

Leaving hospital with a housing need?

Some people don't have an address to return to after leaving hospital either because their home is no longer suitable, they lose their accommodation whilst in hospital or they were already homeless.

A delay in being discharged from hospital can be distressing and we want to support people in being discharged as soon as they are well enough.

If you are in hospital and you are homeless now or think you will be homeless soon, the most important thing is to get advice. Please **tell your nursing staff as soon as possible**. They will ask the hospital discharge team to help if they can.

The discharge team may refer you to the Housing Options Team at the council. They will assess your situation and where possible prevent your homelessness. If this is not possible, they will offer further advice and you may be offered temporary accommodation while your application is assessed. The earlier you let someone know, the more chance there is of finding accommodation before you are discharged.

If you have a home already but it needs to be adapted, the hospital will refer you to the Public Health and Housing team at the council who are responsible for adaptations or Disabled Facilities Grant.

Further help

Please contact the Housing Options Team on 01284 763233 or visit www.westsuffolk.gov.uk

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) 01284 712555 <mailto:pals@wsh.nhs.uk>

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