheme managers for ex-mariners over 60 years of age only and their spouses, partners, widow and widowers. Flats are allocated on basis of priority of need.

The Home of Devenish
Post Office Chambers
67 St Thomas St
Weymouth
Dorset
DT4 8HB

Contact by post or email only: generalmanager@devenishhomes.co.uk
Website: www.devenishhomes.co.uk
Home of Devenish is an independent registered charity providing free unfurnished accommodation for widows of clergymen of the Church of England and widows of Her Majesty's Armed Forces officers. The trust has 23 bungalows and two maisonettes situated between Weymouth and Portland. Evidence of health is required to confirm that the applicant is fit enough to live on her own and it is necessary to have a friend or relative who can assist in times of difficulty, however each resident is linked to a local lifeline telephone emergency service.

Erskine Care
Bishopton
Renfrewshire
PA7 5PU

Telephone: 0141 814 4538
Fax: 0141 814 4571
Email: information@erskine.org.uk
Website: www.erskine.org

Erskine cares for ex-Service men and women of all ages, in need of residential, nursing, dementia or respite and short-break care. Erskine Care has cottages and a home in Bishopton and care homes in Edinburgh and Glasgow.

Ex-Service Fellowship Centres (EFC)
40 Buckingham Palace Rd
London
SW1W 0RE

Telephone: 020 7828 2468
Fax: 020 7630 6784
Email: info@exsfcs.org.uk

EFC has a hostel in East London for homeless ex-Service people and retirement accommodation for older Service people in Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex. Referral is through Service and other charities, social services, hospitals, prison, parole officers, welfare organisations and direct by the homeless themselves. Initial contact is through EFC HQ at Buckingham Palace Road.

Haig Homes
Alban Dobson House
Green Lane
Morden
Surrey
SM4 5NS

Telephone: 020 8685 5777
Fax: 020 8685 5778
Email: haig@haighomes.org.uk
Website: www.haighhomes.org.uk

Haig Homes properties are situated on small, well managed estates ranging in size from about six houses up to the largest estate in Morden of over 270 homes. The properties, a mix of family-sized houses, maisonettes and flats, are spread throughout the UK in 47 different local authorities. The properties are for rent only. Some properties are suitable for those with physical handicap. Some are subject to the nomination rights of the
original service (see regimental housing) or regimental organisation which donated the funds for the building. Applicants do not need any local connection except in Jersey where residential qualifications must be satisfied. There are waiting lists for most locations.

**E Hayes Dashwood Foundation**
Estate Office  
69 Emmanuel Rd  
Balham  
London  
SW12 0HP

Telephone: 0208 673 4060  
Day-to-day issues Telephone: 020 7408 1010  
Email: paul.shilling@cluttons.com

There are 149 one, two and three-bedroom flats, all purpose built and self contained. Any disabled person, who has served at any time in the Royal Navy, the Royal Marines, the Army, the Royal Air Force or Mercantile Marine, irrespective of rank or cause of disablement, may apply.

**Lyme Green Park**
London Rd  
Macclesfield  
S11 0LD

Telephone: 01260 252666  
Website: [lymegreensettlement.org.uk](http://lymegreensettlement.org.uk)

**Lyme Green Settlement** for paraplegias enjoys a semi-rural position approximately two miles south of Macclesfield town centre. Those suffering from paraplegia and/or severe disability can apply; preference is given to persons who have served in the Armed Forces. There are 29 two and three-bedroom bungalows.

**Macdonnel Gardens**
The Assistant General Secretary  
The Officers Association  
1st Floor, Mountbarrow House  
6-20 Elizabeth St  
London  
SW1W 9RB

Website: [www.officersassociation.org.uk](http://www.officersassociation.org.uk)

The Officers' Association manages this small tranquil estate of 12 bungalows for disabled Officers of HM Armed Forces and their families located at Leavesden just outside Watford. There are two and three-bedroom bungalows set in a secluded two acre site. The bungalows and communal garden are maintained to a high standard by the Officers' Association who also provide the residents with welfare support.

**Numast Mariners' Park Estate**
Wallasey
Mariners Park provides accommodation for retired seafarers and their dependents over 60. There are houses, bungalows and flats for around 140 residents living independently, and a 32-bed Registered Care Home for those needing residential nursing or short-term/respite care. Applicants should have a minimum of 20 years' Service unless retirement is due to ill health or permanent unemployment. War Service counts as double. The Merchant Navy are given priority; however consideration is given to the Royal Navy.

Queen Alexandra's Court
St Mary's Rd
Wimbledon
London
SW19 7DE

Telephone: 020 8946 5182
Email: rhowd_qac@ssafa.org.uk
Website: www.theroyalhomeswimbledon.org

Queen Alexandra's Court in Wimbledon is a unique home for elderly women. It has 75 self-contained unfurnished apartments in mansion blocks set in four acres of grounds. You are eligible to live here if you are the widow, divorcee or unmarried daughter of an officer or warrant officer or if you are a female retired officer or warrant officer yourself. Applicants are not normally admitted before the age of 60 and you must be capable of independent living.

Scottish Veterans Garden City Association
New Haig House
Logie Green Rd,
Edinburgh
EH7 4HW

Telephone: 0131 557 118
Website: www.housesforheroes.org.uk

The association is the main provider of housing to the disabled ex-Service community in Scotland with a portfolio of 594 properties spread throughout the country.

The Scottish Veterans' Residences & The Scottish Veterans Housing Association Ltd
53 Canongate
Edinburgh
EH8 8BS

Telephone: 01315 560091
Fax: 0131 557 8734
Website: www.svronline.org
SVR is a charitable organisation formed in 1910, which provides residential accommodation for ex-Servicemen and women and their spouses of all ages.

The Sir Oswald Stoll Foundation
446 Fulham Rd
London
SW6 1DT

Telephone: 020 7385 2110
Fax: 020 7381 7484
Email: info@oswaldstoll.org.uk
Website: www.oswaldstoll.org.uk

The foundation is a charity and Registered Social Landlord which provides housing and enabling services to disabled and homeless ex-Service personnel and other people with disabilities. The Sir Oswald Stoll Foundation own and manage housing and provide the appropriate support to those they house to ensure that they can live independently in the community with a good quality of life.

SPACES, Regional Resettlement Centre
St Aidan’s Rd
Catterick Garrison
Catterick
North Yorkshire

Telephone: 01748 833797
Catterick Mil: 94731 2940
Fax: 01748 835 774
Email: spaces@echg.org.uk
Website: www.spaces.org.uk

SPACES is based within the Resettlement/Welfare complex at Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire and is designed to help single ex-regulars find appropriate accommodation when they leave the Services. Through this service, the project reduces the likelihood of ex-Service personnel becoming homeless or sleeping rough after discharge. It helps to place single Service leavers into appropriate accommodation throughout the UK.

SPACES can refer you to The Galleries project in Richmond, North Yorkshire, which provides temporary accommodation for single Service leavers in 13 modern, fully-furnished, self-contained flats with support staff on site. The service is in addition to and compliments the work of the existing resettlement services such as the Service Resettlement Organisation, Service Welfare Organisation, the Joint Service Housing Advice Office (JSHAO) and the Department of Community Mental Health (DCMH).

SSAFA
Central Office
19 Queen Elizabeth St
London SE1 2LP

Telephone: 08451 300975
Fax: 020 7403 8815
SSAFA has a range of housing around England, including purpose-built bungalows for those with disabilities, although you must still be capable of independent living. Most of the properties are situated in Blackpool, Barnsley, Wantage and Ryde (Isle of Wight). There is also a sheltered housing complex at Bamahague on the Isle of Man.

Royal Air Forces Association Independent Living Housing

Royal Air Forces Association
117½ Loughborough Rd
Leicester
LE4 5ND

Telephone: 0116 2665224
Fax: 0116 266 5012
Email: enquiries@rafa.org.uk
Website: www.rafa.org.uk

All ex-RAF personnel and their spouses may apply for RAF housing, although turnover for sheltered housing is slow and it is impossible to forecast when a vacancy may occur. Priority is based on perceived need rather than time on the waiting list.

The RAF operates 74 sheltered houses at three locations: Dowding House in Moffet, Dumfriesshire; Rothbury House in Northumberland; Storrington in West Sussex. The sheltered housing schemes are designed to enable those in good health to lead an independent life, with the knowledge that support from a Resident Manager is available if required.

House Welfare Manager: Patrick Rendall
Telephone: 01162 688774

Supported housing: Wexford House in Melton Mowbray offers extended independence for older, single people in a caring family environment to overcome the effects of loneliness than can affect those living alone. Each resident has an en-suite bed-sitting room with care-call facilities, but benefits from communal areas to meet and enjoy meals together. The resident manager (Maggie Hill Telephone: 01664 569490) organises the day-to-day running of the House.

Each housing scheme is run independently, variations may occur in the day-to-day management. However, all are protected by the RAFA umbrella. For further information on the Storrington Sheltered Housing scheme please contact Mrs Janet Austin, Scheme Manager:
Telephone: 01903 744701
Email: rafhousing@hotmail.com.

For Dowding House and Rothbury House please contact RAFA HQ as above.

Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund
67 Portland Place
London
W1N 4AR
The Royal Air Forces Benevolent Fund has details of many organisations that are able to assist in the provision of sheltered housing where accommodation can be adapted to meet evolving care needs. These facilities provide a warden or manager whose watchful, but not intrusive, presence allows residents to retain their independence under a protective 'umbrella'.

Enquiries and applications for long or short-term residence, domiciliary care, sheltered housing or advice should be made to: The Care Services Department at the Fund's London Headquarters; Telephone: 020 7307 3359.