

## **Housing**

Swindon Borough Council  
Beckhampton Street  
Swindon  
SN1 2JH  
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Date: 8 December 2025

### **High-Rise Consultation: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**

The Council is reviewing the long-term future of its high-rise blocks. These buildings require significant investment, and we are considering what happens next.

As part of this, we are holding a formal consultation and want to listen to you before any decisions are made. This document explains what is happening and how you can have your say.

#### **Background**

The Council is considering options for the future of its six high-rise blocks, following a thorough assessment of their condition. All the buildings require significant refurbishment.

We have already carried out early engagement with residents and can confirm that the majority of participants expressed the view they would prefer the block to close and to move to another home.

#### **What is happening?**

A formal consultation is being held relating to the future of the Council's six high-rise blocks. This consultation will inform any decisions that the Council takes about the buildings.

We are asking for your views before anything is decided.

For the avoidance of any doubt, the Council continues to have a legal obligation to provide tenants with a home. Regardless of any decision taken by the Council following this consultation, you shall not be left without anywhere to live and, if required, suitable alternative accommodation shall be found.

#### **What does “decommissioning” mean?**

“Decommissioning” means the building might no longer be used for housing.

It could mean:

- Everyone moves to new homes
- The building might later be refurbished, demolished or redeveloped

#### **When will a decision be made?**

We are in the consultation stage. This means we are listening to residents and collecting your feedback.

No final decision will be made until after consultation ends. You will be told before any changes happen. We hope to be able to confirm next steps in Spring 2026.

### **How can I have my say?**

You can share your views, and find out more, in several ways:

- Come to a tenant and leaseholder meeting
- Talk to your housing officer
- Fill in a feedback form
- Send us an email or letter using the contact details below

### **What happens after the consultation?**

After we talk to everyone:

1. We will consider what you have told us
2. We will write a report including reflecting on all the feedback
3. We will decide what to do next

You will get a summary of the results and what the next steps are

### **If the block closes, will I have to move?**

If we decide to close the block:

- Secure tenants will be offered a new home
- Leaseholders will be contacted about their options
- Non-secure tenants will get support to find alternative housing

### **For all households:**

- You will get support to move or plan next steps
- We will work with you to find the right option for your household

No-one will be asked to move without proper notice and support

### **How will vulnerable tenants be supported?**

We know some tenants may need extra help. We will make sure:

- You have a named officer to support you.
- You can bring a friend, family member, or advocate to meetings.

### **Who can I talk to for more information?**

You can contact: [REDACTED]

Office: Swindon Borough Council, Beckhampton Street, Swindon, SN1 2JH

Email: [REDACTED]

## What are the next steps?

1. Consultation starts: **Tuesday 9 December 2025**
2. Drop-in sessions:  
**Cavendish Square Library, Park South, Swindon, SN3 2LZ - Monday 15 December 2025 6-8pm**  
**John Moulton Hall Community Centre, 44C Penhill Drive, Swindon, SN2 5DU - Wednesday 17 December 2025 6-8pm**
3. Consultation closes: **Monday 12 January 2026**
4. Decision made: **Spring 2026**
5. Information shared with residents.

## What if I need this information in another way?

We can give this information:

- In large print
- In other languages
- Over the phone
- With a support worker or interpreter

Please tell us what you need using the contact details above.

## Information for Secure Tenants

If you have a secure tenancy and the block is closed:

- You will be offered another suitable home
- You have the right to be consulted and rehoused
- You will get help with moving costs and disturbance payments (to cover expenses)

## Information for Leaseholders

If you own your home in [REDACTED] (you are a leaseholder), and the building is closed:

- You will keep ownership of your flat until a formal process begins
- We will offer one-to-one meetings to discuss your situation
- You will receive formal written information about your rights and options

These may include:

- Selling your property to the landlord (through a formal “buyback” process)
- Independent valuation of your home
- Compensation for reasonable costs (for example, moving or legal fees)

- Help to find alternative housing or investment options

You will be kept informed at every stage.

### **Information for Non-Secure Tenants**

If you have a non-secure or temporary tenancy (for example, you were placed here by the council or another agency), and the block is closed:

- You will not lose your housing support
- We will work with you to help you find another suitable place to live
- You will be given reasonable notice before any move
- You can get help with removals and support if you need it

### **Data protection**

All information you give will be treated in confidence and handled in line with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. Responses will be used only for the purpose of this consultation.