

Housing Options advice sheet for people leaving custody

What you may need to do	What we may do
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell us about where you were living before you went into Prison and why you are unable to return 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore whether it is possible for you to return • Raise awareness of the consequences of a possible intentionally homeless decision • Find out more about your accommodation history
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You will need to tell us the name and contact number for your Probation Officer/ Offender Manager where applicable • Engage with the Authorities responsible for managing your risk of re-offending • You will need to share with us the details of your licence if you are still subject to conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will contact your Probation Officer/ Offender Manager to establish if there are any offending issues that affect your housing options
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will want you to provide evidence of anything that makes you more vulnerable suchlike health & wellbeing issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We may contact others to find out more about your vulnerabilities and advise you about how this may influence your application
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You will need to provide the contact details of any other professionals working with you such as support workers/ Social Care? • Find out about what other support is available from local charities/ services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will advise you if we think you would benefit from additional support and will look into how well you are engaging with the services offered to you. We can refer to other agencies such as Peabody who can take action to help you.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You will need to tell us about your income and expenditure and give us copies of bank statements • Complete an income and expenditure sheet • Think about how you can improve your education, training or employment • Work with the Citizens Advice Bureau for advice on maximising your income (and claiming benefits) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will want to see your Universal Credit claim or gather details of your other benefit claims • We will contact your work coach for information on your claim • Provide general benefit advice, refer to CAB or online sources to get advice on income maximisation • Investigate sources of financial assistance for costs (Saffron Walden United Charities/ DHP/ Prevention Fund)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You will need to tell us about the type of property you need • Start looking for privately rented accommodation and ask Housing Options about the Rent Deposit Scheme • Get advice on your eligibility for the Housing Register • Consider if supported accommodation would be beneficial for building your independence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will assess your basic housing needs • Provide advice on looking for Private Rented Accommodation and explain Rent Deposit Scheme • Help identify potential Landlords/ Agents that are likely to assist • Explain where to look for rentals (shop windows / online/ shop windows/ social media) • Explore Lodgings if appropriate • Advise on eligibility for the Home Option scheme

Useful contacts	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens Advice Bureau (Uttlesford CAB) Web: http://www.uttlesfordcab.org.uk/ Call: 01799 618840 Email: bureau@uttlesfordcab.cabnet.org.uk • Caridon Properties Web: www.caridonproperty.co.uk Call: 0203 307 0555 • Civil Legal Advice (CLA) Web: www.gov.uk/civil-legal-advice Call: 0345 345 4 345 • Essential Living Fund Web: southend.gov.uk/info/200288/extra_financial_help/69 Call: 0300 7900124 • The King Edward VI Almshouses, Saffron Walden Web: www.saffronwaldenalmshouses.org.uk/ Call: 01799 513914 Email: clerk@saffronwaldenalmshouses.org.uk • Lenderhand for help to pay for unaffordable goods or services: Web: lenderhand.org Call: 020 8532 5066 Email: contact@lenderhand.org • Money Advice Service Web: moneyadvice.service.org.uk Call: 0800 138 7777 • National Debtline Web: nationaldebtline.org Call: 0808 808 4000 • Peabody Trust Essex Floating Support Service - Uttlesford Call: 0800 288 8883 • The Princes Trust if you are aged 16-30 and in need of help: Tel: 0800 842 842; web: www.princes-trust.org.uk/need_help; email: info@princes-trust.org.uk • Saffron Walden United Charities if you live in the town and need financial assistance: Tel: 01799 526122; email: alfredjames.ketteridge@ntlworld.com 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Samaritans Web: samaritans.org Call: 116 123 Email: jo@samaritans.org • Sophie's Fund Web: sophiesfund.org Email: info@sophiesfund.org • Shelter Web: www.shelter.org.uk Call: 0808 800 4444 • Step Change Debt Charity Web: stepchange.org Call: 0800 138 1111 • Turn2Us for help with your income and benefits Web: www.turn2us.org.uk Call: Uttlesford CAB on 01799 618840 • Universal Credit Web: gov.uk/apply-universal-credit Call: 0800 328 5644 • Uttlesford District Council Web: www.uttlesford.gov.uk Call: 01799 510510 Email: uconnect@uttlesford.gov.uk • Uttlesford Foodbank Web: uttlesford.foodbank.org.uk Call: 07531 436335 Email: info@uttlesford.foodbank.org.uk • Uttlesfordsave Web: harlowsave.coop Call: 01279 451234