

Bristol Autism Spectrum Service

Guide to housing and social care in Bristol

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Getting housing support in Bristol

There are various options if you have autism and need help with housing. You are more likely to get help if you have greater needs eg you are homeless or have mental health difficulties as well as autism. You can always contact the Bristol Autism Spectrum Service to discuss your housing options, either for online help or to book a one to one appointment at the Create Centre.

Shared housing

Some people with autism diagnosis prefer to share with other people they get on with who also have an autism diagnosis. As we get to meet a lot of people who have autism we can sometimes try to match people together. This is an idea in very early stages so it will take some time to achieve but if you have any potential interest in this idea of sharing a house please let us know awp.bass@nhs.net There is absolutely no obligation with this and if you change your mind we will immediately take your name off our list of contacts.

Homelessness

If you are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless in next 28 days contact Housing Advice team 0117 352 6800 housing.advice@bristol.gov.uk.

Or call into your nearest Customer Service Point. <http://www.bristol.gov.uk/page/council-and-democracy/customer-service-points>

They will assess your needs and eligibility for the Housing Support Register .

If you are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, it is worthwhile registering with Home Choice if you have time (though not always essential) www.homechoicebristol.co.uk (more on HomeChoice below)

If you have a professional involved and you are at risk of homelessness get them to make a referral on your behalf (see the referral form at www.bristol.gov.uk/page/housing/homelessness-and-prevention)

If you or someone you know is sleeping rough contact the outreach team at St Mungos, Compass Centre 0117 944 0581.

If you require help to prevent serious rent arrears, eviction and are therefore at risk of becoming homeless you may be offered 'floating support' through one of the organisations who provide this:

There are several providers of floating support in Bristol. Floating support means help with making sure you can maintain your tenancy e.g. If you about to be evicted or are in rent arrears.

The organisations who provide this are:

- Missing Link (for women)
- Places for People
- St Mungos.

To be eligible for help with floating support you need to be in high housing need e.g. band 1 or 2 on the Housing Support Register (HSR).

Community Support Team

This team can help with a few hours/week of support that is related to housing needs and accessing the community. To be assessed for this service you need to email Care Direct (adult.care@bristol.gov.uk) and request help from the Community Support Team.

HomeChoice

HomeChoice is what was termed the 'council waiting list'. This is an option if you want your own accommodation allocated to you and you are a person in need of social housing. (Social housing means housing provided for people who deemed vulnerable eg disabled or with mental health difficulties).
www.homechoicebristol.co.uk

When you apply you will allocated one of four bands of need. If you are in Band one or two you have a good chance of getting accommodation. But if you are in Bands three or four you are unlikely to get offered accommodation. But there is no harm in applying to HomeChoice.

Bristol Autism Spectrum Service housing support letter to HomeChoice

Bristol Autism Spectrum Service may be able to write a support letter to HomeChoice to explain your needs relating to autism. This may help HomeChoice with deciding which Band of need you are placed in. Make an appointment with Bristol Autism Spectrum Service if you would like us to assist in this way. 01275 796 204 or email awp.bass@nhs.net

Private rented accommodation

The Evening Post and Trade-It papers, also accessible via the internet: www.bristolpost.co.uk
www.tradeit.co.uk

And search daily the following websites:

- www.rightmove.co.uk
- www.dssmove.co.uk
- www.bristol.gumtree.com
- www.thisisbristol.co.uk - and follow the link for classifieds. www.letsbristol.co.uk
- www.nestoria.co.uk
- <http://uk.easyroommate.com>
- www.spareroom.co.uk

Anti-social behaviour

Talk to the council if you are being subjected to anti-social behavior eg excessive noise, rude or bullying behavior from neighbours.

You can report anti-social behaviour by telephoning 0117 922 2500, Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 6pm.

If you are a council tenant you can report anti-social behaviour by:

- Telephone: 0117 922 2200 (Option 4), Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 6pm.
- Email: estates@bristol.gov.uk

If you are a housing association tenant contact your landlord initially. If they fail to act talk to the council on one of the above numbers.

Useful contacts for help and legal advice about housing

Here are some useful contacts if you are having problems with your landlord or the council with your housing situation and need advice on your rights:

- Shelter 0344 515 1430
- National Housing Helpline 0808 800 4444
- South West Law 0117 314 6400

- Avon & Bristol Law Centre 0117 924 8662
- CHAS Bristol 0117 935 1260
- Citizens Advice Bureau - <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/housing/>
- Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) Bristol 03444 11 444

Other housing services in Bristol

WE Care & Repair
0300 323 0700
info@wecr.org.uk
www.wecr.org.uk

They can assist with small repairs and safety checks. Limited service for council tenants (better to use Bristol City Council repairs team 0117 9222 200)

Junk Busters are a private company that can remove junk from homes 07847 462340
Or 0117 373 8251

Getting social care support

If you need support from outside your family and friends eg a support worker to help you with your life you should contact Care Direct (Bristol City Council).

Care Direct is the name of the service Bristol council uses to decide how best to manage requests from people who need social care help.

Sometimes Bristol City Council can offer support to people with low level support to do with your home like managing your bills, shopping and budgeting or they can offer you more than this eg support to access social activities and help with personal care if necessary.

Bristol City Council have social care staff (often social workers) who assess people who are vulnerable in some way.

They use a law called the Care Act 2014 to decide whether you can have a support worker (or some money to buy your own support services). Support services often means a support worker who can see you for a few hours/week (sometimes many hours/week).

Support workers can help with whatever needs the social care staff identify you have eg with personal care, getting out and about in the community to do social activities, or helping you sort out things in your home like bills and budgeting.

You will be financially assessed to see if you should contribute towards your support costs

If the social care staff assess you and say you can have some service or money to buy a service (sometimes called a Direct Payment or Personal Budget) they will usually ask you to provide information about your finances. This is so that the council can decide how much you should contribute financially towards your own support.

Organisations who can provide support workers

Community Support Team

This team can help with a few hours/week of support that is related to housing needs and accessing the community. To be assessed for this service you need to email Care Direct (adult.care@bristol.gov.uk) and request help from the Community Support Team.

In your email state your name, address, date of birth and what needs you have for housing related support eg help with letters, bills, reminders to get out shopping, someone to help you get out into the community, help keeping your house in order and safe. Please also ask the Community Support Team to talk to Bristol Autism Spectrum Service so we can help with explaining your needs to the council.

Care Direct is also available on this number - 0117 922 2700 but it is better to email.

There is also an online request for help form for Care Direct if you prefer:

<http://www.bristol.gov.uk/page/adult-care-and-health/social-care-advice-and-help>.

You can approach Care Direct to ask about getting supported housing or if you wish you can phone around and see what different agencies offer. Some of these organisations you do not have to go through Care Direct for some of their services.

This list is not comprehensive and there are other organisations so contact Care Direct for more options.

Brandon Trust 0117 934 1537 Stuart Robins www.brandontrust.org

You can talk to Brandon Trust yourself if you want about getting floating support.

They also provide some shared accommodation mostly for people with learning disabilities. You need to get funding from social services for this.

Cintre 0117 924 4654 www.cintre.org

You can talk to Cintre yourself if you wish about getting long term floating support.

They also provide some residential care services and you will need to get social services funding for this.

Keyring 0117 941 5355 www.keyring.org

Keyring set up a circle of support by having about 6-8 people living in a close geographical area. There is a staff member locally to provide low level support as well as the people in the flats supporting each other. You can contact Keyring yourself if you wish without having to go through Care Direct.

Milestones Trust 0117 970 9393
www.milestonetrust.org.uk

Freeways 01275 372 109 www.freeways.org.uk
They have several shared accommodation, residential and day services.

Second Step 0117 909 6630 www.second-step.co.uk
Have 2 schemes –
Community Supported Accommodation (CSA) ask for Lisa Murfin
My Support – (same as CSA but no accommodation) ask for Graham Norton

Supported Independence 0117 9246438 www.supportedindependence.co.uk

3 Trees Community Support 0117 950 5606
www.3fcs.co.uk

Hft (formerly Home Farm Trust)
01225 461 989
www.hft.org.uk

see www.homecare.co.uk for details of other support at home agencies.

Bristol Shared Lives

Shared Lives is where an approved carer shares their home and family life with a vulnerable person.
sharedlives@bristol.gov.uk
0117 903 6680

NHS Support for adults with learning disabilities

‘Learning disability’ usually means you have an average IQ score of about 70 or lower.

- If you have a learning disability and need support with learning how to achieve daily living tasks (eg cooking, washing, shopping, leaving the house, physical disabilities or sensory problems) or emotional difficulties ask your GP for further help.
- The GP may refer you to the Community Learning Disabilities team for help and support. These teams have Occupational Therapists, music and art therapists as well as community nurses, psychologists and psychiatrists.

For more info contact your local Community learning disability team.
North team 0117 908 5000
Central team is 0117 958 5666
South team is 0117 987 8383

Supported living and residential care

The following is a list of residential care and supported living organisations in Bristol and wider area

Alexandra Homes, Knowle www.aspergercare.co.uk
0117 977 8423

Bradbury House, Brislington www.bradburyhouse.com
0117 971 6716

Brandon Trust (Badgers Close)
0117 966 2233

Encompass Care Home 0117 955 7181
For 8-18 years

Forest Road Kingswood 0117 967 7447
Springbank Brentry
Wood House Southmead
www.Shaw.co.uk

Homes Caring for Autism
01934 429 448
North Somerset, Somerset and Wiltshire

Silva Care 'Shady Pines' 37 Penn Drive , Frenchay , Bristol , BS16 1NN ,0117 9562411

Craegmoor have lots of services in south west www.craegmoor.co.uk

Pinecroft, Alveston 01454 417 658

Rookery House, Radstock 01761 438 610

Wells Road, Radstock , Bath and NES, BA3 3RS

Milestones trust 0117 970 9393 have a number of residential services
www.milestonestrust.org.uk
eg Vassall Road 6 rooms for people with learning disabilities as well as autism
Lower Hanham Road 0117 970 9300
Chasefield House BS5 11 rooms
Court View BS16 4 rooms
Mayo House near Yate 7 flats

HFT (formerly Home Farm Trust) Bristol and Bath
2 supported living housing schemes
0117 924 3152 Apsley House

0117 300 9151 Knowle Redcatch Road

Keystones Mental Health, Horfield

Have some support if you also have a serious mental health difficulty

0117 952 5117

Cotfield Homes (Dave Partington)

Modus Care

Have residential and hospital facilities in Exeter, Torquay and Plymouth area as well as Surrey

www.moduscare.com

01626 899 930

TRACS have some homes in Worcestershire for people with autism

www.tracscare.co.uk

The Retreat 01452 728 296 Glos

Cardell House 0117 967 4647

Kingswood 10 rooms

Ellsworth House

Midsomer Norton

Consensus

0808 166 1420

The Lodge

Highbridge 10 rooms

Craegmoor

01278 786 618

Primrose Villa

Fishponds 6 rooms

Craegmoor

0117 951 9481

Evergreen House

Brentry 7 rooms

0117 950 1791

Morley House

Bishopston

Freeways

0117 942 6563

Kenneth House

Horfield

Freeways
0117 951 1082

Jonathan House
Westbury Park
Freeways
0117 973 6361

Whites House
Horfield 11 rooms
Freeways
01275 372 109

Underhay House
Freeways
Eastville
0117 951 9094

Visions
St George
4 rooms
0117 960 8511

The Turrets
St George 11 rooms mostly older adults
0117 955 4058
Marsden

Kingscourt
Bishopston 6 rooms
Supported Independence
0117 923 2132

Other places to look for residential care homes are:

www.carehomes.co.uk

or

www.autism.org.uk/directory

or

www.wellaware.org.uk

