



**Gloucestershire
Housing Association**

A MEMBER OF THE GUINNESS PARTNERSHIP

Getting hold of Affordable Furniture




**APPROVED
BY GH A RESIDENTS**

If you would like this information in any of the following formats or a different language please contact us. **T. 01452 529 255**

• Large print • In Braille • Audio • Face to face

We recognise that it can be difficult to obtain affordable furniture, especially when trying to set up home for the first time.

This leaflet provides information on different ways to get hold of essential furniture on a budget.

Sources of recycled furniture

Gloucestershire

Furniture Recycling Project (FRP)

Unit 1 Grovesnor House
Station Rd, Gloucester GL1 1SZ

T: **01452 302303**

W: www.frglos.org.uk

Furniture Recycling Project (FRP)

Coronation Square
Cheltenham GL51 7SA

T: **01242 220296**

W: www.frglos.org.uk

Herefordshire

Full House Furniture & Recycling Service Ltd

Unit 1
Holme Lacy Industrial Estate
Hereford HR2 6DR

T: **01432 342042**

E: mail@fullhousefrs.org.uk

Emmaus Gloucester

Furniture and Home Appliances
Centre, Chequers Road
Gloucester GL4 6PN

T: **01452 413095**

Reclaim

37 Windsor Street
Cheltenham GL52 2DG

T: **01242 228823**

Herefordshire Lifestyles

41a Millbrook Street
Hereford
Herefordshire HR4 9LF

T: **01432 277968**

North Gloucestershire and South Warwickshire

*Roundabout (Furniture Project)

7A Blackminster Business Park
Evesham WR11 7RE

T: **01386 833030**

Banbury

Banbury CVS Furniture Store

Unit 14 Lower Cherwell St
Banbury, OX16 5AY

T: **01295 267741**

Stratford-upon-Avon area

**The Loft Workshop

Stratford-upon-Avon District
Council, Yard Avenue Farm Road,
Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 0HR

T: **01789 297 907**

E: theloft@stratfordvbx.org.uk

**Contact the Financial Inclusion Officer
for a referral if you are on a low income*

***By referral only*

Online

Join your local 'Freecycle' group at <http://uk.freecycle.org> to give and receive unwanted goods.

Paying for furniture

Social Fund – Community Care Grants, Budgeting Loans and Crisis Loans

You may be entitled to help from the Social Fund if you live on means tested benefits or are in a crisis situation. Contact Jobcentre Plus on **0800 055 66 88** or download claim forms from **www.direct.gov.uk**

Credit Unions

Credit Unions provide affordable loans to members who have saved regularly for a period, usually around three months. We may cover joining costs for local credit unions.

If you are one of our residents, living in postcode areas GL1 – GL4, we may refer you for an emergency loan from Gloucester Credit Union Ltd without you having to save first, and if other options are not suitable for you. We may not refer residents with rent arrears.

Charitable Trusts

Residents with a disability or other difficulties may be able to get financial assistance from charitable trusts.

Check **www.turn2us.org.uk** for details of organisations that make grants, or contact your local library or Citizens Advice Bureau for more information.

Our Furniture Fund

This is another way to help our tenants obtain essential goods where reasonable alternatives, such as those already mentioned in this leaflet, are not available.

Who can apply for the Furniture Fund?

New or recent tenants of Gloucestershire Housing Association and Gloucestershire Rural Housing Association, who do not have any resources to obtain essential furnishings, can apply for help through the Furniture Fund. Tenants with rent arrears, or who are in breach of their tenancy conditions, will not be eligible.

What items does it cover?

You can apply to the Furniture Fund for help with essentials such as beds, cookers, fridges and floor coverings. We do not normally fund replacement items.

How much assistance can the Furniture Fund provide?

Where possible, grants will be based on guide prices from local recycling projects. We will take your family circumstances into account when considering applications, and normally fund one item only.

What information do we need from you?

You will need to show that you have applied for all other funding sources available to you such as the Social Fund, any charitable trusts for which you may be eligible, or a Credit Union Emergency Loan if you live in the Gloucester area; and that you are unable to afford essential items. Where goods are not available from local recycling projects, we may ask you to provide up to three quotes from other suppliers.

How do I apply?

Contact your Housing Officer or the Financial Inclusion Officer for an appointment to make an application.

How are grants paid?

We pay Furniture Fund grants directly to suppliers. We do not make cash grants, or grants for goods that you have already bought.

How long will it take to get my furniture?

We will make a decision within ten working days of receiving your application. In most cases, you will then be able to arrange for delivery direct with the supplier. We will let you know if any items are not available for immediate delivery.

What if my application is not successful?

We will write to you within ten working days of receiving your application to explain why your request has been turned down, and suggest any alternatives.

For further information contact:

Alison Morgan

Financial Inclusion Officer

Telephone: **01452 541825**

E-mail: morgana@gloscha.co.uk

Disclaimer

Any payment or provision of benefit in kind will be made at the absolute discretion of Gloucestershire Housing Association and will be without prejudice to the rights of the parties under express or implied agreement or arising from general law.

Any payments will be good will gestures and should not be construed as an admission of acceptance of any liability on behalf of the Association.

Further requests for the same circumstances, after payment has been made, will not be considered.

Equality and Diversity

We are committed to eliminating discrimination and to promoting good relations and equality of opportunity in all aspects of our business.

We will treat all service users fairly and equally, regardless of their sex, transgender status, sexual orientation, religion or belief, marital status, civil partnership status, age, race, colour, nationality, national origins, ethnic origin or disability.



Gloucestershire Housing Association

A MEMBER OF THE GUINNESS PARTNERSHIP

Leaflet updated June 2009

2 St Michael's Court
Brunswick Road
Gloucester
GL1 1JB

T. 01452 529 255
F. 01452 310 520
E. info@glosa.co.uk
W. www.glosa.co.uk