Assessment of Intentionality: The Council will assess the cause of your homelessness to determine whether you have made yourself intentionally homeless. You might be deemed intentionally homeless if you have been evicted from your home due to criminal behaviour or anti-social behaviour or in some circumstances, if the reason you have lost your home is a direct result of going into prison.

In assessing whether you have made yourself intentionally homeless, Broxbourne Council will consider all factors relating to your homelessness, we will consider any issues you have with mental illness or substance abuse.

If the Council decides you are intentionally homeless, it will only offer you help with finding housing. The Council will make a final decision and will accept a homelessness duty to you if you are deemed eligible, homeless, in priority need and have not made yourself intentionally homeless.

See our leaflet on Options available for housing for single people.

If you need to make a decision on whether it is reasonable to keep your home while in prison serving a sentence or on remand. This will also depend on whether you can continue to afford paying your housing costs. Please contact Housing Options at Broxbourne Council for advice.

Contact information for agencies and services

- Stoneham-bass.org.uk
  Help with supported accommodation, especially for low risk adult prisoners eligible for bail or home detention curfew
- Nacro (previously National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders)
- Prison Reform Trust
- The Hardman Directory
- Shelter
- Unlock

Housing Needs Department, Borough of Broxbourne,
Bishops’ College, Churchgate, Cheshunt EN8 9XG
Tel: 01992 785555
Email: housingneeds@broxbourne.gov.uk
Visit: www.broxbourne.gov.uk
If you are about to be released or have recently been released from prison, there are services that could provide practical support and help you find accommodation. You could also apply to Broxbourne Borough Council for Housing assistance as a homeless person.

Housing Advice before release from Prison
Broxbourne Council will help you if you are at risk of being homeless after your release from prison. You can contact the Housing Needs Team for housing advice. The Council will provide you with advice and housing assistance. If your release date is within 56 days, the Council might be able to assist you in the prevention of your homelessness by taking the following steps:

- You can make an application to the Housing department before your discharge from prison. If you will be homeless within 56 days of discharge from prison, it is important that the Prison Service or Probation Service make contact with us.
- Referral to services that could provide you with support or help you find accommodation
- Carrying out an initial assessment to determine whether you are eligible and if you are at risk of homelessness. This can be carried out with the assistance of your support worker, by email or by telephone
- The Council may be able to draw up a Personalised Housing Plan with you after the initial assessment. This will enable the Council to work with you in identifying appropriate actions with a support pathway to prevent you from being homeless after your discharge from prison.

Homeless after discharge from Prison
Broxbourne Council will carry out an assessment and must have reason to believe that you are homeless and eligible.

The Council, with the help of your probation officer or any other agency providing support for you, may assist you in securing accommodation for at least six months. To relieve your homelessness, this may include one private rented sector, arranging accommodation with friends and family, however, this will depend on your circumstances.

The Council will ask you to provide documents upon your discharge from prison, this will include your passport/home office papers and prison discharge notification.

If it has not been possible to relieve your homelessness, the Council will assess your priority need for housing and establish that you have not made yourself intentionally homeless. In assessing priority need, we will consider whether the following may apply:

- You have a mental illness
- You have a learning disability or physical disability
- You are under 21 and have been in care

The Council will also carry out an assessment to determine whether you are vulnerable due to the following:

- You were in the armed forces
- You are fleeing violence or threats of violence

The Council in its vulnerability assessment will consider the following:

- Time spent in prison
- How long it has been since your release from prison
- Third party support available to you
- Your conviction history
- Any other factors that might have an impact on your ability to find accommodation or maintain accommodation for yourself.

If you have been assessed to be in priority need or there is reason to believe you are in priority need, you might be offered temporary accommodation pending a homelessness decision.

Local connection: Under the Homelessness Reduction Act, the local authority can refer applicants who do not have a local connection to their borough to another local authority where they have a local connection if they are eligible and already homeless. The act will enable the local authority to do this before enquiries are made into priority need or intentionality.