

1. Civica

This site looks almost identical to the current Homefinder Somerset website. Is it the same site? While it's familiar to current users, surely they are proposing a change of website for a reason?

- Standard lengthy registration form - would struggle to complete on mobile device.
- Property search - very much the same as on the current Homefinder website

I wasn't able to login as a registered user to test the features as the test login details provided in the form didn't work on Homefinder Somerset site or the Test Hampshire Homechoice site.

2. Home Connections

This site has a simple navigation bar at the top of the homepage. You can easily click through to see all of the property adverts. There is also a nice clear login button but I feel there should be a clear registration button at the top too for new applicants.

I'm not sure the huge image is necessary on the homepage as on a laptop, you have to actually scroll down to see the 'apply here' link where you can register. Surely this should be on the main navigation bar?

- The property adverts are clear and it's easy to find out the information you need.
- Information on the pre-registration page is lengthy - it needs bullet pointing to make it easier & quicker to read.
- 10 page registration form is quite daunting, even if there aren't many questions on each page. Telling people they have 10 pages to go through could be off-putting.
- Registered user area is simple and easy to navigate to current bids, preferences, see all properties, user messages etc.

3. Huume

This homepage looks like a very basic info site. I don't think there is anything wrong with that. It doesn't need to be fancy, just easy to navigate. However, some people may think it looks dated.

- Easy navigation with 3 main buttons - login, register, available properties - exactly what the user needs to see.
- My account area is very easy to navigate.
- Property adverts are clear & it's easy to get the info you need quickly.
- New registrations are required to complete a profile and then have to find the housing register section & complete - perhaps not very straightforward.
- 9 page registration form / sections - perhaps a little lengthy.

4. Locata

This site has an attractive and engaging homepage with a clear layout. It is easy to navigate to search for homes, sign in and register as a new user. I'm not overly keen on the pop-up style boxes for the home advert information, however all of the property details are laid out clearly and it's easy to look through the pictures.

The website and registration form reminds me of the HMRC / gov.uk website so users may already feel familiar with it. Straightforward & user-friendly.

5. MRI

An engaging homepage with 4 boxes with links to important sections. The site is easy to navigate and find the registration section. It also works well on mobile.

The registration form has multiple pages but it's relatively easy to fill in as the majority of questions had either drop down boxes or check boxes for speed.

The my account section was easy & simple to navigate.

The home adverts also had a simple layout with easy-to-digest info & bid button.