

## **FORUM HOUSING ASSOCIATION**

Forum Housing Association is committed to the promotion of Equality of Opportunity, recognising that passive policies will not succeed in combating discrimination.

All the Association's Policies and Procedures have implicit in them a determination to challenge discrimination and promote positive action to achieve Equality of Opportunity which is not a paper exercise but a reality.

**The above statement is applicable to this Policy.**

## **MOVE-ON AND RESETTLEMENT**

### **POLICY**

Forum Housing Association places significant emphasis on its role, responsibilities and duties to move on and achieve sustained resettlement for its young people. The Association recognises that quality advice and information, involvement of key stakeholders, and equipping young people with the right skills are all fundamental pre-requisites for successful resettlement. The achievement of balanced communities further requires that move on and sustained resettlement is a critically timed step for the young person, and will ensure that levels of motivation and key skills have been achieved.

Forum Housing Association defines resettlement and move on as terms that describe a fluid process of change where a young person takes steps and graduates towards more independent forms of accommodation, maintaining progress at each key stage. Resettlement can therefore be viewed as a continuum of a young person's development rather than a destination, and thus planned moves that indicate a more independent outcome can equally be viewed positively, which can include transfers to internal projects offering a greater level of independence.

Forum Housing Association will support and create positive discrimination processes to enable young people within its own stock to be considered as priority for internal move on accommodation, particularly as it concerns movement from Direct Access Projects.

Young people identified through the support planning and assessment processes as suitable and ready for move on and resettlement will be supported appropriately towards two reasonable offers of move on accommodation, internal or external. These offers will be based on the young person's particular circumstances, personal preference, availability of stock and the suitability of accommodation to meet the young person's needs. In circumstances where two reasonable offers have been supported by the Association without success, the Association may seek to review the young person's licence agreement using Behaviour and Lifestyle Procedures. In circumstances where the Association deem it necessary to terminate the young person's licence procedural rights of appeal will always apply.

Forum Housing Association recognises that some young people have difficulty maintaining independence and may regress and need to move to another type of service with more support. Forum Housing Association aims to support these individuals via flexible support plans, cross transfer arrangements and ensuring that young people are moved on in a planned way with opportunities for post move on support within their respective communities. Additionally there are occasions where young people are required to move due to issues relating to safeguarding, medical impairment and /or harassment.

Forum Housing Association maintains relationships with its key stakeholders in terms of resettlement and move on, and will further develop nomination rights, opportunities and partnerships, and ensure that any strategic development gives due regard to the potential of young people as community stakeholders and citizens.

Legislatively, the Association will assist, co-operate with and seek support from the Local Authority responsibilities duty to provide accommodation under the provisions of Part VII of the Housing Act 1996 as amended by the Homelessness Act 2002.

Forum Housing Association is jointly developing a modular based service delivery programme designed nationally and known as the Learning Power Award (LPA), to provide a tool for service delivery and progress young people towards move on and resettlement.

The LPA, has been developed from the Outside In Learning and Skills Council Homeless Sector/Foyer Federation Project and is accredited by City & Guilds.

It is designed to meet the needs of all service users within the homeless sector, from rough sleepers through to those service users ready to make the transition into independent living, the LPA allows service users to choose their own pathway, and has four broad levels, identified below, that are flexible enough to gear up and meet service user's needs. The LPA framework has four levels with each level defined by the circumstances and behaviours of the young person:

Entry Level 1: the young person is in unsafe and disorderly circumstances, which need to be stabilised

Entry Level 2: the young person wishes for an improvement in circumstances and is ready to try and move forward

Entry Level 3: the young person is in a stable and recovered home situation and is building the capacity to move forward

Level 1: the young person is confidently moving into a sustainable independent way of life

## **PROCEDURE**

Specific to this policy, the following procedures apply, which will be additionally supported by the development of a move on and resettlement toolkit held at all Association sites:

### **1. Provisional Support Planning and Registration**

- 1.1 Young people accommodated with the Association will be required to carry out initial registration and application with the Local Authority/Stock Transfer Landlord within five working days post admission. Initial registration will be confirmed via the Initial Registration form (**HSC-MOR1**).
- 1.2 Young people will be expected to maintain full registration requirements for the duration of their stay with the Association, which may involve completing re-registration processes and attendance at appointments.

### **2. Support Contract**

- 2.1 Young people accommodated with the Association will be required to confirm their understanding and acknowledgement of their commitment and responsibilities towards successful move on and resettlement. Confirmation is evidenced using the Support Contract Agreement (**HSC-NASP3**) and further detailed throughout the lifetime of the Needs Assessment and Support Planning Documentation

### **3. Support Planning and Assessment**

- 3.1 Young people will engage in a support plan, as detailed in Needs Assessment and Support Planning Policy and Procedures, and be expected to attend and participate in all formal reviews. The support plan will detail move on and resettlement targets and plans necessary to move the young person towards more independent outcomes. This may include attendance at internal resettlement group sessions and learning events
- 3.2 The support plan will be used as the primary planning tool to identify a young person's readiness for move on towards more independent outcomes.
- 3.3 The support plan will aim to draw together a range of information to make a determination on a young person's readiness for move on towards more independent outcomes. This information includes:
  - progress towards and through LPA Modules
  - satisfactory evidence of independent living skills
  - evaluation and assessment of risk
  - hopes and aspirations of the young people
  - availability and suitability of post move on support

#### **4. Move on Accommodation Offers**

- 4.1 The young person identified through support planning and assessment procedures as ready and suitable for move on will be required to co-operate with all requirements to enable this to be achieved within appropriate timescales
- 4.2 The young person will be presented with up to two offers of accommodation that will move them towards more independent outcomes. Examples of Independent Outcomes include (but are not restricted to):
- internal Transfer from Direct Access to Medium Term Projects or Dispersed Accommodation
  - internal Transfer from Medium Term Accommodation to Dispersed Accommodation
  - owner occupied accommodation
  - private rented accommodation ~ where the young person is expected to rent the accommodation as their long term home
  - long stay accommodation based services (over 2 years) – where the intention of the service is to provide a home for more than two years
  - local authority/RSL tenant – a young person living in general needs social housing
  - as part of another person's household, but where the arrangement is long stay, for example a young person living with their family
- 4.3 The young person will be supported by the Association via the provision of a Move-On and Resettlement Reference (written) (**HSC-MOR2**).
- 4.4 Where young people may be eligible for a Community Care grant, the Association may assist via the completion of form **HSC-MOR3** – Community Care Grant Reference.

**Non-compliance with this policy may result in disciplinary proceedings.**

HSC-MOR1	Initial Registration Form (document to follow first quarter 2007)
HSC-MOR2	Move-On and Resettlement Reference
HSC-NASP3	Support Contract Agreement
HSC-MOR3	Community Care Grant Reference