

Longcroft

Longcroft is a large Victorian house set in its own gardens near to Lancaster city centre. It is a Registered Care Home for 16 men aged eighteen plus who have complex needs, are mentally disordered or who are hard to place. Accommodation is provided in single en-suite or in shared rooms. All rooms have wash basins and tea making facilities. All meals are prepared and served by staff members.

Local Community

Lancaster has a variety of leisure facilities, including sporting activities. Outings are organised including walks, rambles and sports activities at the two local sports complexes. There are rail and coach stations in the city. The house has a minibus for educational and leisure trips.

Staff

Staff provide cover twenty-four hours per day. They are very committed to offering support for the full range of people's needs within an atmosphere of support and security. A liaison Probation Officer is available to help with problems or queries.

Personal Support Plans

Each resident will be allocated a Key Worker and during the initial four week assessment period individual Support Plans will be worked out. This Support Plan is reviewed at regular intervals as the residents develop a variety of skills that will help them towards greater levels of independence.

Opportunities

We aim to work alongside residents, and rebuild their lives, helping to sort out problems and preparing for independent living. Residents are encouraged to take advantage of the many opportunities available whilst they are with us. Local NACRO courses and college courses are available and a programme of domestic and social skills is run in house. Courses run by the local Probation Service are also a good opportunity to learn new skills. In some cases qualifications can be achieved.

Longcroft has a number of liaison agencies within Lancaster providing a comprehensive back-up to the structured programme for each individual resident. They include:

- Liaison Probation Officer – we work closely with the LPO to reduce the risk of re-offending.
- Ridge Lea Hospital – Psychiatric unit, Drug and Alcohol Abuse unit, also Therapeutic activities and various courses i.e., Anger and Aggression courses. We also attend case conferences in respect of our residents.
- Meadowside Medical Practice – We have a liaison CPN who assesses all residents. We work very closely with all the medical staff to ensure a realistic appraisal of the residents physical and mental health needs.

We also work in close liaison with all other agencies, social workers etc., that are assigned to, or we feel will be of benefit to the needs of our residents.

Conduct

Rules are kept to a minimum, but some are necessary:

- Behaviour to one another, staff and guests is expected to be of a reasonable standard.
- Alcohol and drugs are not allowed inside the house. Prescribed medication is held and distributed by staff.
- Guests are not allowed in resident's bedrooms.
- Residents are required to take part in the daily routines of the communal areas of the house. Residents are responsible for keeping their bedrooms clean and tidy.
- Residents are required to take part in the rehabilitation programme which seeks to enhance their return to the

community or improve their quality of life. This may be a training course or therapy either at or away from the project.

- No aggression, verbal or physical.

Length of Stay

Not all residents have the same needs so there is no fixed length of stay. Each referrer will identify sources of funding, some of which may be time limited. In all instances the aim is to help individuals towards crime-free independence.

Referrals

Referrals in the first instance should be made to Longcroft. The level of risk to the public, staff and residents will be the principle determining selection. Those considering coming may be asked to spend home leave with us by arrangement through a Probation Officer subject to approval from the prison.

Conditions of Residency

Before we can assess an application, prospective residents are asked to sign a Data Processing Consent form. To allow for the project to run satisfactorily, new residents are required to sign up to the house rules which also includes a section on responsibilities. All residents will need to sign a Resident's Licence Agreement. Residents will be given a handbook which includes important information about living at a Langley House Trust project.

Equal Opportunities and Confidentiality

Longcroft is committed to achieving equal opportunities for all. Religion, race, nationality, age and sexual orientation will not be part of the selection criteria. We will challenge any discriminatory attitude within the house.

The staff provide each resident with a confidentiality policy through which they seek to safeguard and keep secure all confidential information received regarding an individual.

For Further Information

We do hope that you find this leaflet helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require further information or wish to make a referral.

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