Social rented housing turnover, registers and lettings

17.1 S	Summary		2
17.2 I r	ntroduction		2
٦	Table 1.	Districts who manage their own housing stock, 2009	3
17.3 D	ata source	s	3
17.4 S	Social Stock	Turnover	3
F	Table 2. Fig 1: So Table 3. Table 4.	Change in social rented housing stock 2001-2008	4 4
17.5 H	lousing nee	eds registers	5
7 F	Table 5. Fig 2: Ν	Households on housing needs registers, 2001-2009umbers of households on needs register 2001-2009 (excluding households seeki	5 ng
17.6 H	lousing nee	eds registers: priority bands	6
	Table 6. Fig 3: So	% of applicants by priority band and by district, March 2009ocial lets (re-lets and new build) as a % of needs registers, 2001-09	7 7
17.7 H	lousing nee	eds registers: number of bedrooms needed	7
	Гable 7. Гable 8.	Households on needs register by number of bedrooms needed, 2009 Percentage of households requiring four or more bedrooms, 2001-2009	
17.8 P	rofile of so	cial tenants	8
F 7	Table 9. Fig 4: H Table 10. Table 11.	Number of CORE records by district, 2008/9	9 9
F	Fig 5: To	Previous tenure by district	. 11
App T	pendix 2: Ho Table 12.	w dwelling stock (social rented and Local Authority), 2001/02 to 2008/09using register by size needed, 2001 to 2009	. 13 . 13
7	Table 13. Table 14. Table 15.	East Cambridgeshire Fenland Huntingdonshire	.13
7	Table 15. Table 16. Table 17.	South CambridgeshireForest Heath	.13
1	Table 18.	St Edmundsbury	.14

Chapter 17. Social rented housing turnover, registers and lettings

17.1 Summary

- Only two of the local authorities in the Cambridge sub-region currently manage their own social rented housing stock – Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire.
- In most districts between 12% and 16% of the total dwelling stock is socially rented.
 The proportion is higher in Cambridge City almost a quarter of properties in the city are social rented.
- Social stock annual turnover is around 5% to 6% each year across the sub-region as a whole. This is similar to the rate of turnover for private stock.
- Around 16% of households on housing registers require a home with three or more bedrooms. This has increased from 14% in 2001.
- For 60% of households who have recently moved into a social rented property the HRP is aged between 19 and 39.
- 43% of households include at least one child. Around half of lets in Cambridge City were to single people.
- A third of social lettings in 2008/9 were to people who were moving from another social rented property.
- The most common reason for leaving the previous home was seeking independence followed by overcrowding.

17.2 Introduction

This report examines social rented housing in the Cambridge sub-region. The first section looks at social stock turnover over a five-year period from 2001 and 2008. The second section looks at housing needs registers and the type of properties sought by size (number of bedrooms). The final section looks at new RSL lettings from April 2007-March 2008, and provides details on household structure, the age of the head of household, previous tenure and reason for leaving the last settled address.

Social housing in this report means properties owned and managed by local authorities (LA) and registered social landlords (RSL). South Cambridgeshire and Cambridge City own their own stock and the other districts have transferred stock to RSLs (see Table 1, below).

Chapter 11, *Dwelling profile and occupation* sets out the dwelling stock overall and numbers of homes in each tenure as at March 2009.

Table 1. Districts who manage their own housing stock, 2009

	LA manage own stock	Date of LSVT	Transfer landlord
Cambridge City	Yes	N/A	
East Cambridgeshire	No	1993	Sanctuary Hereward
Fenland	No	2007	Roddon's
Huntingdonshire	No	2000	Luminus
South Cambridgeshire	Yes	N/A	
Forest Heath	No	2005	Flagship
St Edmundsbury	No	2003	Havebury

17.3 Data sources

Data in this report is taken from a number of different sources. Information on stock turnover and housing needs registers is taken from the Housing Strategy Statistical Appendix (HSSA) which is held on the CLG website¹. Local authorities complete this return for the CLG. It contains information for local authority housing and RSLs. The HSSA form was changed in 2009, so some of the information has not been updated to 31 March 2009. Where this changes affects the SHMA we may have used the 31 March 2008 data to continue to provide the available data even if a little older.

Information on household structure, previous tenure and reasons for leaving previous accommodation is taken from CORE (Continuous Recording)². This report focuses on general needs lettings, but CORE also provides information on supported housing. CORE is funded by the Housing Corporation and DCLG and managed by the Centre for Housing Research at the University of St Andrews. CORE is a mandatory scheme for all RSLs who manage more than 250 homes, but is voluntary for organisations that manage fewer than 250 units.

Choice Based Lettings (CBL) was introduced sub-regionally in Feb 2008 in all districts except Fenland when it was launched in November 2008.

17.4 Social Stock Turnover

Table 2 and Fig 1 show HSSA data to the end of March 2008, as described above.

Table 2. Change in social rented housing stock 2001-2008

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Cambridge City	10,951	11,544	10,862	11,265	11,126	11,896	11,049
East Cambridgeshire	4,510	4,610	4,811	4,478	4,667	5,014	4,914
Fenland	5,006	4,936	4,881	4,974	5,002	5,041	5,196
Huntingdonshire	8,996	8,407	8,435	8,400	8,442	8,503	8,637
South Cambridgeshire	7,210	7,228	7,633	7,563	7,803	8,136	7,932
Forest Heath	3,401	3,313	3,228	3,149	3,184	3,510	3,627
St Edmundsbury	7,236	7,384	7,388	7,400	7,238	7,366	7,393
Sub-Region	47,310	47,422	47,238	47,229	47,462	49,466	48,748

Source: HSSA 2001/2 to 2007/8

¹ http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1501098

² http://www.core.ac.uk/core/hala-annual-reports.html#la

25%
20%
15%
10%
5%
0%

Cantridge Call Relative Feature Feature

Fig 1: Social rented stock as % of all dwellings

Source: HSSA 2007/08

In most districts, between 12% and 16% of properties are socially rented. In Cambridge City, this is significantly higher at 24%. Renting from a social landlord is the second largest tenure across the sub-region after owner occupation as shown in Chapter 11, *Dwelling profile and occupation*.

Table 3 looks solely at social rented stock. Other affordable tenures such as intermediate rented and shared ownership are included in Chapter 11, *Dwelling profile & occupation*, Table 1).

Table 3. Total social lettings (excluding transfers and new build), 2001/02 to 2008/09

	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Cambridge	495	614	657	704	704	239	471	656
East Cambridgeshire	236	207	255	345	241	275	400	212
Fenland	435	490	393	334	448	523	443	322
Huntingdonshire	487	577	517	453	532	407	387	341
South Cambridgeshire	347	309	212	347	237	248	269	349
Forest Heath	160	219	197	46	131	100	258	243
St Edmundsbury	426	256	399	269	370	346	390	241
Sub Region	2,586	2,672	2,630	2,498	2,663	2,138	2,618	2,364

Source: HSSA 2001/2 to 2008/9

Table 4 (below) is used in the calculation of affordable need. It shows the total number of RSL and Local Authority homes which are re-let each year in each district. The table does not include lettings of newly built social rented properties. Figures on lettings to new build are included in Appendix 1.

Transfers within or between RSLs are not included and the number of local authority tenants transferring into RSL properties from 2002/03 onwards is also excluded. No figures are available for tenants transferring from local authority properties to RSLs in 2001/02. Local authority re-lets include all lettings to new local authority tenants, and exclude transfers, mutual exchanges and dwellings let through mobility arrangements. Again, new-build dwelling have been excluded.

Table 4. Social stock net turnover, 2001/02 to 2008/09

	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Cambridge	5%	5%	6%	6%	6%	2%	4%	6%
East Cambridgeshire	5%	4%	5%	8%	5%	5%	8%	4%
Fenland	9%	10%	8%	7%	9%	10%	9%	6%
Huntingdonshire	5%	7%	6%	5%	6%	5%	4%	4%
South Cambridgeshire	5%	4%	3%	5%	3%	3%	3%	4%
Forest Heath	5%	7%	6%	1%	4%	3%	7%	7%
St Edmundsbury	6%	3%	5%	4%	5%	5%	5%	3%
Sub Region	5%	6%	6%	5%	6%	4%	5%	5%

Source: HSSA 2001/2 to 2008/9

The stock turnover is the percentage of social units re-let to new tenants each year, (excluding transfers within the social rented sector). In the sub-region and in most of the districts, net annual stock turnover is around 5-6%. Fenland has the highest turnover at around 8%/year on average. South Cambridgeshire has the lowest turnover at 3%.

17.5 Housing needs registers

Housing needs registers provide evidence of the need for affordable housing, but due to differences in the way local authorities manage lists and variations in the number of residents being aware of the registers and putting their name on them, they are problematic and should not be used as the only way to measure housing need³. However, they do provide some useful comparative data across the housing sub-region.

Table 5. Households on housing needs registers, 2001-2009

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Cambridge City	4,472	2,860	3,218	3,724	4,251	4,743	5,214	5,984	6,897
East Cambridgeshire	1,245	1,400	1,538	1,737	1,477	1,442	1,479	1,603	1,404
Fenland	1,293	1,185	1,248	1,439	2,226	2,032	1,971	1,802	2,481
Huntingdonshire	3,416	2,724	2,910	2,772	2,887	2,425	2,139	2,178	2,178
South Cambridgeshire	1,500	1,733	2,207	2,553	3,538	4,155	4,661	3,626	3,800
Forest Heath	973	979	1,063	1,113	1,221	1,505	1,507	1,230	1,346
St Edmundsbury	2,122	2,230	2,813	3,104	4,118	4,673	4,433	5,088	2,014
Sub-Region	15,021	13,111	14,997	16,442	19,718	20,975	21,404	21,511	20,120

Source: HSSA 2001/2 to 2008/9

In most areas, the numbers on the housing needs registers have risen. This may be due in part to widening the statutory definition of vulnerable households in priority need, which came into effect in 2002 (see Chapter 18, *Homelessness*). There is also some variation in the management of needs registers. For example, Huntingdonshire had a policy review in 2002 and since then has been reviewing housing applicants every year on a rolling programme.

³ SHMA Guidance Annexes, April 2007, CLG.

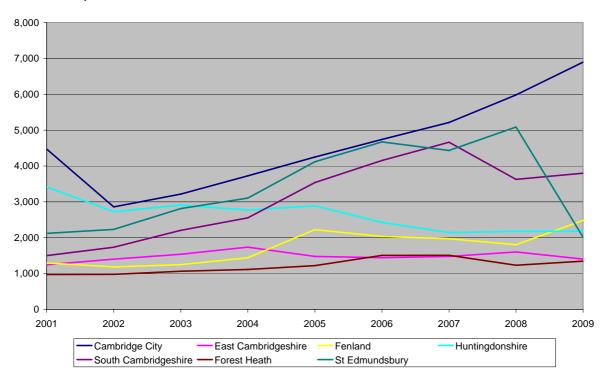


Fig 2: Numbers of households on needs register 2001-2009 (excluding households seeking transfers)

Source: HSSA 2001/2 to 2008/9

In 2005, Huntingdonshire introduced a verification framework into their housing register where applicants were asked to provide identification and details of income and capital savings. Where this showed that applicants could afford a home in the private sector, they were assisted through housing advice into other housing options. In 2002 Cambridge City Council started contacting applicants seeking confirmation that they still needed to be on the list. This accounts for a large drop in the number of households on the register in this year, and a similar process took place in St Edmundsbury in 2008/9, again resulting in a large decrease.

17.6 Housing needs registers: priority bands

As mentioned earlier this chapter, a sub-regional Choice-Based Lettings scheme has been introduced data is available for the first time. Under CBL, people are placed in different priority groups and must actively bid for advertised properties. Because people play an active role in looking for accommodation, it should give a more accurate understanding of housing need. It also reduces the duplication from households applying in more than one district.

Households are placed in bands showing priority based on current housing need, with Band A being the most urgent and Band D being the lowest priority band.⁴ Table 6 shows the breakdown by band for each district in 2009.

⁴ For further information on Bands, please see http://www.home-link.org.uk/scheme3.aspx

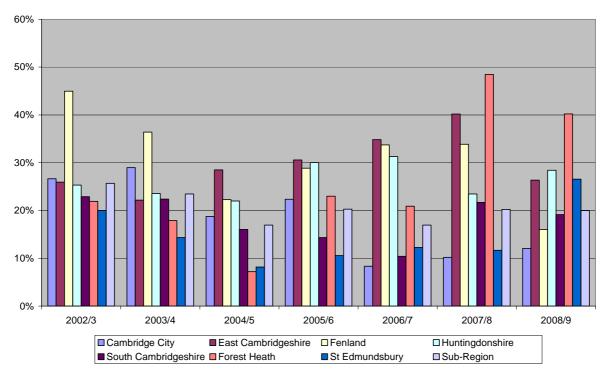
Table 6. % of applicants by priority band and by district, March 2009

	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D
Cambridge	4%	7%	51%	37%
East Cambridgeshire	2%	8%	54%	36%
Fenland	2%	8%	45%	46%
Huntingdonshire	4%	11%	48%	37%
South Cambridgeshire	4%	6%	45%	45%
Forest Heath	1%	6%	56%	37%
St Edmundsbury	4%	8%	47%	42%
Sub-Region	3%	8%	49%	40%

Source: Locata, 2009

In the sub-region as a whole, 60% of applicants on the housing needs register are in Bands A to C.

Fig 3: Social lets (re-lets and new build) as a % of needs registers, 2001-09



Source: HSSA 2002/ to 2008/9

17.7 Housing needs registers: number of bedrooms needed

The HSSA also provides data on the size of properties (by number of bedrooms) required by those on the housing needs register, as seen in Tables 7 and 8. The largest requirement across all districts is from smaller households (one or two bedrooms). More than half the register in Cambridge City, Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury is for one bedroom properties. In South Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire there are more households in need of a two bedroom property. Huntingdonshire also has the largest proportion of households in need of properties with four or more bedrooms, followed by East Cambridgeshire. In the sub-region as a whole, 16% of need is for properties with at least three bedrooms. However demand for larger properties is increasing in most districts (see Table 8). For further historical information on property size requirement, see Chapter 29, Future sizes of homes.

Table 7. Households on needs register by number of bedrooms needed, 2009

	1 bed	2 beds	3 beds	4 or more beds	Unspecified	Total
Number						
Cambridge City	4,519	1,527	652	199	0	6,897
East Cambridgeshire	666	433	169	89	47	1,404
Fenland	1,132	844	404	101	0	2,481
Huntingdonshire	1,200	1,258	378	241	190	3,267
South Cambridgeshire	1,206	1,891	583	120	0	3,800
Forest Heath	856	297	124	32	37	1,346
St Edmundsbury	2,896	1,432	618	107	41	5,094
Sub-Region	12,475	7,682	2,928	889	315	24,289
%						
Cambridge City	66%	22%	9%	3%	0%	100%
East Cambridgeshire	47%	31%	12%	6%	3%	100%
Fenland	46%	34%	16%	4%	0%	100%
Huntingdonshire	37%	39%	12%	7%	6%	100%
South Cambridgeshire	32%	50%	15%	3%	0%	100%
Forest Heath	64%	22%	9%	2%	3%	100%
St Edmundsbury	57%	28%	12%	2%	1%	100%
Sub-Region	51%	32%	12%	4%	1%	100%

Source: HSSA 2008/9

The proportionately lower numbers of households in need of larger homes registering may be due to low expectations of being housed in an appropriately sized property. If people feel that their chances are low, they may try to solve their housing problems by other means.

Table 8. Percentage of households requiring four or more bedrooms, 2001-2009

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Cambridge City	0.9%	1.3%	1.2%	1.3%	1.2%	1.3%	1.5%	3.0%	2.9%
East Cambridgeshire	1.2%	1.5%	1.3%	1.7%	1.9%	3.0%	5.4%	5.3%	6.3%
Fenland	1.8%	2.4%	1.9%	2.0%	1.0%	1.0%	2.8%	3.3%	4.1%
Huntingdonshire	2.7%	3.2%	3.0%	6.2%	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%	7.2%	7.4%
South Cambridgeshire	1.1%	1.3%	1.2%	2.0%	1.6%	2.0%	2.3%	2.5%	3.2%
Forest Heath	2.6%	4.3%	2.6%	3.2%	4.5%	3.3%	4.3%	3.2%	2.4%
St Edmundsbury	0.6%	0.8%	1.1%	3.5%		3.4%	3.0%	2.2%	2.1%
Sub-Region	1.5%	1.9%	1.7%	2.9%	2.4%	2.6%	3.0%	3.3%	3.7%

Source: HSSA 2001/2 to 2008/9

17.8 Profile of social tenants

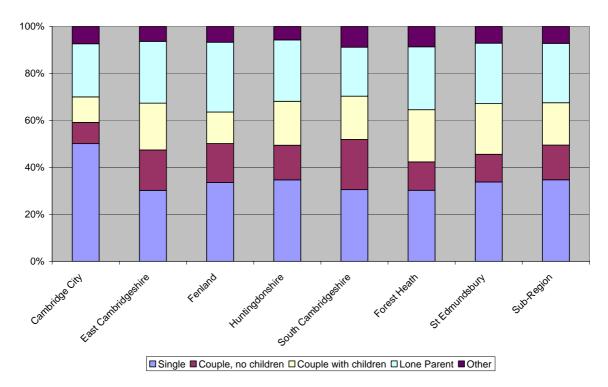
This section looks at data from CORE 2008/9 and gives a profile of households who have moved into social stock in the past year. CORE is a mandatory scheme for all RSLs who manage more than 250 homes, but is voluntary for organisations that manage fewer than 250 units, so does not include every letting in the sub-region however it is useful information for a general profile of recent movers. In 2008/9 there were 2,783 records for tenants in the sub-region as a whole as shown in Table 9.

Table 9. Number of CORE records by district, 2008/9

	Number of CORE records
Cambridge City	367
East Cambridgeshire	331
Fenland	313
Huntingdonshire	562
South Cambridgeshire	455
Forest Heath	347
St Edmundsbury	408
Sub-Region	2,783

Source: CORE 2008/9

Fig 4: Household structure of new lets by district



Source: CORE 2008/9

In the sub-region as a whole, 43% of households included children. Cambridge City let a higher proportion of properties to single people than other districts in the sub-region – half of all new lets in 2008/9 in Cambridge were to single person households.

Table 10. Age of household reference person, new lets, by district

	Cambridge	East	Fenland	Huntingdonshire	South	Forest	St	Sub-
	City	Cambs			Cambs	Heath	Edmundsbury	Region
16-18	3%	2%	4%	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%
19-24	22%	26%	19%	26%	18%	23%	24%	23%
25-29	17%	18%	14%	12%	12%	15%	15%	14%
30-34	11%	10%	12%	9%	10%	14%	12%	11%
35-39	12%	13%	9%	13%	16%	12%	11%	12%
40-44	8%	9%	12%	9%	11%	11%	11%	10%

	Cambridge City	East Cambs	Fenland	Huntingdonshire	South Cambs	Forest Heath	St Edmundsbury	Sub- Region
45-49	7%	4%	4%	6%	7%	8%	7%	6%
50-54	5%	4%	4%	5%	5%	3%	2%	4%
55-59	7%	3%	7%	5%	6%	5%	5%	5%
60-64	4%	3%	5%	4%	6%	3%	3%	4%
65-69	2%	3%	4%	3%	3%	1%	3%	3%
70+	2%	5%	5%	4%	4%	1%	3%	3%
Total	365	329	313	557	451	346	407	2,768

Source: CORE 2008/9

In the sub-region as a whole, more than half of lets were to households where the household reference was aged 34 or less. This was slightly higher in East Cambridgeshire (56%) and Forest Heath (55%). Fenland and South Cambridgeshire had the highest proportion of lets to people aged 60+ (14% and 13% respectively).

Table 11. Previous tenure by district

	Cambridge City	East Cambs	Fenland	Huntingdonshire	South Cambs	Forest Heath	St Edmundsbury	Sub- Region
Social tenant	32%	30%	29%	29%	33%	36%	26%	31%
Living with family/ friends	21%	25%	22%	21%	25%	25%	26%	24%
Private tenant	15%	23%	21%	16%	20%	15%	20%	18%
Temporary accommodation	14%	12%	14%	21%	16%	14%	7%	15%
Supported housing	7%	3%	1%	2%	1%	2%	13%	4%
Owner occupier	2%	2%	3%	3%	2%	4%	4%	3%
Mobile/ caravan	0.3%	2%	4%	2%	2%	1%	0.5%	1%
Rough sleeping	0.3%	0%	2%	2%	0.2%	1%	1%	1%
Long-stay institutions e.g. prison, hospital, children's home etc.	1%	0%	2%	1%	0.2%	0.3%	1%	1%
Other	8%	3%	1%	3%	1%	2%	2%	3%
Total	367	331	313	562	455	347	408	2,783

Source: CORE 2008/9

Nearly a third of lettings were to existing tenants transferring to other properties. Around a quarter of households were previously living with family or friends. There was also a relatively high proportion of households moving from privately rented properties into social rented homes.

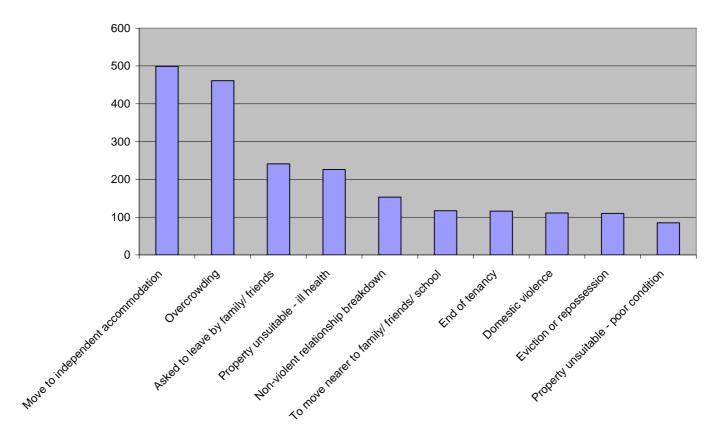


Fig 5: Top ten reasons for leaving previous accommodation

Source: CORE 2008/9

The most common reason for leaving previous home was moving to independent accommodation (this is consistent with the high proportion of people previously living with family or friends. Overcrowding was the second most common reason for leaving – in the sub-region as a whole, there were 461 households moving from overcrowded accommodation – compared to just 32 who were moving due to under-occupation.

Appendix 1: New dwelling stock (social rented and Local Authority), 2001/02 to 2008/09

		2001/2	2002/3	2003/4	2004/5	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	
		2001/2	2002/3	2003/4	2004/5	2005/6	2006/7	2007/6	2000/9	
Cambridge	RSL - rented	104	81	187	32	144	81	42	77	
	Local Authority	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
East Cambridgeshire	RSL - rented	44	96	65	38	100	106	122	79	
	Local Authority	LSVT								
Fenland	RSL - rented	65	34	63	77	63	70	77	38	
	Local Authority	0	0	0	0	0		LSVT		
Huntingdonshire	RSL - rented	128	80	68	91	98	131	62	139	
	Local Authority				LSV	Т				
South Cambridgeshire	RSL - rented	74	86	167	94	176	114	253	184	
	Local Authority	0	2	7	2	0	0	0	0	
Forest Heath	RSL - rented	39	5	0	19	80	73	169	149	
	Local Authority	0	0	0	0	LSVT				
St Edmundsbury	RSL - rented	70	153	23	34	62	99	102	147	
	Local Authority					LSVT				

Source: HSSA 2001/2 to 2008/9

Version 3.0

Appendix 2: Housing register by size needed, 2001 to 2009

Table 12. Cambridge

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
1 bedroom	92%	91%	92%	92%	73%	71%	70%	65%	66%
2 bedroom	9270	9170	92 /0	<i>32 /</i> 0	18%	20%	21%	22%	22%
3 bedroom	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	8%	10%	9%
4 or more	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	3%	3%
Unspecified	0%	0.1%	0.1%	0%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0%

Table 13. East Cambridgeshire

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
1 bedroom	88%	84%	85%	82%	58%	54%	56%	52%	47%
2 bedroom	00%	04 /0	05/6	02 /0	25%	28%	27%	29%	31%
3 bedroom	11%	15%	13%	16%	14%	15%	12%	13%	12%
4 or more	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%	3%	5%	5%	6%
Unspecified	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	3%

Table 14. Fenland

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
1 bedroom	82%	81%	82%	84%	51%	52%	49%	47%	46%
2 bedroom	02%	01%	02 /0	04 /0	32%	31%	31%	34%	34%
3 bedroom	16%	17%	16%	14%	16%	16%	17%	15%	16%
4 or more	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	3%	3%	4%
Unspecified	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Table 15. Huntingdonshire

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
1 bedroom	050/	85%	85%	84%	62%	61%	60%	38%	37%
2 bedroom	85%	00%	00/0	04 /0	22%	23%	23%	42%	39%
3 bedroom	12%	12%	12%	10%	10%	10%	11%	13%	12%
4 or more	3%	3%	3%	6%	6%	6%	6%	7%	7%
Unspecified	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%

Table 16. South Cambridgeshire

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
1 bedroom	85%	83%	85%	83%	63%	33%	32%	32%	32%
2 bedroom	65%	03 /0	05/6	0376	20%	49%	49%	50%	50%
3 bedroom	14%	15%	14%	15%	15%	16%	16%	16%	15%
4 or more	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	3%
Unspecified	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Table 17. Forest Heath

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
1 bedroom	710/	88%	89%	90%	62%	71%	71%	63%	64%
2 bedroom	71%	00%	09/0	30 /0	24%	16%	15%	21%	22%
3 bedroom	27%	8%	9%	7%	10%	8%	9%	9%	9%
4 or more	3%	4%	3%	3%	5%	3%	4%	3%	2%
Unspecified	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	3%	3%

Table 18. St Edmundsbury

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
1 bedroom	84%	84%	83%	78%		49%	44%	57%	57%
2 bedroom	04%	04 /0	0376	1070		32%	37%	24%	28%
3 bedroom	15%	15%	15%	19%	No data	15%	16%	17%	12%
4 or more	1%	1%	1%	3%		3%	3%	2%	2%
Unspecified	0%	0%	1%	0%		0%	0%	0%	1%

Source: HSSA 2001/2 to 2008/9