

Housing Pathway - Substance Misuse

Substance misuse can be a cause of homelessness; however, it could also be a result of homelessness. A full assessment of housing and support needs would be completed and a personal housing plan created giving the customer advice on finding alternative accommodation or remaining in their home. Housing Advice Teams work in partnership with substance misuse support agencies to prevent and relieve homelessness.

Referral from: GP, Shared Care, Hospital, Swanswell etc

Agency Referral

Self Referral

Local Authority Housing Advice Teams can give advice and assistance on a range of housing and support options and aim to prevent homelessness wherever possible;

Remaining in their Home

Alternative Accommodation

Emergency Homeless

If you are at risk of homelessness the local authority will explore options such as being able to stay in your current home, assistance with arrears, applying for Housing Benefit and discretionary housing payments.

If it is safe and suitable to do so, it is better to remain where you are as demand for social housing is very high and it can often be hard to access private rented accommodation.

Social Rented Housing

To be eligible for Home Choice Plus and Redditch Home Choice you will need to have a local connection. There is a long wait for social housing due to high demand and low availability. The enhanced housing options wizard on the HC+ website will give an indication of whether social housing is a relevant/realistic option

Private Rented Housing

It is sensible to look at the private rented sector as this can often resolve a housing need quicker than the socially rented can. Many landlords require a deposit and rent in advance; amounts can differ from landlord to landlord. Search for properties by contacting local letting agents, looking in local papers and online. Many local authorities can help with rent deposits. Please contact the Councils Private Sector Liaison officer .

Supported Housing

Referrals can be made for other types of accommodation such as Hostels or to No Second Night Out.

- Compton Valley House, Kidderminster
- CHG Shared Houses
- Heenans Court, St Pauls and the YMCA at Worcester

Referrals can also be made if you are not in any form of treatment for your substance use to Swanswell.

Rehab – is available but resources are limited. Those who own their own home may have to pay the costs of this if they are not eligible for Housing Benefit.

Homelessness – If you are homeless or threatened with homelessness, contact your local housing authority. They will work with you to prevent your homelessness and assess your accommodation and support needs. They can advise on/provide emergency accommodation and make referrals to specialist support services and social care.

For single people/childless couples, a referral may be made to the Hopes Service.

The Council work with Compton Valley House to provide crisis rooms, with Maggs Day Centre, in the coldest days of the year, to meet the requirements of the Severe Winter Emergency Protocol and with the YMCA to meet No Second Night Out obligations.

Local Authority Housing Options Teams – housing advice and assistance

Wychavon District Council

www.wychavon.gov.uk

Malvern Hills District Council

www.malvern hills.gov.uk

Bromsgrove District Council

www.bromsgrove.gov.uk

Redditch Borough Council

www.redditchbc.gov.uk

Worcester City Council

www.worcester.gov.uk

Wyre Forest District Council

www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk

UK Narcotics Anonymous is a non-profit support network for men and women who have experienced major drug problems. Meetings are held at various times and venues all over Worcestershire.

Website: <http://ukna.org>

Alcohol Concerns

Website: www.alcoholconcern.org.uk/

Citizens Advice Bureaux is an independent organisation offering free advice and assistance in many areas including housing and homelessness.

Website: www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Alcoholics Anonymous people share their experience, strength and hope, and help each other recover from alcoholism. Meetings are held at various times and venues all over Worcestershire.

Website: www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk

FRANK helps you find out everything you might want to know about drugs.

Website: www.talktofrank.com

Shelter is a national charity that provides specific advice on housing and homelessness.

Tel: 0808 800 444

Website: www.shelter.org.uk

Drug Addicts Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who have recovered from drug addiction by following twelve steps.

Website: www.drugaddictsanonymous.org.uk

Swanswell national drug and alcohol service working with people at various stages of recovery.

Telephone: 0300 303 8200

Website: www.swanswell.org

Email: worcsadmin@swanswell.org

Al-Anon Family Groups provide support to anyone whose life is, or has been, affected by someone else's drinking, this is regardless of whether that person's still drinking or not.

Website: www.al-anonuk.org.uk

Adfam work to improve the quality of life for families affected by drug and alcohol use.

Website: www.adfam.org.uk