

Home Works

Short term support for long term independence

Do you face homelessness or have problems that could affect your housing?

Here are some examples of questions we often are asked...

Q: How does Home Works work?

A: We receive a call, fax, text, e-mail or letter from you or a referrer (someone who knows you, or the problems you're having). We contact you to discuss your situation, advise where needed, then if appropriate, a member of the team would be in touch to arrange to meet you (usually at home) and may offer some short term support and focus on the urgent issues. Home Works staff would visit you over an agreed period of time to help you learn how to do things for your self so that you can take more control of your life.

Q: How much does Home Works cost?

A: The service is free, regardless of income, equity or savings. We can support people in all types of housing.

Q: I don't want other members of my family or my neighbours to know my business. Would Home Works tell them anything?

A: Home Works is a confidential service.

Q: I'm actually homeless. Can Home Works help?

A: You would be initially advised of the nearest place to get a meal, how to contact your council offices or other agencies that might help, and explore your options. We can then meet you to look at your options and where to start.

Q: I live in a rural area. Can you still help?

A: Yes, our workers are mobile and can travel throughout East Sussex.

Q: I have been in trouble with the police. Would Home Works still be able to help?

A: We don't judge people or discriminate; we work with all communities and groups between the ages of 16 and 64.

Q: I'm leaving home for the first time and don't know how to start looking for somewhere to live. Could Home Works help?

A: We may initially advise you of your options and then offer support. If you are under 18 we may link you to Services that have a legal responsibility for you.

Q: My finances are in a mess and I'm having difficulty budgeting. Can Home Works help?

A: If your circumstances are affecting your housing, or could do, yes we can help. We may advise you of specialist services to help you with debts, and come out and help you to learn how to manage your paperwork and budgeting if there are particular reasons why you are struggling.

Q: I'm escaping domestic violence and new to the area. I feel a bit overwhelmed. Could Home Works support me?

A: We could provide short term support to help link you into local groups and services.

Q: I'm thinking of moving to the area. Can you help?

A: Home Works supports people who live in East Sussex. This is made up of the local authority areas of Eastbourne, Hastings, Lewes, Rother and Wealden.

If you live outside of these areas, we won't be able to provide support and may advise you to look at services in your area.

We would advise people wishing to move that they should check out services, rents and costs in their chosen area, and the Local Housing Allowance as this varies.

If you have been placed temporarily outside our area and have local connections, we may be able to help you.

Q: I am under 65, and live in sheltered housing. Can Home Works help me?

A: If the service has a warden / scheme manager available to you, then probably not. We are funded by East Sussex County Council 'supporting people' and so are most sheltered schemes. There would need to be special circumstances for S.P to agree to pay for 2 services.

Q: Can Home Works give me or find me housing?

A: No. Home Works support people to understand their housing options and can help them find appropriate accommodation. We can also support people to minimise the risk them of losing their home.

If you would like a service or want more information and you live in **Eastbourne, Lewes** or **Wealden** contact our **LEWES** office:

By phone: **01273** 898700

By text: 07773 377754

By fax: **01273** 898701

By email: referrals@homeworkswest.org.uk

In **Hastings** or **Rother** districts contact:

By phone: 01424 858341

By text: 07540 721244

By fax: 01424 858342

By email: referrals@homeworkseast.org.uk

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