

Supported Living (*ref 14*)

1. Supported Living is about people having lives and homes of their own.
 - Supported Living is about people having their own home (tenancy or ownership), which is contractually or practically separate from their support.
 - Supported Living is about people choosing how they live, where they live and who supports them.
 - Supported Living is about individualised supports, planned individually - support should move with the individual put them in control.
 - Supported Living should be available to all, including people with the most severe disabilities, no-one is excluded.
2. Supported Living focuses on one person at a time and concentrates on relationships, making use of informal supports and community resources.
3. Housing providers and support providers can each concentrate on what they do best.
4. Housing Benefit can be claimed and pay for housing costs.
Want to know more about Housing Benefit? Go to *Quick Brief* [Housing Benefit](#) (*ref 08*).
5. People can have real security of tenure and not be moved against their will. Home ownership becomes a natural follow on.
6. Supported Living is not the alternative to registered homes, nor is it about living on your own without support.
7. Registered Care Homes are not regarded as providing supported living. Agencies who provide personal care needs to people living in support living schemes might need to be included under *Domiciliary Care Registration*.
8. Both purchasers and providers should develop their own robust and meaningful quality mechanisms. Use a network of people who know and care about the person to place effective safeguards.
9. Recent research on comparison of costs show that supported living costs are not necessarily more expensive than other residential supports, and can sometimes even work out cheaper. Moving individuals from group homes to independent supported living can prove more economical for the local authority, even when the cost of providing the service is more. This is because the individual becomes entitled to other benefits such as Housing Benefit and Income Support, making the cost to the local authority less.
Want to know more about Income Support? Go to *Quick Brief* [Income Support](#) (*ref 09*).

If you require further information or have other queries contact Housing Options.

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Although we try to ensure that statements as to the law and other facts are accurate this report gives general guidance and does not aim to cater for individual cases. Housing Options and our sponsors cannot accept responsibility for any loss incurred as a result of relying on such statements, specific advice should always be obtained on individual cases.

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