



# Differences in our services

and what this means for you

	ORIGINHOUSING Established 1924	Places for People	What this means for you
Customer Services	We are open Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm (excluding bank holidays).  You can get in touch by:  Calling us on 0300 323 0325  On our website, through the online form or using our ChatBot www.originhousing.org.uk  Email: enquiries@ originhousing.org.uk  Through our social channels  Using our Origin Online Account.  Outside these hours, we operate an emergency only service, using our main number.	Our Customer Contact Centre is open Monday-Friday 8am-6pm.  You can contact one of our advisors by telephone, email or live chat on our website. (Live chat is available Monday – Friday 9am-5pm)  Outside these hours, we operate an emergency only service including bank holidays and weekends.  Our online Customer Portal is available for you to use to manage your home 24 hours a day.	We will be keeping the current Origin Customer Service number in use, and we would like you to keep calling it.  You will be able to use:  • The current Origin number 0300 323 0325 which will be answered as Places for People  • The PfP website  • Live Chat on the PfP website which is available Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm  • The PfP Customer portal.  You will not be able to get in touch by:  • Whats App  • On the Origin website, through our online form, Chat Bot or social channels, Using the Origin Online Account.  Emergency repairs will need to be reported by telephone using the number you use now and can be reported 24/7.
Tenancy agreements and leases	Your tenancy agreement or lease gives details of your legal rights in full and can only be changed following consultation with you.	Your tenancy agreement or lease gives details of your legal rights in full and can only be changed following consultation with you.	There are no changes for you, as no changes can be made to your tenancy agreement or lease without consulting you first.

### Origin Housing Places for People What this means for you **Rent and** The amount you pay will depend The amount you pay will depend You will be able to pay your service on the type of agreement; on the type of agreement; rent and services charges by: charge start date of tenancy and type start date of tenancy and type payments • PfP Customer portal (once of home you have with us. If of home you have with us. If you have your new payment you do not know what type of you do not know what type of reference number as you need tenancy you have, your tenancy tenancy you have, your tenancy this to set up your account) or lease agreement will tell you. or lease agreement will tell you. Direct debit or standing order The amount of rent that we The amount of rent that (vour direct debit will be ask you to pay will be reviewed we ask you to pay will be transferred for you, if you pay each year and will be based reviewed each year and by standing order you will on Government guidelines. will be within Government need to cancel this and set rent policy guidelines. You must pay your rent in up a new one using your new advance and can do this You must pay your rent in payment reference) although either weekly or monthly. advance and can do this this might be a good time either weekly or monthly. to consider changing your You can pay your rent and payment method to direct debit service charges in a range You can pay your rent and of ways including: service charges by: • By phone. Until further notice you will be · direct debit or standing order • Direct debit or standing order able to continue to pay using online or by phone • Online in your customer your Allpay payment card in account or person at pay points. We are by text message planning to contact you to discuss • By telephone. how you could use other more • at your local Post Office or a efficient payment methods. Pay Point in a local shop. Some PfP Customers pay their rent and or / service Customers will have new charges to RMG or Touchstone payment reference numbers (subsidiaries of the PfP Group) which they will need to use to who manage their homes. make payments – online, bank transfers and standing orders and to set up their online account on the PfP Customer portal. These will be sent to Customers after Transfer of Engagement. Some Origin homes will be managed by Touchstone or RMG (PfP Group companies) and we will let you know closer to April if you are included. If you are managed by one of these companies, you will pay them your rent and or service charges. Touchstone and RMG act as an agent for Places for People Living+ Limited.

#### Origin Housing Places for People What this means for you **Rent setting** Nothing changes in how How much rent you pay How much rent you pay will depend on a number will depend on a number vour rent is set. of things, such as: of things, such as: Your rent for 1 April 2026 to • Government guidelines 31 March 2027 will not change • Government guidelines because of the transfer to Places on setting rent on setting rent for People Living+ Limited How many bedrooms How many bedrooms and will be set by Origin based your home has your home has on the factors to the left. You will receive communication • How old your home is • How old your home is about this in February 2026. • Where your home is • Where your home is PfP will review your rent and service charges for following • The condition of your home • The condition of your home years based on the same things. • The type of tenancy you have • The type of tenancy you have How your home was • How your home was funded when it was built. funded when it was built. This means that you may pay This means that you may pay a different amount of rent to a different amount of rent to your neighbours, even though your neighbours, even though you live in similar places. you live in similar places. Service When we set your estimated When we set your service You will continue to be charged charges service charges, we'll review the charges, we'll review the current for the services you receive on current cost of each service and cost of each service and calculate an annual basis. Service charges calculate the new charge for it. the new estimated charge for can change up or down, year Your service charges start on 1 it. Your service charges start on year because of changes April and end on 31 March, Your on 1 April and end on 31 March in services, costs or due to statement shows the services each year. Your rent and service previous errors being corrected. charge notice shows the services we expect to provide to your Origin will set service charges home over the next year along we expect to provide to your for 1 April 2026 to 31 March with the estimated costs. home over the next year along 2027. PfP will review service with the estimated costs. charges and set charges for 1 Services will be reviewed to April 2027 to 31 March 2028 Services will be reviewed ensure that we are in line with and each year after that. to ensure that we are in line legislation and that you are Homeowners on variable service with legislation and that you only being charged for the are only being charged for charges will continue to receive services you received and that the services you received. an annual reconciliation letter. those charges are accurate.

### Origin Housing Places for People What this means for you Repairs You can report a repair For repairs completed You can report a routine or a hazard: repair or hazard by: by Gilmartins: • Telephone to our Customer • On our website, through Gilmartins will continue to carry the online form or using Contact Centre out repair work to the same our ChatBot homes (formerly Origin). • Using our Online www.originhousing.org.uk **Customer Portal** You will no longer contact Gilmartins directly and instead, • By email at enquiries@ PfP email address originhousing.org.uk all contact will go through PfP's Customer Contact Centre • Letter By Whatsapp or our (which our Customer Resolution social channels team Colleagues will join). • In person to a PfP Colleague. By phone You will be able to Emergency repairs need to be report a repair by; reported by telephone in all cases. • On your Origin Online account. • Calling 0300 323 0325 Damp and Mould can be reported For emergency repairs, where through a website form too. there is an immediate danger • Through the PfP Online to residents or the public we Customer Portal on the website PfP Repair Policy provides for: will attend within two hours. • Email. Make safe emergency For all non-emergency repairs, repairs within 24 hours PfP and Gilmartins will continue we will arrange a mutually to provide the current Origin convenient appointment Standard repairs to fix service levels for repairs. within 60 days. Origin Policy states: Customer responsibilities are PfP will continue to provide • Gilmartins - Emergency similar to Origin's and more detail the current Origin service attendance within 2 hours can be found at levels for repairs. www.placesforpeople.co.uk • Gilmartins - Make safe PfP manage and complete within 24 hours repairs in line with Regulatory and Legislation requirements. • Gilmartins - Standard repairs within 10 working days (exceptions up to 20 working days) • Other contractors 28 days as standard. • Complex work 30 days • Origin manage and complete repairs in line with Regulatory and Legislation requirements.

	ORIGINHOUSING Established 1924	Places for People	What this means for you
Home ownership	Some of our tenants may have the Right to Acquire. This is similar to Right to Buy but the discounts are generally lower (currently about £16,000). Only homes that were built or bought by Origin with public funds since April 1997 may be eligible for this.  If you own your home, we have a dedicated Home Ownership team who can help with any questions you may have.  Your home may be managed by a third party agency, which is appointed by the freeholder.	If you rent your home, you may qualify to buy your home at a discounted rate through the Preserved Right to Buy and Right to Acquire schemes.  PfP has a Customer Purchase Policy which also allows Customers to buy their home outside of statutory schemes. This policy is subject to eligibility criterion and the home not being restricted for sale due to legal title or similar.  If you own your home or are a shared owner, you may be managed by a PfP Group company Touchstone or RMG, or your existing third-party agency as appointed by the freeholder.	You will continue to have a team that can help with you with any questions you may have.  If you rent your home, you may qualify to buy your home at a discounted rate through the Preserved Right to Buy and Right to Acquire schemes. You may also be able to purchase your property as part of PfP's Customer Purchase Policy, if you and the property meets the criteria.  Some Origin homes will be managed by Touchstone or RMG, and we will let you know closer to April if you are included. If you are managed by one of these companies, you will pay them your rent and or service charges. RMG and Touchstone act as an agent for Places for People Living+ Limited.  For those homes to be managed by RMG or Touchstone the number you call and opening hours may be different. We will share these with you closer to April 2026.  If your home is managed by a third-party managing agent currently your Customer Service numbers will not change.

	OFIGINHOUSING Established 1924	Places for People	What this means for you
Communal services	We conduct regular estate inspections and ensure that estates meet our required standards.  All staff are responsible for reporting communal repairs.  Our communal areas are maintained by our in-house cleaning and caretaking team, who will sweep, mop, clean and clear all internal areas and litter pick external areas.  We have an external contractor who carries out the communal window cleaning.  We have an external contractor who carry out any grounds maintenance/gardening of the communal areas.  These services are chargeable.	Our promise to Customers is we will keep the shared areas of your building and estate clean and tidy, and we will maintain any lifts and shared doors.  Our communal areas are maintained by a mix of directly employed in-house operatives and external contracted service providers.  These services include grounds maintenance, communal cleaning, window cleaning, compliance checks and some waste removal eg fly tipping.  These services are chargeable.	Your communal areas will continue to be maintained. You will continue to have opportunities to feedback on service levels and meet Colleagues on site. These services will continue to be chargeable.
Resident Safety	We are committed to providing homes that are safe for you to live in and have been following Government guidance and are working in partnership with the London Fire Brigade.  Our team regularly review progress on completing fire risk actions and carry out compliance checks (for example on gas, water, electricity and lift installations) so if we identify a risk we immediately put in place measures to reduce that risk until we are able to get it fixed.  We complete estate inspections quarterly.	Resident safety is a priority at PfP.  We carry out Health and Safety Inspections on a cyclical basis in accordance with legislation.  We engage with our Customers about their safety in their homes and about the safety of the buildings they live in.  We work in partnership with Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service for our homes across the UK. This partnership provides us assured advice and a national inspection plan to ensure consistent fire safety compliance across all locations.  All our properties with communal areas have procedures in place about what to do in the event of a fire, which must be followed.	You will continue to receive services that keep you and your neighbours safe.

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### What this means for you

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)



We investigate all reported incidents of anti-social behaviour (ASB) and consider the risk in each case. We take all reports of ASB seriously.

If you or someone you know has been harmed or could be at serious risk, we will contact you within one working day to get more information. At the same time, we will complete a risk assessment and create an action plan which is where we can agree how often we will contact you and what other information we may need from you. If there is no immediate serious risk, we will take the same action within five working days.

We will agree contact frequency with you and will contact you at these times, for example weekly/monthly until your case is closed.

We may ask you to collect and share information with us either using our ASB App or by completing paper logs.

We also offer a mediation service which can help to fix the issue, make you or someone else feel safe and support you or someone. For some of our Customers Community Safety is one of the most important issues affecting the enjoyment of their home and surroundings. It can seriously damage quality of life and have a negative impact on neighbourhoods and Communities.

We take our obligations to tackle anti-social behaviour seriously where it affects the sustainability of our Communities. However, PfP recognise that other agencies have duties and powers that may be more appropriate to lead on some matters, such as the Police and Local Authority Environmental Health Teams and we will work closely with these agencies.

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There will be no change in how we manage reports of ASB.

### You will be able to report ASB by:

- By calling the Customer Contact Centre
- On the PfP website and Customer Portal
- In person to your Community Housing Manager
- By email.

	OFIGINHOUSING Established 1924	Places for People	What this means for you
Tenancy support	If you find yourself facing money problems, our Financial Support Team is here to help.  Our free service can support you to:  • get all the benefits that you are entitled to  • help you manage your rent and other bills  • budget your money  • access better deals  • review your debt options.  You can make an appointment by visiting www. originhousing.org.uk  The Support Hub - this service is designed for residents who may be experiencing issues with their mental health or hoarding. The Support Hub offers a range of support, from emergency support (a resident in crisis) to a series of regular check-in calls.	PfP through Places Impact has a national offer of direct services for our Customers. We take a holistic approach to Customer needs. The majority are phone-based services.  Services available to you include:  • Hardship funding  • Money advice  • Early tenancy money advice (up to 6 months for a new tenancy)  • Energy advice  • Furniture assistance  • Digital empowerment  • Employability, skills and training  • Wellbeing.  Referrals are made by PfP Colleagues for Customers, or you can self-refer by phoning our Customer Contact Centre.	You will have a range of support available to meet your needs should you require it.  Including:  • Money advice  • Benefit advice  • Energy advice  • Furniture assistance  • Digital empowerment  • Employability, skills and training  • Wellbeing.  Contact details will be in your Welcome Pack.  The Support Hub will no longer exist, however Community Housing Managers and other Colleagues in PfP will be able to help you access the support services you need.

#### Origin Housing Places for People What this means for you Pets Customers will need to Households in most properties Customers need to get have implied permission to keep get permission from PfP in permission from us in writing the following pets; up to one if they want to have any writing if they want to have dog (proportionately sized to new pets in their home. any **new** pets in their home. match property size), two cats, Whether or not you are and a reasonable number of given permission to keep a small birds fish hamsters etc. **new** pet will depend on the Residents may have type of home you rent. assistance dogs. PfP won't refuse permission for You are responsible for making you to keep a pet unreasonably. sure your pet does not cause a nuisance to others. You will have access to advice **Transfers** If you decide to move home, You can apply for a transfer or and moves we can help you by: mutual exchange if you have and a range of housing options. managed your home in line Including HomeSwapper Setting you up on the with your agreement, have for mutual exchange. mutual exchange website no outstanding rent arrears HomeSwapper If it is no longer safe for you to or an agreement for a precontinue living in your home, existing payment plan, and your Shared ownership for example, because you home is in good condition. have experienced domestic Intermediate rent If you would like to swap your abuse or harassment, severe home with another council or overcrowding or for some Retirement home housing association tenant medical reasons we will try and after 12 months of your tenancy Supported housing find you a new temporary or starting you can. You can use permanent home as quickly as Supporting you to applying homeswapper.co.uk to find a possible and by management to vour local council's home that meets your needs. transfer if applicable. housing register. We would need you and all PfP do not keep a transfer Some of our existing residents parties to complete their own list of Customers looking to may find themselves in PfP application form as we move home and Customers circumstances where their are responsible for finding their do not accept HomeSwapper current home no longer meets application forms. own mutual exchange or new their housing needs. We will home. Origin residents may If it is no longer safe for you to work with our residents to need to register with their Local continue living in your home. support them to explore their Authority if they wish to move. for example, because you have housing options and where experienced domestic abuse or If you are unsure your Community appropriate register them on Housing Manager will be able our internal transfer list. harassment, severe overcrowding or for some medical reasons to guide you on your options. We actively work with our local we will try and find you a new authority partners to support Origin will be aligning to the temporary or permanent PfP transfer policy before the resident to apply to the home as quickly as possible the proposed Transfer of local authority housing register or through a management Engagements in April 2026. and in urgent circumstances transfer if applicable. support them to obtain a priority rating for an urgent move.

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Resident Involvement	Involving residents is really important to us and there are lots of ways you can get involved, including:  • Apply to join our Spotlight Panel  • Online forums to provide your views and receive feedback  • Topic/issue-based consultation in form of focus groups, local meetings or similar  • Estate inspections together with our team.  You can get involved by registering through our website www.originhousing.org.uk	We are passionate about putting people first and involving our Customers at every opportunity. That's why we're creating more ways to get involved and tell us what you think about our services, policies and processes.  There are lots of ways you can get involved with us, including:  • Applying to join our National or Regional Customer Groups.  • Joining our new Customer Community insight panel The Listening Room.  The Listening Room is a safe, confidential space online where you can share your thoughts. You'll be invited to take part in activities, discussion forums and more.  Community Estate Inspections are carried out by Community Housing Managers and Customers are welcome to join.	All current Origin ways of being involved (except for the NCG members) will cease to exist.  You will be able to continue being involved in improving your landlord's service with new ways that you can get involved, such as:  • Applying to join National or Regional Customer Groups.  • Joining PfP's new Customer Community insight panel The Listening Room.  • Community Estate Inspections  The Listening Room is a safe, confidential space online where you can share your thoughts. You'll be invited to take part in activities, discussion forums and more.

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Community initiatives and employment training	We launched a community fund which our residents and community groups can apply for. This fund is to help us deliver projects that positively impact our residents and the communities we work in.  Our Colleagues from across the business will spend at least one day per year with residents.	PfP through Places Impact runs Community and Customer initiatives including:  • Community Investment providing social impact funding to voluntary and community sector organisations who support our Customers e.g. providing funding for local partners to provide employability and skills training.  • Community Connectors who develop local partnerships, provide micro-grants and help social action.  • Working with our suppliers gain extra value such as training and employment, Community refurb projects support and funding  • PfP secure third-party funding to increase what we can do in Communities in partnerships with organisations  Places Foundation, the Group's independent charity makes around £500,000 of charitable donations per year through a series of grant programmes.	Your Community will have an increased range of services and initiatives available to them.

	05:015 <sup>©</sup>	♠ Places	What this means for you
	ORIGIN HOUSING	Places for People	what this means for you
Complaints	We will always try to resolve a dispute as quickly as possible with our residents and recognise that not all residents will wish to follow a formal process and may simply want an issue resolved. We will look to early and local resolution of issues.  If you would like to enter a formal process, this is stage one of our complaints process. This will then be dealt with by our Complaints team.  If you're not happy with the resolution we offer you at this stage, you have the right to ask us to escalate your complaint to stage two.  If we still haven't resolved the complaint to your satisfaction, you can go straight to the Housing Ombudsman.  We are a member of the Housing Ombudsman Service (HOS), an independent body that reviews and investigates complaints when residents remain unhappy with their landlord following the complaint process.  We work closely with the Ombudsman and use the insights from determinations made against us to improve the services we provide to residents.	We know that sometimes things can go wrong and that you may become dissatisfied with our services. Our aim is to ensure we handle your complaint in a prompt, polite and fair way, by working with you to find a resolution as soon as possible. Once we know something has gone wrong, we'll work with you to put it right. If you remain dissatisfied, it's easy to make a complaint.  We've adopted the Housing Ombudsman Complaint Handling Code 2024 and follow this statutory guidance to handle complaints.  We will always try to resolve a dispute as quickly as possible with our Customers and recognise that not all Customers will wish to follow a formal process and may simply want an issue resolved. We will look to early and local resolution of issues.  If you would like to enter a formal process, this is stage one of our complaints process. This will then be dealt with by our Complaints team.  If you're not happy with the resolution we offer you at this stage, you have the right to ask us to escalate your complaint to stage two.  If we still haven't resolved the complaint to your satisfaction, you can go straight to the Housing Ombudsman. We work closely with the Ombudsman and use the insights from any determinations made against us to improve the services we provide to Customers.	You will keep the same level of service if you need to make a complaint.