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The art of stress-free moving

Who should you notify if your address has changed?

Relocating can be daunting, and many first-time movers aren't initially aware of the sheer number of companies and organisations that have your address on file – let alone who you need to notify of your move. Sure, you've got the obvious – friends, family, bank, school, work – but plenty of others need to know when your address changes.

Between packing your belongings and coordinating transport, navigating each step with as little stress as possible is crucial. But who should you notify when moving? At the onset, you might wonder who needs to be informed first.

Here are the key organisations to notify before relocating:

- DVLA/DVSA
- Employer
- Pension and life insurance companies
- Local council for Council Tax
- Royal Mail
- Contents and buildings insurance companies
- Healthcare providers (doctors, opticians, dentists)
- Banks
- HMRC
- TV Licensing
- Subscription services

Stay connected with Royal Mail redirection

Royal Mail offers a redirection service to prevent important mail from going amiss. However,

all organisations listed above still need to be notified independently. Royal Mail requires at least five working days to arrange a redirection.

Update your insurance details

When you've relocated, inform your insurance companies to update your house and car insurance details. Consider taking out insurance to cover any potential damage during the move. Remember, sharing relocation details after exchanging contracts is best to avoid repeating the process if the deal falls through.

Smooth transition of Council Tax

Your local council provides a form to complete before you move, ensuring you don't overpay Council Tax. Contact the council in your new area to set up your new Council Tax payment plan. You can find your local council here, visit: <https://www.gov.uk/find-local-council>

Internet connectivity during the move

Contact a local broadband provider to set up your new internet as early as possible before your move. If you need a temporary solution, check your mobile phone contract for tethering options, or consider purchasing temporary internet packages. Public spaces like cafés, libraries and restaurants offer free WiFi, albeit with security concerns.

Setting up utilities in your new home

Identify your new home's current gas and electricity suppliers and take meter readings at both your old and new homes. You may stick

with the current supplier or shop around for cheaper alternatives. Don't forget to inform your water company about your move and notify the new supplier if it changes.

School applications when moving home

Research schools in your new area, considering factors like distance, transport links, extracurricular activities and additional support needed for your child. Depending on the time of year, your child might have the option to start fresh in a new school year or be offered an in-year transfer. Contact your local council for more detailed information on available schools. ■

Need help to explore all options and select a mortgage that aligns with your financial situation?

Whether you're a first-time buyer trying to understand it all or an experienced homeowner searching for an alternative deal, we are here to guide you through this complex process. We'll provide personalised advice, helping you explore all options and select a mortgage that aligns with your financial situation and homeownership goals. For more information, please get in touch with us.

