

# Training Programme

Statutory Agencies

2018



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# Statutory Agency Training

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## NHAS Training

The NHAS training programme is designed in response to the latest development in housing and homelessness and is aimed at frontline staff of Statutory Agencies, eg. NHS teams, Offender advice and support agencies, Job Centre Plus etc. Our team of professional trainers have a wealth of expertise and experience to help advisers gain the knowledge, skills and confidence to tackle housing issues and give quality housing advice.

You can find out more about our range of face to face courses, half day briefings and webinars training online.

### How to access NHAS training

#### Face to face training & webinars

If you would like to book a place on a schedule course or webinar please log in to [www.nhas.org.uk](http://www.nhas.org.uk) and go to training calendar. If you have forgotten your username or password, please contact: [nhas@shelter.org.uk](mailto:nhas@shelter.org.uk).

#### Support Needs

If you are registering a delegate with support needs please ensure that you provide this information in the enquiry form, which is accessed through the online training calendar.

#### On demand training for NHAS housing courses

Our training service provides statutory agency teams with the option to organise in-house training.

If you have up to 16 delegates you can arrange for an in-house training course for your front-line team. All our training is free; we only ask that you provide a suitable venue.

If you any queries about the On Demand process please email [nhas@shelter.org.uk](mailto:nhas@shelter.org.uk).

Up and coming webinars are also advertised in our monthly e-bulletins. If you are not already registered to receive bulletins, you can join our mailing list, email [nhas@shelter.org.uk](mailto:nhas@shelter.org.uk)

# Training Courses

## Housing & Homelessness for Public Authorities

Duration: 10am to 4pm

### Who the course is for:

This course is aimed at workers who are not housing specialists but who would like an overview of housing law basics. These may be local citizens advice or other voluntary agency staff or volunteers who are not directly responsible for giving advice but who provide a supporting role, for example gateway assessors, reception or admin staff.

The course is also suitable for staff from statutory agencies (other than Local Authority Housing Options staff) who would benefit from an overview of housing law.

### Course aims:

To provide an overview of the fundamentals of housing law as it applies to occupiers of rented housing and to those who are homeless or threatened with homelessness.

### Learning objectives:

By the end of the day you will be able to:

- provide an overview of types of housing status and identify when a client is likely to need further advice
- explain the stages of the possession process
- identify situations where a possession order or eviction may be avoidable and identify when urgent action may be needed
- identify possible housing options for clients
- identify the statutory duties owed to homeless people.
- be aware of when you may need to consult a specialist or refer a client to another agency, and identify resources available, including NHAS consultancy.

# Homelessness Advice Next Steps

Duration: 10am to 4pm

## **Who the course is for:**

Generalist advisers or new housing advisers starting to, or currently, negotiating with local authorities on homeless applications or challenges. The course is not aimed at housing specialists.

Participants should have attended the Housing Foundation course or the Introduction to Homelessness and Local Authority Duties webinar.

## **Course aims:**

To enable you to give effective advice and assistance to people making Local Authority homeless applications.

## **Learning objectives:**

By the end of the day you will be able to:

- Identify the actions you would need take to assist a client in making a homeless application
- Identify Local Authority Prevention and Relief duties
- Recognise how a Local Authority fulfils and ends its homelessness duties
- Outline the ways in which Local Authority decisions can be challenged
- Identify resources available to you and when to make a referral.

# In-house Briefings

To complete our existing training programme we have developed this briefings to provide an update to your existing basic understanding.

## EEA Nationals and Returning Residents' Eligibility

Duration: 3 hours

This briefing will provide an overview of the rules in respect of eligibility for housing & homelessness assistance & related welfare benefits that affect EEA nationals and their family members, and British nationals and other persons from abroad returning to the common travel area.

This briefing will achieve this by:

- Examining the recent legislative changes and changes to existing guidance that determine whether or not returning British nationals or EEA Nationals are deemed to be habitually resident in the common travel area
- identifying which countries are members of the European Union and distinguishing this from the larger European Economic Area, and in doing so, highlighting and comparing how the UK treats specific member states differently for the purposes of eligibility for housing assistance, homelessness assistance & means tested benefits specifying how the government have made changes to existing legislation that now prescribe time limits which determine how long EEA worker and jobseeker status is retained for
- comparing and contrasting how and when EEA worker and EEA self-employed status is retained
- illustrating how the government has issued changes to guidance for decision makers to assist them in determining whether or not work is genuine or effective by introducing a minimum earnings threshold criteria
- explaining how the government has made changes to existing housing benefit legislation that remove pass-porting for EEA jobseekers

- examining how the government have introduced further legislative changes that place additional residence requirement criteria on EEA jobseekers who wish to claim Child Tax Credits and Child Benefits for their dependants
- illustrating how primary carers of EEA children in education derivative rights to reside in the UK may be entitled to homelessness assistance and related means tested welfare benefits
- exploring future measures to be implemented that will affect EEA national's entitlement to 'in work benefits', and how they may export child benefits to their own member states

## Duty to Refer

Duration: 3 hours

This briefing will provide an overview of the new Public Authority Duty to Refer which applies to public authorities in England.

Objectives

This briefing will explain

- Why the legislation was introduced and what it actually says
- Who the legislation applies to and when
- Definition of the terms homeless and threatened with homelessness
- Procedures for referral - including local connection

# Webinars

Our free webinars have been developed to provide you with the opportunity to learn and share best-practice initiatives, and keep up to date with legislation and policy.

Webinars are a way of training/providing presentations or holding meetings over the internet to lots of people in different locations. All you usually need to access our webinars is an internet connection and a web browser (such as Internet Explorer or Firefox), however we also use telephone conferencing in case there are local issues with internet speed etc.

The webinars complement our existing face to face course titles, and cover a range of topics:

- Introduction to Homelessness & Local Authority Duties
- Public Authorities Duty to Refer
- Vulnerability
- Housing Duties to Young People

## Requirements

You don't need to download any software - all you need to access the training is an internet connection and a landline telephone.



# Introduction to Homelessness and Local Authority Duties

Duration: 90 minutes

## Who is the webinar for?

Advisers who want an introduction to homelessness and local authority duties, so they are aware of the legislation. It is aimed at those with little knowledge so is not suitable for those who are experienced advisers and are involved in dealing with homelessness on a day to day basis as part of their role.

## Aims:

Provide an introduction:

- the duties owed to homeless people by local authorities
- the five tests of homelessness using case studies
- identify when accommodation duties are triggered and what this means

# Public Authorities – Duty to Refer Webinar

Duration: 75 minutes

The new public authority duty to refer comes into force on 1st October 2018. This will place a duty on certain public authorities to refer service users who they consider may be homeless or threatened with homelessness to a local housing authority.

## Who is the webinar for?

Staff from Public Authorities who are under the duty to refer. This includes prisons, youth offender institutions, secure training centres, secure colleges, youth offending teams, probation services, JobCentre Plus, social services authorities, emergency departments, urgent treatment centres, hospitals providing inpatient care

## Aims:

To provide an overview of the Duty to Refer which applies to public authorities in England. This webinar will cover:

- Why the legislation was introduced and what it actually says
- Who the legislation applies to and when
- The definition of the terms homelessness and threatened with homelessness
- The procedures for referral including good practice

- What you need to consider to prepare for implementing the duty
- Useful resources

## Vulnerability

Duration: 75 minutes

### **Who is the webinar for?**

Statutory Agencies, Local Citizens Advice and other voluntary agencies.

### **Aims:**

Our webinar provides an overview of the Supreme Court decision in *Johnson v Solihull MBC* and *Hotak and Kanu v LB Southwark*. Participants also have an opportunity to discuss the implications of this decision.

## Housing Duties to Young People (16-24 year olds)

Duration: 90 minutes

### **Who is the webinar for?**

Local Authority Housing Options staff, Children's services staff and Statutory Agencies who deal with young people.

### **Aims**

- Identify some of the barriers that young people may experience in accessing and retaining accommodation
- Explain how Local Housing Services may discharge homelessness duties for young people following an application under Part VII of the Housing Act 1996
- Explain the duties under Part 3 of the Children Act 1989
- Identify the importance of joint working and building links with other agencies

## Contact:

For further information about our introductory courses, or to book, please email [nhas@shelter.org.uk](mailto:nhas@shelter.org.uk).

The in-house/on demand training receives a high volume of requests, please ensure that you are able to provide a suitable room for the date and time agreed when securing your training dates as the high demand may mean that we are unable to secure an alternative date for you. If you do need to cancel or reschedule your training please ensure that you provide us with a minimum notice of 4 weeks where possible.

## [nhas.org.uk](http://nhas.org.uk)

NHAS is a Shelter service supported by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government.

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