



# Housing Options for young people

## Help if you are homeless

Homelessness does not just mean sleeping on the streets. It can also mean your parents asking you to leave and you having nowhere else to go, your family moving out of the area and no longer being able to accommodate you, or being unable to return home due to domestic abuse.

Whatever the circumstances are the Housing Options team will take action to prevent you becoming homeless, or to aid you in finding somewhere else to live.

## Preventing homelessness

### *Mediation*

If you are currently living with parents or family and have been asked to leave, it may be possible to talk with your family to enable you to stay at home, or to extend your stay whilst you look for your own accommodation.

### *Castle House*

Castle House is an emergency accommodation scheme aimed at young homeless people. This provides emergency accommodation for one or two nights, placing you with volunteer homes, providing a warm, safe environment and a regular meal. This scheme provides a 'breathing space' for both you and your family, or immediate accommodation in case of emergency.

### *Private rented accommodation*


If you are in danger of losing your tenancy, because you are being treated unfairly by your landlord, have fallen behind with the rent, or have breached your tenancy, we can negotiate with your landlord, or help you defend possession proceedings to avoid losing your home.

### *Supported accommodation & Social Housing*

If you have support needs they will be identified during your Housing Options assessment. The team can help find suitable supported accommodation for you if required. The team can also assist you with the paperwork necessary to register for permanent social housing.

### *Homeless tonight*

If you find that you have nowhere to sleep tonight the first thing you can try is to find out if you can stay with family and friends until you can sort things out. You should also contact the Housing Options team as soon as possible for advice and assistance.



It is very dangerous for young people to sleep on the streets. If you cannot find anyone to stay with for even one night contact the Housing Options team for advice our telephone is 01204 335900.

If you are homeless during out of office hours you can ring the emergency duty team on 01204 337777 or go to your local police station.