

Who might be homeless?

Identifying a client who may be homeless or threatened with homelessness is not always immediately obvious and public authorities may want to consider asking additional questions when something they hear raises a concern that a client may be in this situation.

There are many situations in which a client may be threatened with Homelessness however some of the most common circumstances are outlined below (this is not an exhaustive list):

<p>Loss of a private tenancy</p> <p>Private Tenants can ask the council for help when their landlord starts the eviction process (usually with a section 21 notice or sometimes with a section 8 notice).</p>	<p>Council or housing association tenants facing eviction</p> <p>Council and Housing Association tenants often have additional security of tenure. At the point they have been served with a notice seeking possession they should be referred.</p>
<p>Homeowner Repossessions</p> <p>A person may be homeless or threatened with homelessness if their mortgage lender has begun steps to repossess their home.</p> <p>They may also be threatened with homelessness if a change of circumstances has made their home unaffordable or otherwise unsuitable.</p>	<p>You don't have a home</p> <p>A person may be homeless if they do not have a settled home. This may include people who are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sofa Surfing • Rough Sleeping • Staying in a refuge or hostel
<p>Asked to leave by family or friends</p> <p>If family or friends withdraw their permission for someone to stay, they may be homeless or threatened with homelessness.</p> <p>The council will often contact the excluding party to confirm details and possibly negotiate for the excluded person to return.</p>	<p>At risk of violence or abuse</p> <p>A person is homeless or at risk of homelessness if they are experiencing domestic abuse (this may include ex-partners and family members)</p> <p>A person may also be homeless if they (or a member of their household) are suffering from violence or threats of violence from a third party.</p>
<p>They have a home but can't stay in it</p> <p>This can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who have been illegally evicted • Homes in a serious state of disrepair • They don't have accommodation to live with your children or other people who would normally live with them • Homes that are seriously overcrowded 	<p>Persons leaving institutions</p> <p>A person may be homeless if they leave an environment where housing was provided but ceases available to them. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persons leaving the armed services • Care Leavers • Prison/YOI Leavers • Someone leaving hospital or bed blocking due to no suitable accommodation being available
<p>Loss of tied accommodation</p> <p>A person may be homeless if they reside in accommodation tied to a job and have been asked to leave it (i.e. School Caretaker).</p> <p>This is usually (but not exclusively) when the person leaves that job.</p>	<p>You have nowhere to put a mobile home</p> <p>A person may be homeless if they live in a mobile home (i.e. caravan or Narrowboat) and have nowhere to legally park it or moor it.</p>