



Moving house during the coronavirus outbreak

Moving house during this time will require new processes and adaptations to ensure that everyone is safe and that the risk of spreading coronavirus is reduced as much as possible. Here is our quick step guide on how to stay safe and protect others when moving during this time.



Step 1 – Preparing to buy, sell or move home

- ▶ You can begin to market your home and estate agents can visit to take photos/videos of the property
- ▶ Look online first at new properties. If you're looking for a new build, contact them to arrange an appointment
- ▶ Start gathering the important documentation required to move home



Step 2 – Viewings

- ▶ Check the property virtually first, if interested, book a viewing via the estate agent
- ▶ Try to avoid touching anything, and do take a hand sanitiser with you
- ▶ However if anyone in your house has symptoms delay the visit



Step 3 – Making offers or reservations

- ▶ You can make or accept an offer on a property
- ▶ Be mindful of possible delays should someone in the chain fall ill or need to isolate
- ▶ To measure up or send a tradesperson to the new property, arrange this with the current occupants and ensure social distancing is observed



Step 4 – Property searches and surveys

- ▶ Property searches are carried out manually either by the council or a search agent, but are instructed online
- ▶ Surveys can be arranged so that surveyors can inspect the property
- ▶ If your home is being surveyed, ensure surveyors can access all areas of your property



Step 5 – Agreeing to move

- ▶ Following exchanging contracts or signing a tenancy document, you could experience delays should someone in the process become ill or need to isolate
- ▶ Your legal representative will be able to advise you in this instance



Step 6 – Moving your belongings

- ▶ If you need a removal company to help you move, give them plenty of notice to secure a slot
- ▶ Ideally pack and clean (where possible) as much of your belongings as you can, and inform the removal firm of what you can/can't do ahead of their arrival
- ▶ When the removers are in your home stay at least 2 meters apart and provide access to hand washing facilities

General Top Tips

- ▶ If you have the virus, are showing symptoms, or self-isolating do not leave your home to view or move house
- ▶ If you are classed as vulnerable or are shielding only move house if it is absolutely essential
- ▶ Do as much of the process as possible online or remotely
- ▶ Always practice social distancing
- ▶ If physically viewing a property, bring hand sanitiser and avoid touching surfaces
- ▶ During house visits, try to limit the number of people in the property where possible
- ▶ Keep all internal doors open when hosting visits
- ▶ After any visits to your property clean surfaces and door handles with household cleaning products

Despite these challenging times, we're still here to help you, albeit remotely. If you would like to know more or would like to arrange a remote appointment with an adviser who can help you, please get in touch.



This information is correct as of May 2020.