



Supported Housing Programme

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

ADMISSION CRITERIA AND PROCEDURE

1. Application

Nehemiah asks you to complete and return a Supported Housing Application Form. Please note that for offenders, a current risk assessment, OASys and a list of Pre-convictions must be attached to the application form

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. Implants that treat addictions such as Probuphine and naloxone and others of a similar nature are 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 ESA elements of 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, 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 interviewed face-to-face by two Nehemiah staff. If the applicant is in prison outside of London, the interview will be by telephone and a face-to-face interview will be organised after release.

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

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 47 Tooting Bec Gardens, the applicant will be invited to join the programme as soon as possible, or will be placed on the waiting list if there is no vacancy. Applicants on the waiting list should keep in touch with Nehemiah until a vacancy occurs. Priority is on a strictly first-come first-served basis.

Applicants will be drug tested on arrival. Should the test prove positive, the person will be asked to leave for four weeks; there is no guarantee that the place will be kept for the individual, but the person's name will be put back on the waiting list.

6. APPEAL

If an applicant is rejected following the face-to-face 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, TNP can use its discretion to re-consider 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 specialist supported housing programme where Residents can stay for up to 2 years. The stages are:

- A medium 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; 2-weekly drug/alcohol testing
- Finally an option of minimum structure for a further 6 months; monthly drug/alcohol testing