



Preventing homelessness and improving housing through expert advice, training and support to those working at the frontline

Here to help local authorities and advice agencies on 0300 330 0517



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[Training](#)



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NHAS Roadshow - Homelessness Reduction Act: Challenges, learning and working together

**SAVE
THE
DATE**



Our autumn roadshow dates have now been released! With a focus on what has been learnt from the Homelessness Reduction Act so far, the events promise to give attendees the opportunity to work with nearby colleagues from local authorities, advice agencies and statutory agencies to look at what's been working well, what hasn't, and explore what the future may bring. We will also be looking in more detail at the duty to refer that will be coming in from October.

This is where we will be:

- 18th September – Nottingham
- 20th September – Leeds
- 27th September – Bristol

Places will be offered on a 'first come first served' basis – email nhas@shelter.org.uk to secure your place today.

- [Read about our spring roadshow.](#)

All NHAS training is FREE

We provide free housing training for local authority housing options staff, local citizens advice and voluntary agency members, and more recently to statutory agency staff* [as defined by the Homelessness Reduction Act code of guidance](#) (such as health teams, prison services, Job Centre plus and probation services). If you are unsure whether you fall under one of these groups and would like to access our training courses please email nhas@shelter.org.uk, we will explore what options are available to you.

*Statutory agencies can also use our free consultancy line and information resources.

HRA update

New NHAS [fact sheet on Personal Housing Plans](#): This factsheet looks at why you are given a personal housing plan if you apply for help as homeless.

Stats/Updates/etc

- [Rough sleeping strategy: prevention, intervention, recovery](#) - The government announced its rough sleeping strategy this week, with a promised £100million of funding in its bid to end rough sleeping by 2027.
- [Rough Sleeping Strategy and prison leavers: Rory Stewart blog](#) - Prison leavers are integral to the strategy, and as the plan is released, a £6million pilot is announced to help this group of people with their housing issues. Female offenders and those with short sentences are the focus of this pilot.
- [All supported housing funding to be retained in welfare system](#) - Housing benefit will be kept in place for all those living in supported housing, the government has announced
- [Social housing green paper](#): aims to rebalance the relationship between tenants and landlords, tackle stigma and ensure that social housing can be both a safety net and springboard into home ownership.

Housing Matters: Issue 125



This edition includes articles about

- Interim accommodation after the Homelessness Reduction Act: John Gallagher looks at how the duty is triggered, how it can be ended, and considers the question of whether a person can be found intentionally homeless in relation to the loss of interim accommodation.
- Notice is served: Richard Lee examines the question of when a notice is validly served.
- Applying as homeless flowchart – provides an overview of the steps the council will follow if you apply for help as homeless.

Recently published

- [Shelter Report Cause and Consequences - Mental Health and Homelessness in Manchester](#)
- [Rogue landlord: consumer protection and housing law applied](#)
- [Housing First: tackling homelessness for those with complex needs](#) – House of Commons briefing paper
- [James Brokenshire provides stronger powers for councils to tackle empty homes](#) - Councils across England will have powers to charge even greater Council Tax premiums on homes left empty for many years following an amendment to a government bill
- [Index of Private Housing Rental Prices, Great Britain: June 2018](#) - An experimental price index tracking the prices paid for renting property from private landlords in Great Britain
- [Administrative Court judicial review guide](#) - Detailed legal guidance on bringing a judicial review case in the Administrative Court. The July 2018 edition reflects legislative and practice changes relevant to the Administrative Court over the last year.

- [Tackling the under-supply of housing in England](#) – House of Commons briefing paper considers key trends in housing supply in the UK and goes on to focus on some of the key barriers and potential solutions to increasing supply in England
- [Homes \(Fitness for Human Habitation\) Bill 2017-19](#) – provides a background to the Bill.
- [Homes England Annual Report 2017/18](#) - annual reports set out the activities of Homes England, including that of predecessor organisation Homes and Communities Agency
- [Rogue landlord: consumer protection and housing law applied](#)
- [Shelter Legal: What's new](#) - updated regularly to reflect changes in the law. This page lists the most recent updates to Shelter Legal with a brief description of the amendment.

Case Law

- [Case list: August 2018](#) - Recent homelessness and allocation cases, and cases from other areas of law which may have significance for homelessness decision

Revised NHAS factsheets

The following factsheets have recently been updated – you can view and download them from nhas.org.uk/factsheets

- Persons from abroad
- Priority need
- Out of hours emergencies
- Habitual residence test
- Intentional homelessness
- Local connection
- Homelessness: 16 and 17 year olds
- Homelessness: young people 18+
- Personal housing plans

Specialist Debt Advice Service



Are you a local authority debt adviser struggling with a case, or simply keen for a second opinion?

If you deal with complex debt queries and are struggling to find where else to get comprehensive answers, this service may be for you.

[Find out more about the specialist debt advice service here.](#)

NHAS updates

NHAS training

[Log in](#) to view the latest webinar topics and dates including our new **Introduction to the Homelessness Reduction Act webinar and Duty to Refer webinar for statutory agencies.**



Webchat Facility

Access to housing consultancy via Webchat is a popular way for members to get free advice. Webchat is accessed by going to www.nhas.org.uk and clicking on the 'live chat' button.

In June 2018...



304

people working in local authorities expanded their knowledge of various housing topics after attending NHAS training.



147

queries that were dealt with by our specialist housing advice team resulted in a homeless application being accepted.



43

staff attended specialist training on housing debt related issues - welfare reform, mortgage arrears and benefit entitlement.

If you'd like to be added to or removed from our distribution list, or have problems accessing any of the materials in the bulletin, please email nhas@shelter.org.uk.

Regards,
The NHAS Team
www.nhas.org.uk

NHAS is funded by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. We support the prevention of homelessness by enabling frontline providers to deliver good quality housing and homelessness advice.