

# Housing Guide



# What you need to do

If you are leaving prison and are released to an Approved Premises (AP) or to an address that is not your own, it's important to register with your local council as early as possible.

## You should:

- Register on the council's housing list, and
- Register as homeless, as you are still classed as homeless while living in an AP or staying somewhere that is not your permanent home.

Take written evidence of any physical or mental health diagnoses with you (such as letters from your GP, hospital, or support services). This can help the council understand your needs and may help move you further up the housing list.

You should also ask the council about what support is available if you move into a property, including help with:

- First month's rent
- A deposit
- Basic items like bedroom furniture and white goods (e.g. fridge, cooker, etc.)

Every council is different, so make sure to ask what specific support or funding they can offer.

If you don't feel confident doing this on your own, you can ask your AP key worker to support you through the process.

# Who we are



New Connections is an organisation which provides support for prisoners and ex-offenders with addiction and mental health challenges who are preparing for Parole or release after a substantial period of imprisonment.

New Connections provides support and guidance in prison through individual and group sessions and the agreement of individual recovery plans to give the ex-offender the opportunity to recover from their addiction and change the direction of their life away from drugs and crime.

If you are interested in hearing more about our work, have any questions, or know someone who could benefit from our services, please contact us via our website.

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