Nehemiah delivers a two-stage **residential recovery programme** for adult men who are recovering from addiction and wish to change their lives. Stage 1, A New Future, is a CBT-based programme run every weekday morning, which addresses addiction and teaches new life skills. In Stage 2, men transition to our move-on house where they are supported in finding meaningful activity and consolidating the behaviours and skills they learned in Stage 1.

**1. Application**

Nehemiah asks you to complete and return a Residential Recovery Programme Application Form. Please note that for offenders, a current risk assessment, OASys/PSR and a list of pre-convictions must be attached to the application form. Applicants from the community will also be expected to provide a risk assessment from a professional to support their application.

Please note that without a current risk assessment, we cannot progress with applications.

We also require the applicant to have access to a valid form of ID.

*Completion of the Application Form does not automatically guarantee an interview.*

**Criteria**

* Applicants must be men over 18 and have a history of addiction to drugs or alcohol
* Have abstained for a minimum of 4 weeks from all illicit substances
* Must be abstinent for at least 3 months from any substitute prescriptions such as methadone, subutex, and diazepam. Naloxone and implants that treat addictions such as Probuphine and others of a similar nature are not permitted. Slow release substitutes such as Buvidal are also not permitted.
* Must have an awareness of their support needs, i.e. addiction being their main problem
* Must have a valid NI number
* Must be eligible for the Housing Benefit and Universal Credit

***We do not accept:***

* Applicants who are under 18
* Applicants with a history of arson
* Incidents of violence in the last 6 months
* Applicants with diagnosis of schizophrenia, psychopathy, recent suicidal tendencies or actual attempts, psychosis, borderline personality disorder, or other severe mental health disorder
* Applicants with any history of sexual offending or offence committed with a sexual motivation
* Applicants with no recourse to public funds

**N.B:** Applicants who are regarded as high risk to the public or themselves will be assessed on a case-by-case basis using our **risk assessment.**

**2. Interview**

Applicants are interviewed face-to-face, or by other means if necessary, by two Nehemiah staff.

The interview will include questions designed to highlight self-motivation, insight and recognition of the need by the applicant for continuing support.

**3. Consideration**

The staff who completed the interview will take the information to the staff team at the next possible meeting, where the case will be discussed and the next steps will be decided.

**4. Decision**

Following the interview a decision will be given as soon as possible to the client and/or referrer:

* to accept the applicant onto the programme
* to request more information from the applicant or his referring agency
* to conduct another interview with the applicant
* to reject the application

**5. Admission**

If there is a vacancy at one of our stage one houses, the applicant will be invited to join the programme as soon as possible, or will be placed in the waiting pool if there is no vacancy. Applicants on the waiting list should keep in touch with Nehemiah until a vacancy occurs.

**Applicants will be drug tested on arrival.** Our placements are conditional on the basis of a negative test result upon arrival, therefore if the applicant were to produce a positive reading, their placement is likely to be revoked.

**6. Appeal**

If an applicant is rejected following the interview, he may request reconsideration in writing, setting out why he believes he is eligible. In this event, Nehemiah will re-examine the case and any decision made will be final.

**7. Re-Referrals**

Priority is given to new applicants to join the programme. Please note that ex-residents cannot re-apply within a year. However, Nehemiah can use its discretion to reconsider an ex-resident’s application after a year’s absence. Staff will take into consideration the reason why the person left the programme or was evicted; his commitment and engagement whilst in Nehemiah; his support needs; and whether he had rent arrears (this list is not comprehensive).

Please Note: We are not a detox or a rehabilitation programme, but a residential recovery programme where residents can stay for up to 2 years. The stages are:

* A structure of support over a 12-week period with mandatory attendance at the daily programme sessions; weekly drug/alcohol testing.
* Progression to a lowered structure of support over a 6 to 12 month period at our move-on house; random drug/alcohol testing.
* Finally, an option of minimum structure for a further 6 months; random drug/alcohol testing.