



ROCHDALE GFS

Stepping Stone Projects Generic Floating Support service is available to adults aged 18 and over who are in need of support to develop their capacity to achieve or maintain independent living.

Where the service is provided to adults with dependent children, the support is aimed at the needs of the adult, not the children.

Services are accessible across the Rochdale borough and across tenure types.

All applicants must fit into one or more of the following categories:

- The applicant is not managing in their current housing environment and is at risk of losing their home.
- The applicant is vulnerable and has support needs
- The applicant is seeking support because they have a housing need.
- The applicant is moving on from supported housing, residential care or is being discharged from hospital.
- The applicant lacks the basic social/communication skills that are needed to live independently.
- The applicant lacks confidence or skills to cope with the requirements of daily living.

This service will be provided to the following client groups:

- Single Homeless (non statutory)
- Homeless Families (non statutory)
- Rough Sleepers
- Refugees
- People with Anti Social behaviour issues
- Male victims of domestic violence
- Other socially excluded people

Housing Related support provides people with opportunities to develop a range of skills to prepare them to live as independently as possible. These include support in accessing: social opportunities, training, employment, volunteering activities, leisure activities and other opportunities to encourage meaningful use of time as well as support to develop skills in managing independent living, including: budgeting, financial management, cooking, healthy eating and moving into accommodation.

Housing Related Support enables clients to do as much for themselves as possible and live as independently as they can. It is NOT care, which often involves doing things for a client.

Therefore these services do not provide: personal care, health care, professional counselling or training to service users, unless additional funding is available for these activities.

The service is accessible to and able to address the needs of, people who identify themselves as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. Stepping Stone Projects is aware of the needs of people with physical disabilities and sensory impairment and works towards meeting their needs and adheres to DDA requirements as far as is reasonably possible.

This is a short term service and it is anticipated that the maximum length of service provision will be approximately 6 months (with the possibility of extending to up to 12 months in an unusual circumstance and when agreed by the Commissioning Team for Vulnerable Adults and Learning Disabilities).

Referral Criteria

Referrals are made to the Central Access, Information and Assessment Service (CAIAS).

There is an agreed Information Sharing Protocol/partnership working process between the CAIAS and Stepping Stone Projects.

The CAIAS complete a needs and risk assessment of any applicant and then makes referrals into support services or signposts to more relevant services. The CAIAS sets an initial timescale for the length of time that support may be needed by the service user and this is provided as part of the referral process.

Stepping Stone Projects works in close partnership with the CAIAS regarding: referral procedures, emergency referrals, needs assessments and developing reciprocal arrangements regarding non host referrals.

Whilst the service aims to decrease accommodation breakdown it is not there to replace the responsibility of a social landlord's housing staff. Applicants must be able to demonstrate that they have a support need additional to that provided to all tenants. This service should not take on the responsibilities of, or replicate the scope of, other agencies.

The Service is targeted to Service Users with identified support needs and not limited to people in set properties nor tenants of a particular landlord.