

Gorton, Sam

From: Councillor John Harbour <JHarbour@burnley.gov.uk>
Sent: 28 January 2016 16:39
To: Gorton, Sam
Cc: Paul Gatrell
Subject: Leaving Care policy

Hello Sam

Apologies for the late return of this information.

Here is a summary of Burnley Borough Council's policy on young people leaving care:

Once a person in care turns 18 they are no longer the responsibility/ legal duty of Social services in relation to accommodation. Hopefully therefore, prior to a person turning 18, the social worker should have made applications to supported accommodation schemes and/or the b-with-us scheme to ensure that the care leaver is in the process of applying for social housing. The intention is that the person can obtain accommodation before they turn 18. This is also reflected in the b-with-us policy.

On occasion, the Social worker will contact Burnley Borough Council Housing Needs team for advice and information, prior to the person needing accommodation. If the young person cannot access social housing for any reason, the Social Worker will look to secure accommodation in the private sector.

If the care leaver has not secured accommodation ready for when they turn 18, they can approach the Council for assistance with their housing. The Council will make an offer of temporary accommodation that would be most likely at the Elizabeth Street Project (ESP), or a B&B if ESP is full. The Housing Needs Officer will complete the supported accommodation referrals if they have not already been completed by the Social Worker and a b-with-us application for social housing.

During their time in temporary accommodation the Council will engage with the young person and the supported accommodation provider where appropriate to advise and assist them to find a settled housing solution.

If there have been instances of young people not being treated fairly in Burnley then I would wish to know about them. (I hope this is not the case).

If I, or more importantly, the Council's Housing Needs Officer, Wilma Waddingham, can help assist the County in improving its service to young people in this area then please let us know.

Best Wishes

John

Councillor John Harbour

Councillors

01282 425011 ext. 07854437365



Burnley Borough Council | Town Hall | Manchester Road
Burnley | Lancashire | BB11 9SA