

A Pathway of Haringey's Housing Related Support,

Short term supported accommodation

What is Housing Related Support (HRS)?

Housing related support is support that helps vulnerable people improve their quality of life and wellbeing by enabling them to live as independently as possible in their community. Housing related support is provided to prevent people from requiring a more intensive or institutional form of care or support. It is also provided as a means of addressing an emergency situation (e.g. domestic violence refuge and homeless hostel). This support can be provided in fixed locations (accommodation based such as hostels) or wherever the service user may live in the borough, regardless of tenure (floating support). Support can be short or longer term depending on need and what type of accommodation people live in. For example, older people's sheltered housing is long term.

Current Provision

Haringey Council's Housing Related Support Service currently funds 430 units of supported accommodation across the mental health, substance misuse and offender, young people and single homeless sectors. These are currently delivered by 17 contracts (by 13 service providers).

Ongoing monitoring and reviews of these services along with stakeholder feedback shows that:-

- There is high demand for the higher support specialist services.
- It is sometimes difficult to fill voids in the lower support provision for young people and the single homeless sectors.
- People who are ready to move to independent accommodation take a considerable time to move out.

The Pathway

A Pathway approach is an established model of providing accommodation based housing related support services. The model provides more flexibility to service provision, freeing up the higher levels of support for those that need it and can reduce the use of temporary accommodation and provide more opportunities to reduce the need for more intensive forms of institutional care or support.

Haringey's HRS Pathway will be made up of 4 levels of short term supported housing.

Level	Description	Access timeframe	Length of stay	Proportion of total provision (rounded)
Assessment	Provides short term intensive support to identify the service users' needs so that an appropriate placement can be made.	same day if referral received before 4pm	up to 12 weeks	25 beds (6%)
Specialist	For those with higher levels of need with a sector focused response for mental health, substance misuse and ex-offender, young people and complex needs (such as rough sleepers).	within 3-4 weeks – this may change following service user consultation feedback	12-18 months	243 (56%)

Engaged and Planning	For those who have engaged with the Specialist or Assessment provision and are ready to work on their long term plans for independence.	within 5 days	Up to 12 months	75 (20%)
Move through	Will focus on securing a move out of the pathway and the independent living skills required to live in the community	within 5 days	up to 12 months – this may change following service user consultation feedback	79 (18%)

The Pathway is designed so that service users can move up and down through the levels as required. Service users may not need to move through every stage and not all service users will require an assessment place to start their journey through the Pathway. All moves into and within the Pathway will be approved by the Pathway Manager.

A Pathway Manager is an essential component to the success of the pathway. Service providers will be required to engage with the Pathway Manager who will:-

- Meet with service providers regularly to plan moves into, through and out of the pathway
- Manage and monitor all moves
- Provide advice to the funding panel on suitability of referrals into the Pathway.

Referrals to the Pathway will be via the Council’s Vulnerable Adults Team (VAT), VAT officers will undertake an initial assessment, liaising with health and care professionals. The Pathway Manager will then make a decision on which level is most suitable based on the information available.

Pathway service providers’ service specifications will be outcomes focused and include:-

- Stage milestones that will identify progress and when a service user is ready to move on.
- A requirement to develop move on plans
- A condition that all moves must be referred to and agreed by the Pathway Manager

Procurement of the new Pathway

The reconfigured services will provide an increase in provision in the higher support specialist services.

Specialist Provision	Current model	New model
Complex needs	0	35
Mental Health	109	120
Mental Health(floating support)	86	97
Young People	16	30
YP LGBT	6	6
SMO	52	52
Totals	269	340

Procurement of the new Pathway will be completed in three stages

Stage One services will be in place by January 2015 and will include the Assessment, Engaged and Planning, Move through and Specialist - young people provision.

Stage Two services will be in place by April 2015 and will include the Specialist - substance misuse and offender and complex needs provision.

Stage Three will be in place by April 2016 and will include the Specialist- Mental Health accommodation and floating support provision.