



# **The Homelessness Reduction Act – What it means for you**

“Allerdale – a great place to live, work and visit”

The new Homelessness Reduction Act increases the requirements for Allerdale Borough Council to help all eligible applicants – rather than just those with a 'priority need'.

It adds two new duties:

- Duty to take steps to prevent homelessness: Allerdale Borough Council will help people at risk of losing suitable accommodation as soon as they are threatened with homelessness within 56 days. This means people should get help upon receipt of a valid notice from their landlord and the Council can help the applicant to either remain in that property (i.e. negotiate with the current landlord) or help to find alternative accommodation.
  
- If the prevention duty fails then the Council has a Duty to take steps to relieve homelessness: Allerdale Borough Council will have a further 56 days to help all those who are homeless to secure alternative suitable accommodation. This should mean that eligible households are offered help to find a home, rather than some being turned away

If neither of the above steps work and the household becomes, or remains, homeless, then those who are deemed to be more vulnerable may retain their right to be rehoused.



Allerdale Borough Council  
Allerdale House  
Workington  
Cumbria CA14 3YJ

Tel: 0303 123 1702  
Email: [housing.services@allerdale.gov.uk](mailto:housing.services@allerdale.gov.uk)  
[www.allerdale.gov.uk](http://www.allerdale.gov.uk)

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