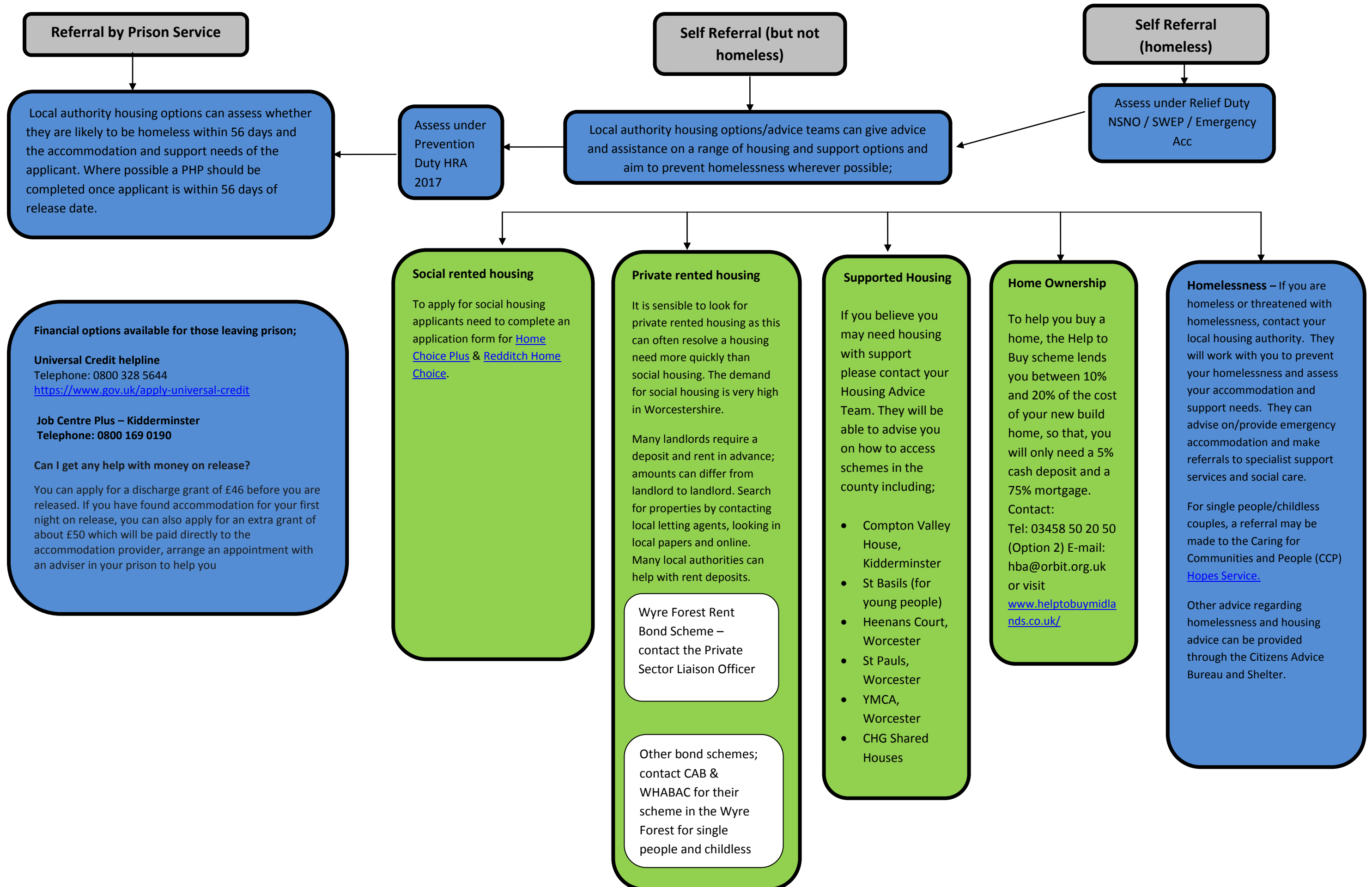


# Housing Pathway Prison Leavers



**Referral by Prison Service**

Local authority housing options can assess whether they are likely to be homeless within 56 days and the accommodation and support needs of the applicant. Where possible a PHP should be completed once applicant is within 56 days of release date.

**Self Referral (but not homeless)**

Local authority housing options/advice teams can give advice and assistance on a range of housing and support options and aim to prevent homelessness wherever possible;

**Self Referral (homeless)**

Assess under Relief Duty NSNO / SWEP / Emergency Acc

Assess under Prevention Duty HRA 2017

## Social rented housing

To apply for social housing applicants need to complete an application form for [Home Choice Plus](#) & [Redditch Home Choice](#).

## Private rented housing

It is sensible to look for private rented housing as this can often resolve a housing need more quickly than social housing. The demand for social housing is very high in Worcestershire.

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.

Wyre Forest Rent Bond Scheme – contact the Private Sector Liaison Officer

Other bond schemes; contact CAB & WHABAC for their scheme in the Wyre Forest for single people and childless

## Supported Housing

If you believe you may need housing with support please contact your Housing Advice Team. They will be able to advise you on how to access schemes in the county including;

- Compton Valley House, Kidderminster
- St Basils (for young people)
- Heenans Court, Worcester
- St Pauls, Worcester
- YMCA, Worcester
- CHG Shared Houses

## Home Ownership

To help you buy a home, the Help to Buy scheme lends you between 10% and 20% of the cost of your new build home, so that, you will only need a 5% cash deposit and a 75% mortgage.

Contact:  
Tel: 03458 50 20 50 (Option 2) E-mail: [hba@orbit.org.uk](mailto:hba@orbit.org.uk) or visit [www.helptobuy Midlands.co.uk/](http://www.helptobuy Midlands.co.uk/)

## 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 Caring for Communities and People (CCP) [Hopes Service](#).

Other advice regarding homelessness and housing advice can be provided through the Citizens Advice Bureau and Shelter.

## Financial options available for those leaving prison;

**Universal Credit helpline**  
Telephone: 0800 328 5644  
<https://www.gov.uk/apply-universal-credit>

**Job Centre Plus – Kidderminster**  
Telephone: 0800 169 0190

## Can I get any help with money on release?

You can apply for a discharge grant of £46 before you are released. If you have found accommodation for your first night on release, you can also apply for an extra grant of about £50 which will be paid directly to the accommodation provider, arrange an appointment with an adviser in your prison to help you

## Local Authority Housing Options Teams – housing advice and assistance

**Wychavon District Council**

[www.wychavon.gov.uk](http://www.wychavon.gov.uk)

**Malvern Hills District Council**

[www.malvern hills.gov.uk](http://www.malvern hills.gov.uk)

**Bromsgrove District Council**

[www.bromsgrove.gov.uk](http://www.bromsgrove.gov.uk)

**Redditch Borough Council**

[www.redditchbc.gov.uk](http://www.redditchbc.gov.uk)

**Worcester City Council**

[www.worcester.gov.uk](http://www.worcester.gov.uk)

**Wyre Forest District Council**

[www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk](http://www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk)

## Local & National Support Services

**Warwickshire & West Mercia Community Rehabilitation Company.**

**Telephone: 01905 677100**

**Website: [www.westmerciaprobation.org.uk](http://www.westmerciaprobation.org.uk)**

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

**Telephone: 0300 303 8200**

**Website: [www.swanswell.org](http://www.swanswell.org)**

**Email: [worcsadmin@swanswell.org](mailto:worcsadmin@swanswell.org)**

**Citizens Advice Bureau** is an independent organisation offering free advice and assistance in many arrears including housing and homelessness.

**Website: [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)**

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

**Tel: 0808 800 444**

**Website: [www.shelter.org.uk](http://www.shelter.org.uk)**

**NACRO** are a national social justice charity with more than 50 years' experience of changing lives, building stronger communities and reducing crime.

**Telephone: 0300 123 1999**

**Website: [www.nacro.org.uk](http://www.nacro.org.uk)**

**Fry Housing Association** offer advice on Approved Premises Resettlement Service & Homeless Offender Resettlement Service (HORU)

**Telephone: 0121 559 6406**

**Website: [www.fryha.org.uk](http://www.fryha.org.uk)**

**CAB & WHABAC** offer advice and assistance to single or couples without children who are homeless, threatened with homelessness or vulnerably housed.

**Telephone: 03444 111 303**

**Website: [www.cabwhabac.org.uk](http://www.cabwhabac.org.uk)**

**Wyre Forest Rent Bond Scheme** can offer private landlords a written guarantee to cover a tenants deposit usually up to the value of one months rent.

**Telephone: 01562 732553**

**Website: [www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk](http://www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk)**

**The Prison Advice & Care Trust (Pact)**

**Family Helpline: 0808 808 3444**

**Website: [www.prisonadvice.org.uk](http://www.prisonadvice.org.uk)**

**St Giles Trust** runs a range of services designed to help ex-offenders; employment, support, housing/emergency accommodation.

**Telephone: 020 7708 8000**

**Website: [www.stgilestrust.org.uk](http://www.stgilestrust.org.uk)**

**Home Group (Stonham)** is one of the UK's largest providers of supported living services including the BASS project for those being released from custody on home detention curfew.

**Website: [www.homegroup.org.uk](http://www.homegroup.org.uk)**

**Contact: [contactus@stonham-bass.org.uk](mailto:contactus@stonham-bass.org.uk)**

**Telephone: 0300 555 0264**