

Pathway Plan for Care Leavers

It is recognised that leaving care is a critical transition for young people and supporting them through this into adulthood is a major responsibility for both Children Services and Housing Services.

The County wide Surrey Joint Housing Protocol for Care Leavers outlines the service offered by Children Services and Housing Services to Care Leavers to support them into safe and suitable accommodation.

Housing Services attend quarterly meetings with the Looked After Children Team and Care Leavers Team to identify young people who may need help with housing in the future.

The Personal Advisors (PA) will ensure that the young person is on the Housing Needs Register and that an independent living assessment has been completed when they are ready to move on.

At least 6 months prior to care leavers 18th birthday Children Services will contact Housing Services to organise a Housing Options assessment in line with Joint Protocol.

If the young person has support needs and little or no independent living skills, it is likely that they will be referred to supported accommodation specifically for young people to acquire the skills required to live in independent accommodation in the future

As part of this process, we aim to ensure a smooth transition, from care into either private rent tenancies, supported accommodation or social housing tenancies and reduce the risk of homelessness when the young person leaves care.

Contact Details

Housing Services

01372 732000 / housing@epsom-ewell.gov.uk

Duty to Refer dutytorefer@epsom-ewell.gov.uk

ALERT - <https://live.housingjigsaw.co.uk/alert/duty-to-refer>

C-SPA Child Protection Consultation Line

Advice and support to professionals to ensure they are directed to the most appropriate service. Availability: 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday - 0300 470 9100 option 3

cspa@surreycc.gov.uk

<https://surreyscb.procedures.org.uk/>

Pathway Plan for Care Leavers

Referral & Assessments

Outcomes

Activities

Surrey Joint Housing Protocol for Care Leavers

Quarterly meetings with the Looked After Children Team and Care Leavers Team to identify young people who may need help with housing in the future.

Housing Needs Register application to be completed from aged 16 onwards.

Independent living assessment completed by PA when young person is ready to move on.

At least 6 months prior to care leavers 18th birthday Children Services will contact Housing Services to organise a Housing Options assessment in line with Joint Protocol.

Housing Options Assessment /Homelessness Application

Housing Options Officer will undertake a full housing options assessment of the person's housing and support needs. A personalised housing plan will then be drawn up confirming any advice given, how the Council will assist and what the customer may need to do to help themselves. Housing Services will complete their homeless investigations as required.

Aged 16 onwards young person to be supported to complete Housing Needs Register application to be considered for social housing in the future.

Social Housing tenancy if young person is able to live independently

Accommodation with family or friends

Interim Accommodation for young person if they become homeless on leaving care.

Help to find private rented accommodation with the Council's Rent Deposit Scheme.

Specialised young person supported accommodated Defoe Court, Wayside YMCA

- Referrals to:
- Hostels
 - Supported housing
 - Amber Project

Parashoot Floating Support Service

Who is Involved

- Young person
- Children Services/ Look After Team/ Leaving Care Team
- Duty to Refer/ALERT

- Housing Options Team/ Housing Needs Team
- Children Services/ Look After Team/ Leaving Care Team
- Young Person

- Housing Options Team
- Housing Needs Team
- Rent Deposit Officer
- Social housing providers
- Supported housing providers
- Parashoot
- Young Person
- Family