

Get back on track

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This form can be made available on request, in other languages and formats (large print, Braille or on audio tape) by contacting:

Communications Section,
Blaby District Council,
Council Offices,
Desford Road,
Narborough,
Leicester LE19 2EP.

Tel: 0116 272 7770
Fax: 0116 275 0368
or email:
housing.options@blaby.gov.uk
www.blaby.gov.uk

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If you're
16-17
& find yourself
homeless!

What does it mean to be homeless?

- Have nowhere to live.
- Can not live @ home.
- Have somewhere to live, but it's not reasonable to live there.

- Dad's drunk again!
- Not enough room 4 me
- Mum has kicked me out!
- Been evicted



Useful Numbers

Connexions

91 Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1HL
Tel: 080 800 13219
Email: leicester@connexions-leics.org

Blaby District Council Housing Options Team

Housing and homelessness advice & guidance
Desford Road, Narborough, Leicester LE19 2EP
Tel: 0116 272 7770
Out of hours service operates Monday to Thursday from 5.15pm to 8.45am and Friday from 4.45pm to 8.45pm Monday morning.
Email: housing.options@blaby.gov.uk

National Child Protection Helpline

Tel: 0800 800 500
Website: www.nspcc.org.uk

Samaritans

24hr confidential and emotional support for anyone in crisis
Tel: 0116 270 0007 or 08457 909 090
Website: www.samaritans.org.uk

Childline

Tel: 0800 1111
Website: www.childline.org.uk

Shelter

24hr national homelessness helpline
Tel: 0808 800 4444
Website: www.shelter.org.uk

Domestic Violence Outreach Worker

Blaby District Council
Tel: 0116 272 7637

We can help – contact us!

t: 0116 272 7770 or email: housing.options@blaby.gov.uk
or come in for a chat at:
Council Offices, Desford Road, Narborough, Leicester LE19 2EP

What is homelessness?

You don't have to be sleeping on the streets to be considered homeless.

You could be sleeping on friends' sofas or friends' bedroom floors; you could have somewhere to live but it may be unreasonable for you to stay there for your own personal safety.

You can be considered as homeless if you...

Don't have anywhere you can live legally

It is unreasonable for you to stay in your home

This includes:

This includes:

- Rough sleepers being put up temporarily by family
- Sleeping on friends' floors or "sofa surfing"
- You have been evicted.

- If you are at risk of violence
- Living in an overcrowded house.

How can Blaby District Council help if I am homeless?

These are the options available to you:

Declare yourself homeless!

- Wait in hostel for 2 years
- Once you turn 18 there's no choice of where you live.
- Only 1 offer of accommodation. If you turn that down, no more offers!

Mediation/Planned Move

- Mediation between you and who you are currently living with.
- Live at home temporary while waiting to find the right hostel.

Wait in hostel for 2 years till you're 18 – Don't declare yourself homeless

- On waiting list till you turn 18.
- More chance of getting a property in the area you want.

Homeless?

Speak to the Housing Options Team at Blaby District Council. Then you can choose which option is best for you.

What happens if I declare myself homeless?

If you declare yourself homeless and you're under the age of 18, then you will be put into a hostel and placed in the pending category which means once you turn 18, you will get one offer of accommodation. When a property is available this could be anywhere within the district.

If you refuse this offer you will get no more offers given to you.

What is mediation/planned move on?

Mediation is a way of resolving disputes/arguments to the satisfaction of everyone. Mediation is carried out by an independent person who will not judge you or pass comment on your situation. They will work with both you and who you are living with at the time to try and resolve any issues between you so that you can plan your move and find suitable accommodation.

What is a hostel?

Hostels can be run by a council, a housing association or a charity. Blaby District Council does not have any council-owned hostels in the Blaby District area, however the Blaby District Council does have access to various other hostels in the surrounding areas, but places are very limited, such as;

- YMCA in Leicester City Centre;
- Park Lodge in Leicester, off London Road ;
- Upper Hasting Street in Leicester City Centre;
- Kennedy House – Wigston.

Hostels often have rules about what time you have to be in at night, use of drugs or alcohol are not allowed and if residents break these rules then you may not be allowed to stay in that hostel. Some hostels only take young people and many will help you with things like job applications and general advice and support.

We are here to help, but what can we offer?

The housing options team at the council is a small and friendly team, who work hard to try and help everyone. The housing options team is here to advise and help people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. If you or someone you know is at risk of becoming homeless, then give us a ring on **0116 272 7770** or email us at **housing.options@blaby.gov.uk**



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