

# LANGLEY HOUSE TRUST

HELPING PEOPLE TO LIVE CRIME-FREE LIVES

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## **Accommodation Advice and Long- Term Sentence Resettlement**

[langleyhoustrust.org](http://langleyhoustrust.org)

Company No. 07888191  
Charity No. 1146304



## Our Mission

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Langley House Trust has a clear mission and commitment to work with individuals within the criminal justice system to provide rehabilitative support and solutions to end the cycle of reoffending in their lives.

Working to a high standard of support, during a twelve-month period, Langley House Trust has a 2.6% reconviction rate for individuals who are within our accommodation services.

With over 60 years of experience working with this client group, we recognise the barriers they face in other areas of society which impact on their everyday living and their ability to break free of offending.

## Accommodation Advice and Long-Term Sentence Resettlement

For six years, Langley House Trust has been delivering specialist accommodation advice for those being released from prison. This also includes specialist resettlement services for individuals who have been in custody for a long period of time.

This can include supporting individuals who face barriers to accessing accommodation, by:

- Identifying suitable accommodation options for the individuals, which could range from supported housing, extra-care housing or independent accommodation
- Supporting clients to develop confidence in a new community and develop appropriate community links and support networks
- Navigating technology, housing options, local authority housing systems, local connection rules and accessing financial support for deposits and furniture.

**Key to success is:**

- Supporting clients to set up sustainable and

suitable tenancies for their individual circumstances

- Providing tailored, person-centred advice which takes into account their past accommodation history and their aspirations for the future
- Advocating for our clients' rights to ensure they access the services and systems they need.

At Langley we work to create sustainable transformation in the lives of people who have offended or who are at risk of offending, providing a wide range of services including housing, health & social care, forensic step down, and rehabilitation in prison.

We can draw on our wider network of housing provision and knowledge of different housing provision, such as eligibility for social care to provide tailored, specialist advice to individuals on release.

Langley House Trust specialises in supporting high risk individuals, with complex needs to break the cycle of reoffending in their lives.

## Long-Term Sentenced Case Study 1:

The client faced homelessness on release from prison, following a long period in custody. The client was engaged and motivated in moving forward with their life, having addressed substance misuse issues and having secured employment.

The offender manager recommended release into social housing near their employment so they could maintain their job. The parole board disagreed, stating the client needed an address for the parole hearing or to attend an approved premise. The closest approved premise would mean the client would lose their employment.

We supported the client to be released to a relative's address as a temporary measure. Our client had been estranged from their family before entering custody. The client's employer agreed to support the client to relocate to another job within their company near this address.

We then advocated on behalf of the client to the local authority. The local authority did not recognise the client to be homeless or threatened with homelessness due to living with a relative. Langley House Trust challenged this, arguing the client had arranged their own emergency accommodation and this interpretation was agreed and their housing duty was accepted.

The client was subsequently housed in their own council run accommodation and was able to maintain their employment throughout this period, two significant factors in supporting the client to maintain their rehabilitation journey.

## Long-Term Sentenced Case Study 2:

The client was referred to us in preparation from release from a long custodial sentence, which had also included long term stay within a secure unit, mental health hospital.

During their incarceration, the client's marriage ended and they therefore could not return to the family home on release. Additionally, there was a duty of care from the mental health hospital which involved regular appointments. This hospital was outside of their home area prior to prison.

We supported the client to refer to the local authority in which the client needed to attend the hospital appointments. The local authority rejected the application due to there being no local connection to the area. Langley House Trust successfully appealed this decision.

The local authority declared the client had

to 'self source' the accommodation within the private rented sector. We successfully appealed this decision, arguing the local authority had a statutory duty to relieve homelessness. Subsequently, the local authority then argued the client's risk meant that the local authority could not house them. Langley House Trust challenged this decision based on the statutory duty to house the client and manage the associated risks.

Eventually, the client was sourced local authority accommodation within an area which enabled them to visit the hospital regularly. The client was also supported in applying for the relevant benefits they were eligible for. The client is hopeful for the future, confident they can secure employment when the hospital appointments reduce sufficiently to allow this to happen.

## Contact Us

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If you would like to know more about these services or how to commission them, please contact:

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**Part of the Langley House Trust group:**

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