

While we're writing to you...

## Why is it important for Island residents to register on HomeFinder?

Island HomeFinder is the only way to get onto the Island's social housing list, but isn't just for this kind of accommodation. It is for anyone looking for more affordable housing options and, as well as social rented properties, it also advertises:

- Affordable/Intermediate rented
- Discounted sale
- Part buy/part rent (shared ownership)
- HomeBuy (shared equity)

This would include many of the houses in new local developments across the Island built by registered social or private landlords. If you aren't on HomeFinder, you won't be able to apply for these properties.

*There are many people out there who may feel aggrieved that they haven't been able to access affordable accommodation which has been built on their doorstep, but may have been able to if they were registered on HomeFinder.*

There are some straightforward qualifying criteria which are laid out on the HomeFinder website: [islandhomefinder.org.uk](http://islandhomefinder.org.uk). A local connection is the key, and you will be able to register if:

- You/your partner or close relatives (parent, sibling or adult child) have lived on the Island for 5 years; or
- You/your partner have worked on the Island for 2 years.

There are also some other detailed criteria for those at risk; please look at the detailed information on the HomeFinder website.

Registering on HomeFinder is a relatively straightforward online process. You will get a unique number which you will use when you log in and will either need to bid every week on properties you are interested in or set up an auto-bid for the specific kind(s) of properties you are interested in and in particular areas.

For more details, see the HomeFinder website – [islandhomefinder.org.uk](http://islandhomefinder.org.uk) – or contact the Council's Housing Team on [housing@iow.gov.uk](mailto:housing@iow.gov.uk) or (01983) 823040.

# Housing Needs Survey



YARMOUTH  
Town Council

## What is it and why should I complete it?

It is a survey of housing need in our Town and Parish, commissioned by Yarmouth Town Council, as part of the work to create a neighbourhood plan for Yarmouth and Thorley. A nationwide lack of suitable, affordable housing in rural communities has been a serious problem for many years. House prices in the Yarmouth and Thorley neighbourhood have outstripped average incomes by a large margin. We'd like you to complete this national-standard survey, to give us up-to-date and objective evidence of what housing our Town and Parish needs.

## What will it be used for?

The last housing needs survey was carried out in 2014-2015, so we are updating the survey to find out what homes local people need in 2025 and beyond. The results will help to guide the Town Council when responding to planning applications and help to shape local developments.

## Who is this for?

Anyone who will need alternative housing in the next **five (5) years** and either:

- already lives in the Parish; or
- wants to live in the Parish and has a local connection to it, past or present (including being from the Parish, having close family connections, caring for someone in the Parish or working here).

The Parish includes Yarmouth Town, Thorley, Hill Place Lane and Tapnell. A map of the Parish Boundaries can be found overleaf, or at the survey link below.

Some examples of needing alternative housing are:

- you want to downsize,
- you are currently living at home with parents and want your own home,
- you are in temporary accommodation,
- you'd like to buy your own home but cannot afford open market prices,
- you want to move to the Parish as you work there.

A separate form should be completed by each group of people (e.g. family, single person, couple) in need of alternative housing.

## How can I complete it?

Paper copies are available to pick up / drop off at: West Wight Sports Centre, Freshwater Library, CHOYD, The Wheatsheaf Inn (Yarmouth) or the Riverside Centre in Newport. **Surveys are available from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025.**

Available Online at: <https://form.jotform.com/250013066236344>

## When do I have to return it by?

**Surveys must be returned by Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2025.**

Thank you for participating in this survey.

Yarmouth Town Council



Scan me to fill in the online survey, and for a link to the parish boundaries map

# Yarmouth Parish Boundaries

