

What is Housing Related Support?

Housing-related support services are defined as services that aim to develop or sustain an individual's capacity to live independently in accommodation.

Housing-related support services are not general health, social care or statutory personal care services, but rather services whose aim is to support more independent living arrangements.

Housing Related Support is paid for via the Supporting People Program, which is Welsh Government Funding, administered through the local authority.

Housing Related Support can be confusing, but put simply it is about 'doing with' rather than 'doing for'.

The below table should give you some idea of what our service can do. It should be read in conjunction with the 'Allowable Activities and definitions of housing-related support' booklet. If you don't have a copy, please ask us for one.

Counselling and emotional support	General counselling and emotional support can be provided as part of a support service to assist in maintaining accommodation. Specialist therapeutic counselling provided by a qualified counsellor is not support
Support planning	Preparing and agreeing a support plan with a service user (the support plan must be recorded). Identifying goals and tasks and regularly reviewing the support plan.
Welfare benefits	Support the service user to claim welfare benefits, and assist and enable the individual to continue to receive eligible benefits and deal with relevant agencies
Life skills budgeting and managing finances	Assist service users to live within their budget and advise them on how to manage their finances on a day-to-day basis
Help in establishing personal security	Assist the service user to maintain the security of their home e.g. explaining how to lock up and manage appropriate access
Life skills cooking	Encourage, motivate and provide practical assistance to service users to prepare and cook meals safely, including healthy eating and eating on a budget.
Life skills laundry	Provision of advice and practical assistance to enable the service user to deal with their laundry e.g. how to operate a washing machine by themselves
Life skills cleaning	Encourage and motivate the service user to keep their home clean.
Self-Management	Encourage, motivate and provide practical techniques to the service user to maintain any appointments relevant to improving their ability to manage themselves in their accommodation
Social skills	Encouraging and motivating the service user to develop social skills
Help in developing social contacts	Encourage and motivate service users to develop social contacts

Helping Service Users engage in appropriate leisure activities	Assist service users to access leisure and other activities and encourage and motivate service users to make appropriate use of such activities
Help gaining access to other services	Support a service user to access services, in agreement with the service user, as part of the support planning process.
Accompanying/motivating employment and training courses	Support to enable a service user to access appropriate education, training and/or employment opportunities.
Attending Care Programme Approach (CPA) meetings	Attendance at CPA and other meetings, where appropriate
Move on and permanent housing	Giving advice relating to move on and permanent housing opportunities
Aids and Adaptations	Advice to users on A&A. how to apply for grants etc.
Police and courts	Giving advice on dealing with the police and courts where this relates to housing matters
Occasional help with daily living activities	Occasional temporary help (not doing for) with matters such as; shopping, errands and getting around.

The above list is not exhaustive, but simply outlines that main areas of work that we normally come across. For more detail please see the 'Allowable Activities and definitions of housing-related support'.