

Pathway Plan for Homeless 16 & 17-year-olds

County Council and Housing Options Teams have a County wide working protocol to outline the way both services should work together to address homelessness and housing need of 16 & 17-year-olds in order to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.

Children's Services Preventing Homelessness in Surrey – Joint Protocol for 16 and 17 year-olds details how Children's Services and Housing Needs work with children and young people in relation to their duties under Part 3 of the Children Act 1989 and Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996.

<https://proceduresonline.com/trixcms2/media/11834/joint-housing-protocol-for-16-and-17-year-olds-final-jan-2022.pdf>

The protocol sets out:

- The joint working arrangements of Children's Services and housing authorities in Surrey.
- The approach that each agency will take, and how they will cooperate when meeting their legal obligations.
- Specific actions that must be taken in relation to 16 & 17-year-olds who may be homeless or at risk of homelessness.
- What a professional should do if they have concerns about non-compliance with the agreed arrangements set out in this protocol.
- The mechanism by which working practices will be reviewed and improved.

This Pathway plan is limited to the arrangements for a direct, first approach by the 16/17-year-old, to E&EBC only.

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

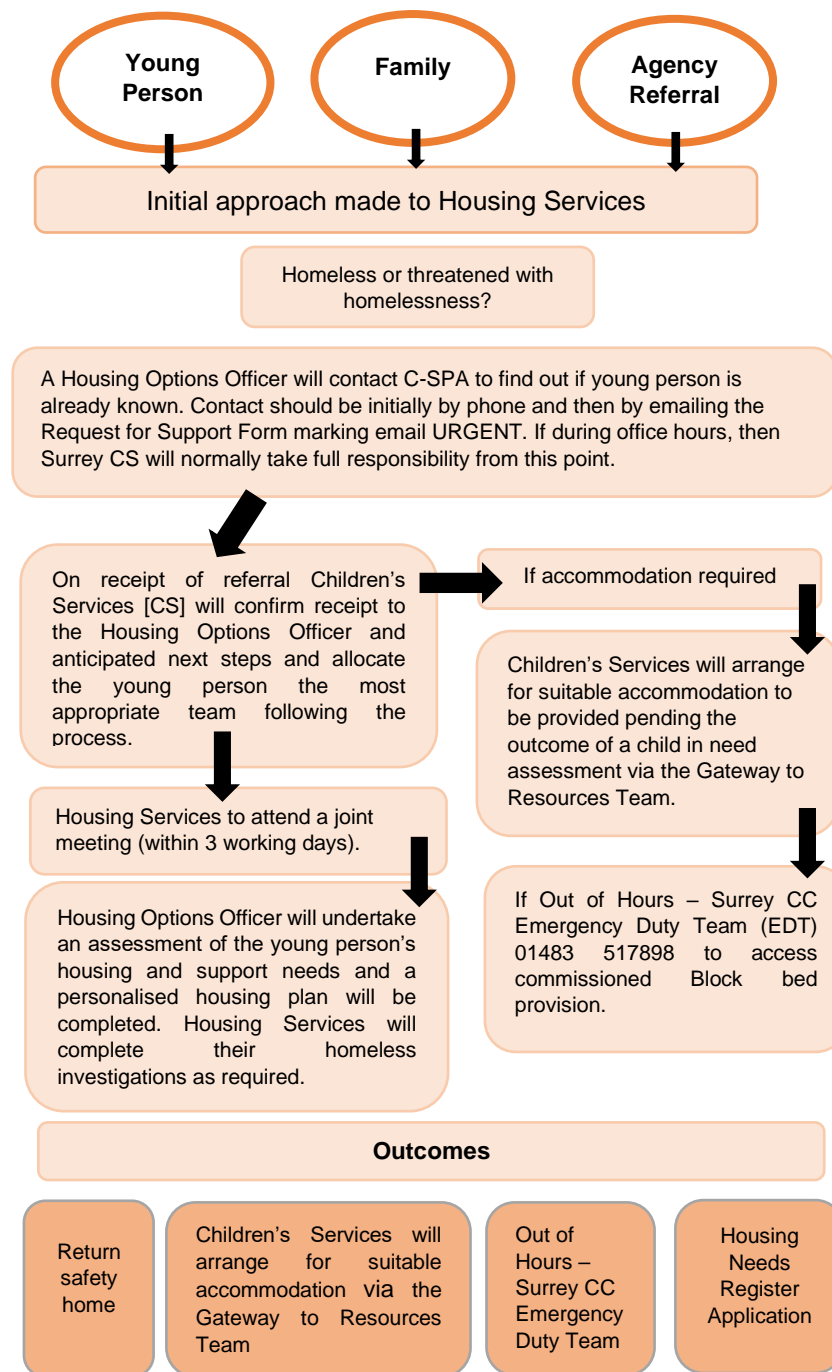
Advice and support to professionals to ensure they are directed to the most appropriate service. Availability: 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday - 0300 470 9100 option 3

cspa@surreycc.gov.uk

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

Out of Hours - Surrey County Council Emergency Duty Team (EDT) 01483 517898

edt.ssd@surreycc.gov.uk



Pathway Plan for Homeless 16 & 17-year-olds

	Referral	Assessments	Outcomes	
Activities	<p>A 16 or 17-year-old who is homeless or at risk of homelessness may initially approach Children’s Services Single Point of Access (“C-SPA”), or a Council’s housing department</p> <p>They may self-refer, be referred through another statutory service/ advice agency or by family</p> <p>If the initial approach to Housing Services is made by professionals. They will be advised to complete a Request for Support form and email to cspa@surreycc.gov.uk marked URGENT if young person already homeless or imminently homeless</p>	<p>A Housing Options Officer will contact C-SPA to find out if young person is already known. Contact should be initially by phone and then by emailing the Request for Support Form marking email URGENT. If during office hours, then Surrey CS will normally take full responsibility from this point.</p> <p>On receipt of referral Children’s Services [CS] will confirm receipt to the Housing Options Officer and anticipated next steps and allocate the young person the most appropriate team following the process</p> <p>Coram Voice leaflet will be given to young person.</p> <p>Where there is an imminent threat of homelessness or if the young person is actually homeless Children’s Services will arrange for suitable accommodation to be provided pending the outcome of a child in need assessment via the Gateway to Resources Team.</p> <p>Housing Services to attend a joint meeting (within 3 working days).</p>	<p>Surrey Children Services will let Housing Services know the outcome of their Assessment and arrangements for Housing Options Assessment will be made in line with Joint Protocol.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Housing Options Assessment /Homelessness Application</p> <p>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.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Return safety home</p> <p>If young person is homeless Children’s Services will arrange for suitable accommodation to be provided pending the outcome of a child in need assessment via the Gateway to Resources Team.</p> <p>Out of Hours – Surrey CC Emergency Duty Team (EDT) 01483 517898 to access commissioned Block bed provision.</p> <p>If young person falls under Section 20 Surrey CS will normally take full responsibility for providing accommodation from this point on and the Gateway to Resources Team will explore the available options and secure an appropriate placement.</p> <p>Young person to be supported to complete Housing Needs Register application to be considered for social housing in the future.</p>
Who is Involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young person • Children’s Services Single Point of Access (“C-SPA”) • Children Services • Duty to Refer/ALERT • Family Support Teams • Early Help • Schools • YOS • Family 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children’s Services Single Point of Access (“C-SPA”) • Children Services • Gateway to Resources Team • Housing Options Team • Young Person • Family 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children’s Services Single Point of Access (“C-SPA”) • Children Services • Gateway to Resources Team • EDT • Housing Options Team • Housing Needs Team • Young Person • Family 	