

MyHomeChoiceFyIdeCoast

Mutual Exchange Scheme Fact Sheet

What is it?

It is an exchange scheme that allows council and housing association tenants lo swap properties.

Conditions of using the scheme

In order to add a Mutual Exchange application to MyHomeChoiceFyIdeCoast you must:

- Live in a property owned or managed by one of the current partners on the Fylde coast:
 - o Blackpool Council
 - Blackpool Coastal Housing
 - For Housing
 - Great Places Housing Group
 - Muir Group Housing Ltd
 - Places for People
 - o Progress Housing Group
 - o Regenda
- Be a secure tenant or an assured housing association tenant. You will not be able to do an exchange if you are an introductory tenant or have an assured shorthold tenancy. Please check your tenancy agreement to confirm what kind of tenancy you have.
- Register your details on the MyHomeChoiceFyldeCoast website.

How does the scheme work?

First of all, you must have an active Housing Register application. You can do this:

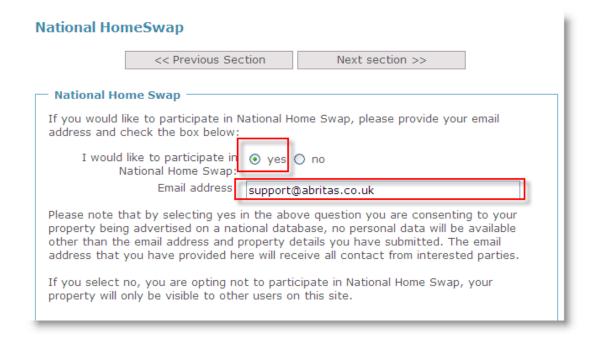
- On the MyHomeChoiceFyldeCoast website www.myhomechoicefyldecoast.co.uk
- Once you have fully completed your Housing Register application you will have the opportunity to add a Mutual Exchange application.

When you register you will need to provide details of your property, such as the area you are living in, the number of bedrooms, the rent etc. Your landlord has to approve these details before your property will be advertised.

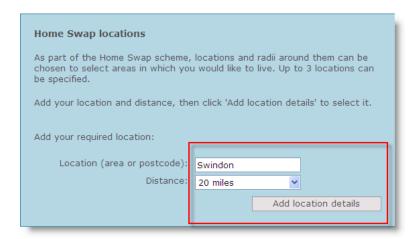
Once your property is being advertised you will be able to contact other tenants who are interested in moving home.

What if I wish to advertise my details nationally?

When you add a Mutual Exchange application from the website, you need to confirm on the application form that you would like to participate in *National Home Swap* and supply an email address. If you choose not to participate, your property will only be visible via the *MyHomeChoiceFyIdeCoast* website.



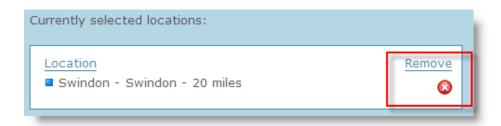
Add the regions you would like to move to. Add a location, select a distance from the drop-down list and then press *Add location details*.



Now click on the desired area from the list of results.



The area has now been added and can be removed by clicking on the X.



Where will the mutual exchanges be advertised?

On our website: www.myhomechoicefyldecoast.co.uk

Mutual exchange newsletter: in the offices of any partner agency

If you need help to see the latest list please contact 01253 476111

How do I view other national mutual exchanges?

You do not need an active MX application or a login to view national MX properties and send messages to people advertising properties but you do need an active MX application to bid on properties in your local Mutual Exchange scheme.

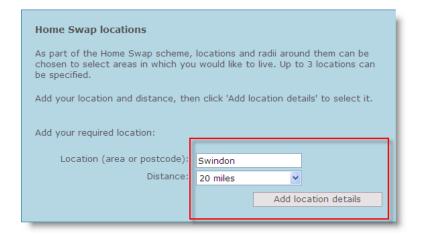
If you have an active MX application, open the public website and click on the *Login/My Account* tab to login.Click on the *Home* Swap tab.



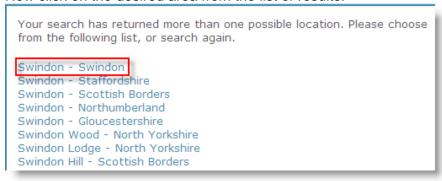
Enter details of your current property and the type of property you are looking for. If you are logged in and have an active MX application, this will already be filled in.

New search Please note that all fields are mandatory Your current property Bedrooms: Property type: Postcode: RG1 2EG Your requirements Required property types: Bedsit/Studio Flat Bungalow Flat House Required min bedrooms: Required max bedrooms: Sequired max bedroo

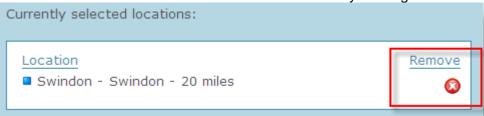
Next, fill in information on the areas you would like to live in. Add a location, select a distance from the drop-down list and then press *Add location details*.



Now click on the desired area from the list of results.



The area has now been added and can be removed by clicking on the X.

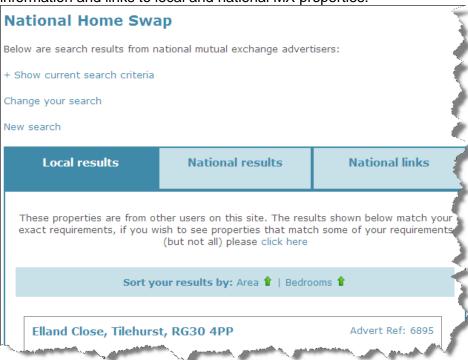


If you are logged in and have an active MX application, this will already be populated from your application form but can be edited if needed.

Now press Search at the bottom of the page.

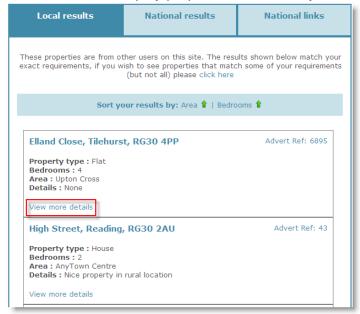


If there are properties matching your requirements a new page will then open with information and links to local and national MX properties.



How will my results be displayed?

Local results will display properties that match your search criteria on the site you are using.



Click on *View more details* to view the advert and bid on the property, you must have an active MX application.

The advert will then open and if you are logged in with an active MX application, you will be able to bid on this property.



National Results will display national MX properties. Click on the *national results* tab and the <u>Niow more details to view the property</u> on the website hosting it.



The advertised property is then displayed. You will not be able to bid on the property but will be able to contact the advertiser using the form at the bottom of the advert.



The message will then be sent to the email address the advertiser. The email will explain that the contact has been made through the national home swap programme, and that they should contact you to follow up an exchange if they are interested.

House Exchange and Homeswapper

Some tenants may choose to advertise their details on specific sites such as *House Exchange* and *Home swapper* websites. We are only able to tell you the number of matches that have occurred in their systems.

Click on the *National links* tab and then the *Click here to view them*, the link to go to the website the properties are advertised on.



In order for you to initiate a swap through Home Swapper or House Exchange you will need to register on that system. There will be a charge to you to register on their system if your landlord is not one of their customers.

What do I do if I am interested in a property?

On each advert will be the contact details of the current tenant. If you find something that you are interested in and they are also interested in the area and property that you are living in then you will need to contact them.

You will also need to make arrangements to view each others properties to ensure you are happy with the condition of the property.

Will my landlord allow me to do a mutual exchange?

MyHomeChoiceFyldeCoast landlords will only refuse permission if:

- A Court Order for Possession is in force
- A Notice of Seeking Possessions has been served
- The exchange means that either property will be overcrowded or under-occupied
- One of the properties has had substantial adaptations for disabled people and these will not be needed by the new occupant
- Either of the properties has a specific letting requirement such as older person's accommodation.

They may also hold back permission until:

- Any rent arrears are cleared
- Any breaches of tenancy conditions are dealt with
- A valid Energy Performance Certificate has been produced for your property, you will need to contact you landlord to arrange this.

What happens when I find someone who wants to exchange with me?

You need to let your landlord know and both of **you have to get written permission** before the exchange can go ahead. You can not exchange without this permission.