

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

HOUSING OPTIONS



Housing

The aim of this leaflet is to help you think of the different places your son/daughter could live in the future and what support he/she could get with this. This leaflet is most relevant if your son/daughter has a learning disability.

Types of housing

- Living with relatives/carers
- Individual flat
- Supported living
- Residential Care Home
- Adult Placement

Types of support

- **On site support** - Staffing on site 24 hours a day, including either a member of staff who is awake at night or asleep on site at night
- **Off site support** - Staff are on site at key agreed times and there is often an on call at night nearby
- **Visiting support** - Staff are employed for a set number of hours and visit at pre-arranged times

The following information explains the range of alternatives available:-

Living with Relatives/Carers

Situation in Hertfordshire:-

- This is the most common situation in Hertfordshire. Many people with learning disabilities and other disabilities live with relatives. This may be through choice or because they are unable to obtain alternative suitable housing

Support:-

- Support may be provided by relatives
- Support may be provided as a package of care by different agencies, organised by the Community Learning Disability Team
- Support may be organised by the young person and/or their family/carers using direct payments
- Support may be organised by the young person and/or their family/carers using an Individualised budget.

Individual Flats

There are 2 types of individual flats:-

- A flat which is allocated to an individual by a Housing Association or District/Borough Council which is a dispersed tenancy (not part of a specific support living project)
- A flat which is part of a supported housing scheme where there is a care provider already identified, who the young person could receive support from. These tend to be either 1 or 2 bedroom flats

This section is referring to supported housing schemes. All the people living in one of the 2 types of flats described above would be a tenant

Situation in Hertfordshire:-

- Supported housing schemes containing individual flats are available in most parts of Hertfordshire
- Individual flats are developments with Housing Associations and Care Providers
- There are a variety of schemes; however, vacancies only arise if a tenancy becomes available. A few new schemes open each year

What the accommodation offers:-

- The accommodation contains a bedroom, bathroom, living room and kitchen facilities

- Tenants are able to live independently with support
- There may be some shared facilities such as a lounge
- Family and friends are able to visit
- The tenant has their own front door

Support:-

- Support may be provided by a care provider. The amount of support provided could be negotiated according to need
- Support may be provided by relatives
- Support may be provided as a package of care by different agencies, organised by the Community Learning Disability Team
- Support may be organised by the tenant and/or their family/carers using direct payment
- Support may be organised by the tenant and/or their family/carers using an Individualised budget

Who maintains the property:-

- The property is maintained by a Housing Association who will also undertake repairs

Supported Living

Supported Living is a term used to describe individual or group living, the accommodation is part of a specialist Learning Disability scheme where there are staff around either all or part of the time. All the people living within these schemes are tenants. The properties are owned by a housing association.

Situation in Hertfordshire:-

- There are supported living schemes for people with a learning disability and other disabilities in most parts of Hertfordshire
- Hertfordshire Adult Care Services has a number of supported living schemes across the country in Partnership with Aldwyck Housing Association
- These supported living schemes have accommodations ranging from 1 bedroom flats up to 7 bedroom flats/houses. Some supported living projects will have a variety of these flats/houses on one site

- Other Housing Associations also have supported living schemes in Hertfordshire
- These supported living schemes tend to consist of 1 and 2 bedroom flats. All of these schemes will have a number of flats on one site

What the accommodation offers:-

In the 1 bedroom flats-

- The accommodation contains a bedroom, living room and kitchen facilities
- Tenants are able to live independently with support
- There may be some shared facilities such as a lounge
- Family and friends are able to visit
- The tenant has their own front door

In the shared flats/houses:-

- Tenants have their own room and would share facilities such as toilets, bathrooms, kitchen and living areas
- Family and friends are able to visit
- Tenants would have a shared front door

Support:-

- Support is provided according to the young person's level of need
- Some supported living services have staff on site support, some have off site support and some will have visiting support

Who maintains the property:-

- The property is maintained by a Housing Association

Residential Care Homes

Situation in Hertfordshire:-

- All residential care homes in Hertfordshire are run by Registered Charities, not for Profit Organizations' or Private Companies
- Adult Care Services do not run Residential Care Homes
- Residential Care House are generally registered to provide care and support to between 2 and 8 people

What the accommodation offers:-

- Individuals have their own room and would share facilities such as toilets, bathrooms, kitchen and living areas
- Family and friends are able to visit
- Individuals would have a shared front door

Support:-

- All residential care homes have a Registered Manager
- A staff team with staff on site 24 hours a day

Who Maintains the property:-

- The property is maintained by the organisation who owns the care home

Adult Placement

Situation in Hertfordshire:-

- There are a number of families and individuals who offer family placements

What the accommodation offers:-

- Individuals live as part of a family in a family house, and would have their own room

Support:-

- Support is provided by the approved carer within the family

Who maintains the Property:-

- The property is maintained by the family

How do I obtain housing for my son/daughter?

1. Discuss needs with a social worker
2. Place name on local housing register
3. Consider type of housing required

4. Assessment of need
5. Options explored
6. Resource Allocation

To find out more contact:

Your **Connexions Personal Advisor**

Connexions Access Ability Team:

Tel **01462 704901**
Fax **01462 705001**
Minicom **01462 704901**
Email **accessability@connexions-herfordshire.co.uk**

Children, Schools and Families:

If your son/daughter is under 18 call Children, Schools and Families Customer Services Centre on:

01438 471500 or **01923 471500**

Adult Care Services

If your son/daughter is 18 or over and has a **learning disability**, contact your local Community Learning Disability Team on:

Broxbourne and East Herts	01438 843111
Dacorum	01442 454444
Hertsmere	01442 454242
North Herts and Stevenage	01438 843222
St Albans	01442 454300
Watford and Three Rivers	01442 454343
Welwyn and Hatfield	01438 843600

If your son/daughter is 18 or over and has a **physical disability, sensory impairment or mental health need**, please call **01438 737400** or **01923 471400**



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