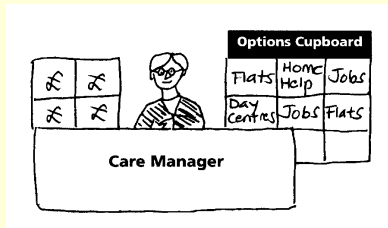




Housing Options



- Housing Options is a team that gives advice, information and assistance to people who need help with their housing
- There is a dedicated housing options officer that only works with people who have a learning disability
- I work closely with the community learning disability team
- I try and stop people from becoming homeless
- I also give general housing advice
- I can help people find accommodation if they are threatened with homelessness or if they want to live more independently





Housing Options



- What sort of help?
- If you already have your own tenancy but are now worried about losing it, I would look at the reasons why and see if we can stop that happening
- This could include talking to your landlord, advising you on housing benefit, talking to your housing officer, arranging for tenancy support for you or referring you to the learning disability team
- If you live with friends or family but they have asked you to leave I can talk with you to see if I can help you get your own accommodation
- This could be your own flat with some support, or maybe some supported accommodation, depending on your needs





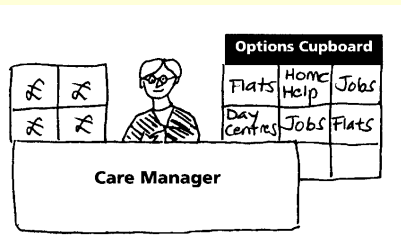
Housing Options



- I can also work with people who are not threatened with homelessness
- This could be people who live with family, or who live in an existing service, but are interested in finding out about living more independently
- We would look at the support you need to see how independently you can live
- Some people might only need support with their tenancy and the learning disabilities officer can arrange that



- Some people might have higher support needs, like needing help doing the cooking or with personal care, they would be referred to the learning disabilities team to see if they are eligible for extra support



Accommodation types



- What type of accommodation is there?



- For people who are quite independent and only need support with their tenancy we could look at finding your own flat



- This could be a flat you rent from a private landlord. If you do not have the money to do this, we can help you apply for a crisis loan and also assist you with a deposit



- Or we could help you apply to the housing register and advise you on how to bid for a council property.

Supported accommodation



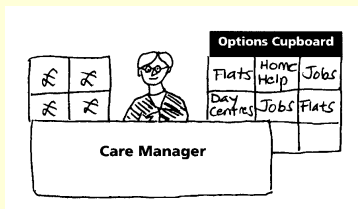
- For people who need more support there are different types of supported accommodation depending on the type of support you need



- Some examples of supported accommodation are supported living schemes, residential care homes, general needs supported, shared lives and extra care

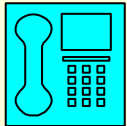


- For the lower support services the learning disabilities housing options officer can assess and refer people



- For very high support services people would be referred to the community learning disabilities team

Housing Options



- How can you get help?
- You can come into the City Direct Centre at Bartholomew Square and ask to speak an advice and assessment officer or the learning disabilities officer
- If you are working with adult social care, an advice agency or an advocacy group they can make a referral to Housing Options for you
- You can call the Housing Options advice line on 01273 293111
- Not everyone that is referred will be eligible for assistance, but the best way to find out if you are is to make contact.
- Even if you are not eligible to work with me I can give you some housing advice and let you know about other agencies that may be able to help, such as Brighton Housing Trust and advocacy groups