

Supporting People

Strategy Summary 2005-2010

If you would like this information in Braille, on Audio tape, in Large Print or in another language, please telephone: 01924 306223

Access this and other information on the web at www.wakefield.gov.uk



“The Supporting People Programme in Wakefield provides Housing Related Support Services to help people to live independently in the community, and to enjoy a good quality of life”.

What is Supporting People?

The Supporting People Programme pays Service Providers to deliver Housing Related Support to help you to live independently in your own home and to maintain your tenancy.

Housing Related Support can be short or long term, it just depends on what you need. The support you will receive is designed to meet your needs and is agreed by you in a Support Agreement with your Service Provider.

Housing Related Support is there to help to meet your needs and can include things like:

- Learning how to set up your home
- Keeping your accommodation
- Help with managing your money and paying your bills
- Help with learning domestic skills
- Help with learning how to live independently
- Help with understanding the rules of your tenancy



The services that are available vary in type, price and duration and are available to:

- older people with support needs
- older people with mental health issues
- frail elderly
- people with mental health problems
- people with learning disabilities
- people with physical or sensory impairments
- homeless people with support needs
- people with drug and/or alcohol problems
- women at risk of domestic abuse
- young people at risk
- offenders or those at risk of offending
- mentally disordered offenders
- young people leaving care
- people living with HIV/AIDS
- homeless families, refugees
- teenage parents
- rough sleepers and travellers



Supporting People Services

Our services will be different to and will compliment any existing care service that you may already have.

Some of the services may have to be paid for.

If you get Housing Benefit to help you pay for your rent and your service charges, then the Council's Supporting People Team will pay your Service Provider for any Supporting People services you get.

If you do not receive Housing Benefit you or your support provider can ask Wakefield Council for a Financial Assessment to work out how much of the support cost you are able to pay for yourself.



Supporting People Five-Year Strategy

We have developed a Strategy that is designed to let you know how we can support you. It also tells you what we are planning to do over the next five years to help you to maintain and improve your independence.

The following pages provide you with details about some of the ways we could help you to maintain your independence, and it also sets out our plans for the next five years.

An electronic version of the Supporting People Five Year Strategy is available on www.wakefield.gov.uk



Older People with Support Needs and Older People with Mental Health Problems/ Dementia

Over the next five years we can help support Older People with Support Needs and Older People with Mental Health Problems/Dementia by providing and developing assistive technology, that will help you to stay in your own homes and maintain your independence.



People with Mental Health Problems

We will be helping to support People with Mental Health problems by making sure that this strategy fits in with the Mental Health Supported Housing Strategy.

Also, over the next five years the Supporting People Programme will work towards:

- Delivering more Floating Support
- Making sure that Service Users are involved in evaluating the services



People with Substance Misuse Issues

We will aim to help People with Substance Misuse issues by funding services that assist and provide access to suitable housing and provide guidance on:

- Managing finances
- Sustaining a tenancy
- Obtaining benefits
- Coping with debt
- Preventing anti-social behaviour
- Mediating disputes with neighbours
- Referrals to specialist organisations
- Preventing homelessness

The Supporting People Strategy also fits in with the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Drug Treatment Plan.



People with Learning Disabilities

We aim to help people with Learning Disabilities by helping young people who have learning disabilities to make the switch from school to independent living and from supported accommodation to independent living.

We will also help to enable People with Learning Disabilities to live within their own tenancies, preferably in the area of their choice.



People with Physical and Sensory Disabilities

We aim to help people with Physical Disabilities and those who are hearing impaired and blind or partially sighted by providing access to good quality comprehensive information about housing related support in Wakefield.



Homeless People & Homeless Families

We can help Homeless People by funding a range of services to meet the varying levels of need. These may include:

- Tenancy sustainment services
- Direct access hostels and night shelters
- Short term supported housing for single people and families
- Supported lodgings



Offenders, Mentally Disordered Offenders and those at risk of Offending

We can help Offenders, Mentally Disordered Offenders and People at Risk of Offending by working towards increasing fair access to services for offenders.

Supporting People aims to deliver housing-related support to offenders in prison as well as on release. These services will contribute to improving the quality of life for the individual through more flexible housing arrangements.



Young People at Risk, Teenage Parents and Young People Leaving Care

We will provide housing related support to Young People at Risk, Teenage Parents and Young People leaving care by providing:

- a choice of accommodation based services or floating support and;
- by supporting the transition from care to having your own tenancy.



Women at Risk of Domestic Abuse

We have helped Women at Risk of Domestic Abuse by providing information and advice on accommodation and support options, including where appropriate, assistance to enable women and their families to stay in their own homes.

The Supporting People Programme funds a refuge and is working towards improving move-on accommodation for Women at Risk of Domestic Violence.



People with HIV/AIDS

We can help People with HIV/AIDS by promoting fair access to accommodation and support services. This will be done by increasing the understanding of service providers and raising awareness of the support needs of People with HIV/AIDS.



Refugees

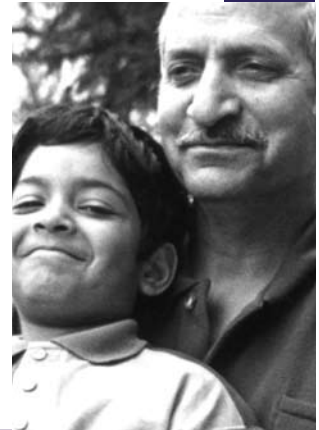
We can help Refugees by providing access to good quality comprehensive information about the housing related support services that are available in the Wakefield District.

Rough Sleepers

We are working with Service Providers to reduce the number of Rough Sleepers in the Wakefield District.

Travellers

We can assist Travellers by providing access to good quality information about how to access housing related support services.



Contact Details

Social Care Direct

If you think that you, or someone you know would benefit from Housing Related Support Services then please contact Social Care Direct and they will advise you as to what services will best meet your needs.

Telephone Social Care Direct

0845 8 503 503

The Open Door Project

If you think you might be at risk of becoming homeless then please contact the Open Door Project.

Telephone Open Door Project

01924 304362 or 01924 304360

For further information on the Supporting people programme and for the contact details of our service providers please visit www.wakefield.gov.uk

