What is Supporting People?

Supporting People is Council funding which helps those who are vulnerable and not able to manage living in their own home without support. An assessment would need to be carried out to determine if you are eligible and the level of housing related support service you require.

Supporting People funds organisations which provide the housing relating support services needed, enabling people to live independently in home or supported housing.

People who may need housing related support are likely to be experiencing

- Loss of home or moving to a new one
- Tenancy difficulties with the landlord
- Family breakdown or disability
- Limiting skills to communicate or live independently

Some examples of housing-related support

- Learning how to budget and pay bills
- Learning how to live safely
- Learning how to look after ones self, eat well and take care of your home
- Learning how to fill in forms and deal with authorities
• Learning how to be part of the community and access training, jobs and other services

Who can use these services?

These services are available to you if you need some practical support to help you in your home, but not health or domiciliary care. You can access housing related support wherever you live – in a flat or a house, in supported accommodation or a hostel. Support is provided so you can learn to live independently.

Housing Related Support can also change to meet your changing needs

If you no longer need as much support you can discuss reducing / stopping it with your support provider. You can also ask for more support if you need it. Housing Related Support can be provided to you along with other care, health and support services.

Who pays for these services?

• Services are either short-term or long-term, depending on your needs. Some support is provided only if you live in specific accommodation.
• All short-term services are free for the first six months and reviewed, thereafter may be chargeable subject to your financial situation. However, even long-term or permanent services are free if you are on low income (e.g. housing benefit/some other benefits).
• If you do not get housing benefit and you need long-term housing related support, there maybe a charge from the provider.
• If you cannot afford to pay you will not be expected to. You can apply for a financial assessment (contact us for more information).
• Supporting People cannot pay for personal or health care, property/gardening maintenance or transport services.

How do I access these services?

Ask us to send you a copy of our service directory or if you have access to a website:

Visit: www.n-somerset.gov.uk

Click on the blue ‘Show More’ box in the middle of the screen

Click on “Housing” – scroll to the bottom of the next screen and select “Supporting People”

Contact our main support provider on Support Alliance on 0300 123 9121. (www.supportalliance.org.uk)

This publication is available in large print, Braille or audio formats on request

Supporting People Team

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