If you need practical support to live independently, there are a number of supported housing services in the Wakefield district that may be able to help. These are run by a variety of providers for a wide range of people with different support needs.

What is Housing Related Support?

Housing Related Support can be the provision of support to assist you in maintaining existing accommodation or to support you in accessing alternative accommodation and then to keep that accommodation.

There are a number of providers that are commissioned by the Council to deliver such services, as well as some providers that are not commissioned.

The Council works with all providers as long as they are either commissioned and/or registered on the Council’s ‘Responsible Landlord’ scheme.

Some provide accommodation with support, others provide support only.

The aim of housing related support is:

- To prevent homelessness.
- To promote independent living skills in a way that maximises the service user’s ability to manage and maintain their housing.
- To increase service users’ confidence in and ability to respond to issues with their accommodation.
- To promote positive approaches to health and wellbeing.
- To promote opportunities for training, employment and volunteering.
- To promote harm reduction, recovery and resilience.

Some examples of housing related support are:

- Support around benefits.
- Support to develop skills around budgeting, money management and dealing with debt.
- Support to understand responsibilities as a tenant or homeowner.
- Support to understand how to be a good neighbour.
- Support to deal with landlords.
- Support to mediate with families (particularly for younger people).
- Support to plan better access to health services.
- Support to plan better access to training and employment
- Referrals and signposting to other services as required, such as money advice, legal advice, drug or alcohol services.
- Support to find alternative housing if current accommodation is unsuitable

**Single Point of Access (SPOA) for Support Pathways**

From 1st April 2018, the Council’s Housing Needs Service (HNS) provides a Single Point of Access (SPOA) to Council commissioned housing related support services, also known as Pathways. This means that should you or an organisation that you are working with feel that you would benefit from support or accommodation with support from one of the following Pathways, you need to be referred by that organisation or contact the SPOA directly. The SPOA will review your circumstances and decide whether you meet the required criteria and refer you to the most appropriate Pathway.

The Pathways offer support and in some cases accommodation and are as follows:

- **Sustain Wakefield Pathway**

  This is provided through Turning Lives Around who offer assistance for those they work with to maintain and keep their current accommodation or secure alternative accommodation in a planned way and keep that accommodation.

  The length of time which support through this Pathway can be offered will usually be up to 1 year.

- **Access to Housing Pathway**

  This is provided through Foundation who work with individuals to identify the most suitable housing option and support required to access or maintain accommodation. They will consider:

  - pre-tenancy support
  - access into affordable private rented
  - access into social housing
  - ongoing support once settled in accommodation

  The length of time which support through this Pathway can be offered will be outcome and time limited.
• **Specialist Provision**

This is provided by both Riverside and Richmond Fellowship.

**Riverside** delivers the following services:

- **Complex needs service**
  
  This is high level support with accommodation for people with multiple and complex needs.

- **Young Families service**

  This provides housing related support and/or support with accommodation for young families to improve their life chances.

**Richmond Fellowship** delivers the following service for people with needs around their mental health.

- **Supported housing for people with mental health needs**

  Delivering medium term supported housing for people with needs around their mental health and help to maximise independence.

• **Assessment Pathway**

This is provided through Riverside. They work with individuals who are at immediate risk of homelessness, providing short and medium term accommodation as well as high level support.

Riverside provides short term assessment beds that are available up to 8 weeks and short term supported housing for up to 1 year.
Other support that may be available

As mentioned earlier there are a number of providers for similar services that are not commissioned by the Council. These non-commissioned services can be accessed by you directly to the provider. Whilst not commissioned by the Council it is recommended that you only approach providers that have been deemed as ‘Responsible Landlords’ and therefore offer an acceptable level of accommodation.

Any support provided is at the discretion of the provider and not commissioned by the Council.

Providers are as follows:

- Bridge-It
  Tel: 01924 907754
  Website: [www.bridge-ithousing.org.uk](http://www.bridge-ithousing.org.uk)

- C.A.R.E (CFE)
  Tel: 01924 925959
  Website: [www.care-cfe.org](http://www.care-cfe.org)

- The Saviour Trust
  Tel: 01977 600335
  Website: [www.thesaviourtrust.co.uk](http://www.thesaviourtrust.co.uk)

- Informal Learning
  Tel: 01924 882150
  Website: [www.informal-learning.co.uk](http://www.informal-learning.co.uk)

- My-space Housing
  Tel: 01204 694154
  Website: [www.my-spacehousing.co.uk](http://www.my-spacehousing.co.uk)

- Fusion Housing
  01924 363713
  Website: [www.fusionhousing.org.uk](http://www.fusionhousing.org.uk)

- Langley House Trust
  Tel: 01924 291088
  Website: [www.langleyhousetrust.org](http://www.langleyhousetrust.org)
Useful contacts

Single Point of Access (within Wakefield Council Housing Needs Service): 01924 304359

Turning Lives Around: 01924 764078

Foundation: 01924 247247

Riverside: 01924 385722

Richmond Fellowship: 01924 220177

Housing Needs Service (HNS) Contact details

Housing Needs Service
Queens House
Queen Street
Wakefield
WF1 1JR

Email: housingneedsservice@wakefield.gov.uk
Phone: 01924 304362 / 304360

Service availability:

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<tr>
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<th>Telephone Service</th>
<th>Appointments and Drop-In</th>
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<td>8:30am - 5pm</td>
<td>9am - 4pm</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8:30am - 4:30pm</td>
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If you become homeless out of office hours contact the Council’s contact centre on 0345 8 506 506.

Further information and the Housing Fact Sheets are available on Wakefield Council’s website: [http://www.wakefield.gov.uk/housing/options/housing-for-vulnerable-adults](http://www.wakefield.gov.uk/housing/options/housing-for-vulnerable-adults)