

An Introduction to our Bath Foyer Project.

Our Foyer project provides medium to low support accommodation for young people between the ages of 17-25 who are homeless, in temporary or other unsuitable accommodation, at risk and vulnerable and may be already in receipt of outreach services.

Accommodation

The Foyer has 31 bed spaces, it is a medium to low support hostel with housing management and is covered by staff during the day and with some additional evening cover and an on-call management system in place. The accommodation itself is spread over two floors and comprises of 31 bed spaces arranged in corridor clusters. There are 5 self contained one bed roomed flats and 26 bedsits.

We also have a communal lounge, a UK On-Line computer suite, a music studio and laundry facilities on site. Clients also have access to the garden. Clients are expected to be able to live communally and respect each other within the project. Clients staying at the Foyer also have access to a Learning Co-ordinator for employment, education and volunteering opportunities.

Staffing

The staff team at the Foyer consists of 3 Supported Housing Officers, a Senior Supported Housing Officer, a Learning Coordinator and a Service Manager. Each client is allocated a support worker on arrival and other workers are available within the project at all times. Clients will meet with their support worker on a weekly basis or as and when needed depending on the young persons need.

Supporting Young People

On entry, every client will have a comprehensive needs assessment, risk assessment and risk management plan and training needs assessment. Clients then work with their support worker to complete a mutually agreed support plan based on the outcome of the needs, training and risk assessments. Their involvement in this process is essential and core to the success of achieving aims and goals.

The above documents are reviewed every 3 months as standard and also at a clients request or in the event of an incident or significant change in circumstances. The aim of Foyer is to provide stable accommodation with a holistic approach in order to support young people to move on into medium and low support accommodation and independent living. Clients receive assistance in setting up and maintaining their accommodation and we provide comprehensive advice on budgeting, benefits, drug and alcohol issues and offending behaviour. We also work closely with outside agencies to help young people with any emotional or health needs they may have. The Foyer also empowers young people to utilise our own in house training services such as basic skills including literacy, numeracy and ICT, we can also provide assistance in preparing CV's and interviewing techniques.

For those with more in depth issues around offending, drug/alcohol use and mental health we recognise that we are not a specialist support service and Foyer staff will refer and access specialist services in order to provide support in these areas.

Clients Involvement

Clients are encouraged to be involved in the running of the project, and to attend group activities.

We currently have a cooking, art and gardening group and are also planning other ideas for the forthcoming year. Clients are also involved at a strategic level and we have currently have two client representative positions on the Board of management and on appeals and fundraising panel, Clients are also involved in creating and implementing our Involvement strategy to ensure inclusion for all our clients within the YPS service. We facilitate client meetings and also questionnaires which consult clients on the service that we provide and constantly seek ideas for improvement. We are committed to doing all that we reasonably can to ensure that clients take responsibility for and control over their lives by encouraging them to make their own choices and decisions within the remit and guidelines of our services. Our goal is to ensure all clients have as much respect, dignity and independent choice over issues in their lives.

How to apply

Applications to Bath Foyer and other SHAPE young person's services must be made through www.housingsupportgatewaybathnes.org.uk. This application covers all of the BANES housing related services including Floating Support provided by REACH.

Applications for the Young Person's Projects and the decision as to where a young person will be housed is made by the staff interviewing and the clients own choice. It is also based on the online application, the interview, the support level identified for that young person and contribution from the referring agency.

Should you have any problems with accessing the website, need more advice or would like to visit the project please contact the Foyer office on 01225 405004.

Shahana Badsha-Supported Housing Officer

Simon Eggleston-Supported Housing Officer

Angie Wrigley- Learning Coordinator

John Pitts-Multi Media Worker

Anita Holden-Service Manager

This service is funded by BANES Supporting People clients can access the service for a maximum of two years. Bath Foyer is also independently accredited by the Foyer Federation