

The Council can provide you with advice if you are homeless or about to become homeless. We can offer advice and support to help you resolve your housing issues or find alternative accommodation. However, we are not able to provide you with emergency accommodation unless we decide that you are homeless, eligible for assistance and considered to be in 'priority need'.

The Homelessness Reduction Act 2017

Since April 2018, the Homelessness Reduction Act has changed the homelessness duties for all Local Authorities in England.

The new legislation means that all applicants who are eligible and about to become homeless will be entitled to receive advice and assistance in order to prevent them from becoming homeless.

The Act changes the way we address and resolve the issues around homelessness by introducing two new duties in addition to the main housing duty. These two duties are:

1) Duty to Prevent Homelessness

Hertsmere Borough Council will provide advice and assistance to people who are about to become homeless within 56 days. If you are eligible for assistance and at risk of losing your home, we will try to prevent your homelessness by working with you to, either, help you remain in your current accommodation or help you find somewhere to else suitable for you and your household.

2) Duty to Relieve Homelessness

If you are already homeless, and considered eligible, Hertsmere Borough Council will provide advice and assistance to help you find suitable accommodation. If you are considered to be a 'vulnerable person', the Council can offer you emergency accommodation while we work with you to find alternative accommodation that is suitable for you and your household.

Support for Substance Misuse

Spectrum

Spectrum is free and confidential drug and alcohol service for adults. They can work with you to help you reduce and, ultimately, stop your drug/alcohol abuse.

Their contact details are: Spectrum Hatfield 01707 256 532
0800 652 3169 (24 hour helpline)
St Martin's House, 14 The Common, Hatfield, AL10 0UR
herts@cgl.org.uk
www.changegrowlive.org

Turning Point

Turning Point work with people in the community, providing health and social care services in England. Their Complex Needs team is based in Welwyn, Herts, and they work in partnership with Hertfordshire Mind. They provide support to people recovering from mental health issues, substance dependency and learning disabilities.

Their contact details are: 01707 891 120
Turning Point Complex Needs, 90 Peartree Lane, Welwyn, AL7 3UL
www.turning-point.co.uk

Supporting Herts

Supporting Herts work in partnership with Druglink to support people with drug and alcohol dependency. They offer assistance and floating support to resolve housing issues and to aid recovery from substance addiction. They also have a Private Rented Sector Scheme (PRS scheme) that finds private landlords who let properties to their service users.

Their contact details are: 0300 303 3147
Devonshire Business Centres, Orion House, Bessemer Road, Welwyn Garden City, AL7 1HH
www.wdp.org.uk/find-us/hertfordshire/supporting-herts

The Living Room

The Living Room is a free abstinence-based service for anyone aged 18 years and over suffering from substance addiction. They provide therapy sessions and support with training and employment and can offer counselling and mentoring.

Their contact details are: 01438 355 649
The Living Room South St Albans, Rear of 156 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4JA
stalbans@thelivingroom.me.uk
www.thelivingroom.me.uk