

Choice of Accommodation

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Review Frequency	Three yearly
Latest Review Date	15/11/2023
Approved By & Date	TBC
Next Review Date	15/11/2026

Version Control

Version	Date	Description	Updated By	Approved By
1	15/11/2018	Cabinet Paper	Avril Wilson and Richard Keble	Cabinet
2	To ADD	Updated Policy	Kerry McCrossan Catherine Hitchman	Mark Fitton

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The Care and Support After-Care (Choice of Accommodation) Regulations 2014

Care and Support Statutory Guidance issued under the Care Act 2014 Department of Health

Policy Name	Choice of Accommodation
Version No.	V0.01
Approval Date	TBC
Category	Operational
Classification	Internal

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Introduction

1.1. The policy of Worcestershire County Council (WCC) is to enable people to continue to live safely and independently in their own homes for as long as possible. However, it is recognised that for some people their needs can best be met by moving into care accommodation, for example a residential or nursing care home.

1.2. Moving into care accommodation is a major decision in anyone's life, and it is important both for the individuals involved and their families that they receive appropriate support with decision making and adjusting to significant life change.

1.3. The purpose of this document is to provide guidance on supporting people with a choice of accommodation and contains essential information on the legislation related to WCC's responsibilities for people entering specified types of care accommodation.

1.4. The document is for managers and operational staff working in WCC People

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18.4 The worker will visit the chosen care home and take responsibility for ensuring the home can meet the person's assessed needs, and that all the person's personal documentation including assessment, risk assessment, support plan is up to date, accurate, and are provided to the new care home prior to the move. The Social Worker must also provide the care home with the following:

Key contacts: include family, health professionals, mental health services, advocates etc.

Any other assessments relevant i.e., Falls, Behaviour management plans
Team contact details.

18.5 The worker will consult with the management of the care home, and the person and their family regarding the best way to organise the move.

18.6 The worker will contact the care home in the 24 hours before the date of the planned transfer as a final check to ensure they are fully prepared to accept the person the following day.

18.7 The worker will ensure that appropriate transport arrangements are made ensuring that the vehicle is suitably equipped to accommodate the needs of the person who will be accompanied by a carer/family member who knows them and can offer support during the journey.

18.8 The worker will maintain weekly contact with the care home after the move and will conduct a review after 4-6 weeks to which family, care staff, relevant professionals will be invited to attend.

18.9 If required a further review will be scheduled for 6 weeks after the first review.

18.10 Following that, the usual 12 monthly (annual) review will apply, unless there is a request for a re assessment.

Emergency short term placements

19.1 There may be circumstances where emergency placements may be required into short term care home accommodation i.e., crisis replacement care due to the breakdown of the person's care arrangements. In such circumstances the Social Worker must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the person's choice of accommodation is maximised as far as possible in line with the Regulations.

Complaints

20.1 Complaints about the application of the Regulations and decisions taken in individual cases will fall within the scope of the council's statutory complaints procedure. The Social Worker must ensure that all individuals are aware of and understand the existence of the complaint's procedure and their rights under it.

