

Relocating a tenant in public housing

The Department may relocate a tenant to other public housing accommodation because:

- The premises has more bedrooms than the household needs and the other accommodation would have a suitable number of bedrooms;
- The premises do not meet the social, physical, psychological or medical needs of the household and the other accommodation better suits those needs;
- There is a risk to the health and safety of the tenant and/or occupiers and other accommodation would be safer;
- The tenant or occupier has engaged in unacceptable conduct;
- Anti-social behaviour by tenants or occupiers.

How will I be consulted about the relocation

You will be asked to attend a meeting with Housing to discuss the following information;

- The reason for relocation;
- The termination of a tenancy process;
- The process for signing of a new tenancy agreement;
- The reasonable relocation costs;
- Your right to remain in possession of the premises until date of vacant possession;
- The expected date you can move into the other accommodation;
- Your right to make a submission disputing the relocation;
- The undertaking to enter into a new tenancy agreement; and
- The process for retaining or transferring the bond.

When will I be required to relocate to other public housing accommodation?

The Department will work closely with you to keep you informed of the reasons for the relocation and how it will happen, and the Department will work with you to try and agree on a date to move.

If an agreement on a date to move is not made, you will have 14 days after the date you are given the Notice of Intention to Terminate before you must move.

Do I have a say in where I relocate to?

You may provide information on your preferred location during the meeting with Housing. It is the Department's intention to come to an agreed outcome where possible.

Will my rent change?

Your rental rebate will be reviewed when you begin your tenancy. This includes reviewing eligibility and any changes to your income or the people living in your household. You will be notified of any changes to your rent amount. You can contact your local housing office to find out more about your rent.

What if I do not want to relocate?

Within 14 days of receiving a Notice of Intention to Terminate, you can lodge a submission giving reasons why you should not be relocated, or the tenancy should not be terminated. The Department will consider your submission and notify you of the outcome. You can remain in the premises until 14 days after you receive the outcome of the decision.

What if I do not move out by the vacant possession date?

The Department may apply to the Northern Territory Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NTCAT) to make an order for repossession of the premises.

What support is available?

You can nominate someone to help you at any time during the relocation process. This person may be a legal advocate, friend or relative. If you want this person to speak on your behalf, you must complete an Authority to Act form.

The Department will use an interpreter, where required and/or requested, to ensure you are fully informed, and are able to participate in the decision.

Where can I find out more information?

To find out more, visit the website nt.gov.au or contact your local Housing office:

Greater Darwin	(08) 8999 8814
Nhulunbuy	(08) 8987 0533
Arafura Region	(08) 8995 5122
Tennant Creek	(08) 8962 4497
Katherine	(08) 8973 8513
Palmerston	(08) 8999 4767
Alice Springs	(08) 8951 5344