The four agency SUPPORTED LODGINGS project May 2011

funded by Communities and Local Government

Providing more than a room

Learning and development training for supported lodgings hosts/carers
The Four Agency Supported Lodgings Project

This collection of Supported Lodgings Learning and Development Modules is one part of the suite of resources produced by the Four Agency Supported Lodgings Project which was funded by the Department of Communities and Local Government from April 2010 to May 2011. The organisations involved were the Fostering Network, Depaul UK, YMCA England and the National Care Advisory Service.

The Four Agency Project was set up to raise the profile of the Supported Lodgings model and to promote learning and development in the sector. The ultimate aims were to give more young people the opportunity to live in Supported Lodgings in England and maximise the positive impact of the experience on their lives.

The partners worked with existing forums of Supported Lodgings in the South West, North East and North West and brought together new groups in London, the east of England and the West Midlands to inform the development of the following resources:

- national database of schemes
- good practice guide
- finance guide
- learning and development modules for hosts/carers

The resources are available to be downloaded from the websites of the respective agencies:

- [www.ymca.org.uk](http://www.ymca.org.uk)
- [www.fostering.net](http://www.fostering.net)
- [www.depaulk.org](http://www.depaulk.org)
- [www.leavingcare.org](http://www.leavingcare.org)

Terminology

Those involved with the provision of Supported Lodgings employ a wide range of approaches and language. For the purposes of these resources:

- **Host/carer** refers to the householders whose homes young people live in
- **Scheme** refers to the agency who manages the Supported Lodgings service
- We have not used the term ‘provider’ because for some this refers to the host/carer and for others to the Supported Lodgings scheme/agency itself
Introduction

Supported Lodgings Learning and Development Modules for Hosts/Carers

It is recognised that within the continuum of Supported Lodgings the size, structural location and type of schemes varies enormously. These modules are therefore not intended to be a comprehensive package that will suit all schemes. The aim is that schemes, particularly new or smaller schemes, that might have fewer resources, can access these materials on a mix and match basis depending on their needs and issues which arise in their particular localities.

The content of the material has largely been drawn from the experiences of schemes and their hosts/carers through a series of round table meetings with Supported Lodgings forums across England. We are indebted to those schemes and individuals who have given their time to share their experience knowledge and programme material (see acknowledgements section vi)

There are 5 modules which vary in size and length. Each of these can be divided into short sections

- Module 1 - Introductory training for Supported Lodgings hosts/carers
- Module 2 - Safeguarding and Safe Caring
- Module 3 - Sexual Health
- Module 4 - Responding to behaviour and Communicating with Young People
- Module 5 - Life Skills

Some of the material is adaptable for one to one situations with hosts/carers in some places this has been indicated but generally schemes would need to make their own choices in relation to what is most appropriate for specific settings.

All timings are provisional and intended as a guide only.

Schemes are encouraged to involve young people wherever possible in the creation and delivery of learning and development and of materials for hosts/carers.

Many schemes also already involve hosts/carers in the creation and delivery of material and this is also encouraged wherever possible.

The resource list (see bibliography and references) includes some resources produced by young people that schemes may find helpful to access in broadening the range of materials and ideas in these modules. Schemes are also encouraged to draw on the knowledge and unique expertise of adults and young people involved in individual schemes.

In the delivery of this training it is acknowledged that many groups in society face discrimination on the basis of sexuality, disability, religion, ethnicity or language. The context of these modules is that they are delivered in an anti-discriminatory way in which diversity and difference is positively recognised and valued.
The following handouts are relevant for use in any of the learning and development modules:

**Handout 1**  Variables in Supported Lodgings – Continuum

**Handout 2**  Jargon Buster

**Handout 3**  Differences and Similarities - Fostering and Supported Lodgings

**Handout 4**  What age can I...?

**Handout 5**  Messages to young people
Handout 1: Variables in Supported Lodgings – Continuum

1. Level of Regulatory Frameworks for Hosts/Carers:

Low ————————————————————→ High

Nightstop volunteers  Supported Lodgings  Foster Carers/Staying Put Carers

2. Legal Entitlements for Young People:

← ————————————————————→

No duties taken  Statutory Homeless  In Care/Leaving Care (Housing or Children Acts)

3. Duration and Purpose of Stay:

← ————————————————————→

Emergency/Time-out  Planned and Settled

4. Challenge and Risk from Young People*

↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓
Low, Medium, High across the continuum

5. Young People’s Support Needs*

↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓
Low, Medium, High across the continuum

*Specific schemes and young people within individual schemes can be at any point on continuums 4 & 5
Handout 2: Supported Lodgings Jargon Buster

Host: A person or family who provides Supported Lodgings for a young person, host is most commonly used by Night stop schemes.

Carer: A person or family who provides Supported Lodgings for a young person, carer is most commonly used by care leavers schemes.

Host/Carer: A generic term of the Four Agency Supported Lodgings Project in relation to people who provide Supported Lodgings to any young person.

Provider: The term occasionally used to describe a person or family who provides Supported Lodgings for a young person. It is also used to refer to the organisation providing the Supported Lodgings scheme.

Young people

NEET: Young people who are not in Education Employment or Training
LAC: Looked after children and young people (young people who are in care)
UASC: Unaccompanied asylum seeking children/young people (they may also sometimes be referred to as separated children)

People and organisations

IRO: Independent Reviewing Officer
UKBA: UK Border Agency
DfE: Department for Education
CLG: Communities and Local Government Department
CEOP: Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre
Ecpat: End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and the Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes
YOT: Youth Offending team
LA: Local Authority
IFP: Independent Fostering Provider
UCAS: Universities and Colleges Admissions Services
Legal Terms and processes

**Licence Agreement**: A legal agreement between landlord (host/carer) and licensee (young person) granting the licensee permission to stay in the property and setting out the terms of the agreement (for example that the young person will pay rent/charges and the host/carer will provide access to the accommodation and keep it in good repair).

**Excluded Licensee**: Where the licensee will be staying in the landlord’s home, as in Supported Lodgings, this will be an ‘excluded licence’ (because it is outside the provisions of the Protection from Eviction Act 1977).

**Living Together Agreement**: the agreement that underpins the Licence Agreement setting out the respective expectations of the host/carer and the young person in terms of how they will live together.

**Shared lives Qualifying Relief**: is the term given by Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs (HMRC) to a system of Income Tax and National Insurance thresholds applied to Adult Placement Schemes, Staying Put Schemes and Kinship Schemes.

**Staying Put**: the title given to the 11 pilot schemes in different local authorities funded by the DfE to enable young people in care to stay on with their foster carers beyond the age of 18. The pilots will end in September 2011.

**SEF**: Statement of Evidence (this refers to asylum claims)

**H.P.**: Humanitarian Protection (asylum claims)

**Pathway Plan**: Part of the Care Plan for a young person who is looked after (in care) which details the plan and support that is available to assist them in their process of transition to independence.
### Handout 3: Differences and Similarities - Fostering and Supported Lodgings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who are they?</th>
<th>Foster carers</th>
<th>Supported Lodgings hosts/carers (terminology varies)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Who are they?** | 45,000 households (approximately)  
Single households  
Civil partnerships/relationships  
Families  
Profile of foster carers - an ageing workforce | Number of Supported Lodgings households unknown but may potentially be large. Supported Lodgings households are probably less likely to be families  
Profile/numbers not really known  
Some may also be foster carers |
| **How are they recruited and what is involved?** | Media/word of mouth  
Information meeting  
Initial visits  
Preparation training  
Assessment (by a qualified social worker)  
Recommended for approval by a foster panel and approved by a decision maker – statutory framework | Similar process of recruitment and routes  
Similar process of assessment but the extent of the model varies from scheme to scheme and assessments not necessarily undertaken by a qualified social worker  
Not within a statutory framework |
| **Management structure and location** | Fostering services – within local authorities.  
Voluntary agencies  
Independent fostering agencies (private and voluntary)  
Regulatory framework – inspected by Ofsted  
(The size of fostering services will vary but will generally encompass between 50-300 foster carer households) | Within local authorities – but in different places – leaving care services, housing departments, fostering teams, YOTs.  
Voluntary sector schemes – significant proportion  
Some schemes in private sector  
No regulatory framework – diverse and dynamic sector but need for some more overarching standards on voluntary basis  
(The size of schemes will vary but will generally encompass between 6-50 Supported Lodgings households) |
| Who are the young people? | Young people in care  
Some young people who have left care and are over the age of 18 and are staying on with their foster carers. These types of arrangements have been happening for a long time but on a case by case basis in different local authorities  
Staying Put pilots (11 LAs) funded by DfE due to report on different formalised models in 2011 | Young people in care  
(under other arrangements in context of Children and Young People Act 2008)  
Young people who have left care  
Young people who are homeless  
Impact of Southwark Judgement regarding more young people aged 16/17 who were homeless being housed by Housing Departments now having needs assessment and becoming accommodated in care |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belonging</td>
<td>Aim is to be member of a family - may or may not be time limited. Regulation as a fostering placement ends when young person reaches 18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Handout 4: At What Age Can I....?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>What does the law say?</th>
<th>Additional factors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Any age</td>
<td>Entering a bar in company of someone over 18</td>
<td>Police can confiscate alcohol if drinking in a public place or place entered unlawfully</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Babysitting</td>
<td>Parents responsible for deciding on suitability of someone to take responsibility under 16. Children’s Legal Centre recommend 16 minimum age. Anyone over 16 looking after someone under 16 maybe committing a criminal offence if they ill-treat, assault, neglect or cause injury to physical or mental health of a child being cared for.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cannot enter contracts under 18 as they are legally binding agreements</td>
<td>However, a young person can make valid contracts for necessities i.e. food or clothing and can be bound by a contract of employment if for their benefit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Make a complaint about discrimination</td>
<td>If a young person believes they are discriminated against on basis of race, colour, ethnic or national origin, nationality, or on grounds of sex or marital status. Can make a complaint against police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Enter gambling premises</td>
<td>Provided they are not being used for this purpose when the young person enters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Giving evidence in criminal proceedings</td>
<td>So long as understand questions. If under 14 can give unsworn evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Giving evidence in civil proceedings</td>
<td>Can give unsworn evidence if court thinks don’t understand nature of the oath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can smoke cigarettes</td>
<td>But not allowed to buy them till 18. If caught smoking in a public place under 16 a uniformed officer or park keeper can seize tobacco and cigarette papers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Need own passport</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Be a pillion passenger on a motorbike</td>
<td>Providing crash helmet fits properly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 years</td>
<td>Buy aerosol paint</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Enter a bar on own</td>
<td>But only buy non alcoholic drinks. Can drink beer, cider, and wine with a meal if accompanied by a person over 18.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Join Army, Navy, RAF Royal Marines with parental consent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can enter or live in a brothel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Change name by deed poll without parental consent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hold a licence for a moped</td>
<td>If disabled can hold licence to drive a car</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Supported Lodgings Learning and Development Modules Introduction: The Four Agency Supported Lodgings Project May 2011

- 9 -
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>What does the law say?</th>
<th>Additional factors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Leave school</td>
<td>On the last Friday in June either if 16 by that date or if will reach 16 during the summer holidays before the new school year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can work full time if have left school</td>
<td>But cannot work in a betting shop or a bar during opening hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can sell scrap metal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can join most trade unions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can buy a National lottery ticket and take part in football pools</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can probably leave home without parental consent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Marry or register a civil partnership with parental consent</td>
<td>A court can authorise if parental consent refused</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Consent to surgical medial or dental treatment including taking of blood samples</td>
<td>Can give consent at younger age so long as doctor decides that young person understands what is proposed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If female can purchase emergency contraception – the morning after pill</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can open an individual savings account (ISA)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can buy a pet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Consent to all sexual activity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can get a national insurance number</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Travel on own passport without parental consent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If caught carrying a knife can expect to be prosecuted on first offence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Donate blood without parental consent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Hold a licence to drive a car</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Apply to some fire brigades</td>
<td>At 17 years and 10 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hold a private pilots licence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can receive a legal reprimand without an appropriate adult being present</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can buy or hire any firearm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>If been adopted can contact adoption agency for information</td>
<td>Copy of original birth certificate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Buy and drink alcohol in a bar and sell alcohol</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Join all armed forces without</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>What does the law say?</td>
<td>Additional factors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>parental consent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 18</td>
<td>Can make binding contracts in own right</td>
<td>Can own land, buy property, and apply for a mortgage. Can enter into a contract for housing and the landlord would be able to sue for rent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cont</td>
<td>Employer must pay national minimum wage for 18 year olds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can buy fireworks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can enter a betting shop and place a bet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can make an application for a gender change certificate if been living as the other gender or have changed gender</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can serve on a jury</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can get married or register a civil partnership without parental consent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pay for dental treatment</td>
<td>Unless in full time education, pregnant or some other defined circumstances apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can join police service</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can vote</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can buy cigarettes and tobacco</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can have a tattoo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can buy or hire an air weapon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Buy or hire a crossbow</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 19</td>
<td>Entitled to full time education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 21</td>
<td>Can adopt a child</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can supervise a learner driver</td>
<td>If young person has held a full licence for that type of car for 3 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source**

At What Age Can I...?
A Guide to Age-Based Legislation, 2010 Edition
Updated by Holly Roglaski
Published by the Children’s Legal Centre
Handout 5: Messages to Young People

All modules:

- Separate out behaviour from the person – I like you but don’t like that behaviour.
- It’s ok to make mistakes – I make mistakes – apologise when you get it wrong.
- Convey genuine belief that situation can get better.
- I can help you to manage your behaviour – to be your own expert – not me manage it for you.

Messages to support young people to manage transition

- Help them to feel in control
- Give appropriate information (forewarned is forearmed) and give an element of choice
- Facilitate staged transitions if possible – limit changes happening at one time
- Allow to return to supportive environment – to regroup and face future challenges
- Listen to the young person’s concerns and fears. Do not dismiss them. Work through them pre-empting difficulties and finding ways to avoid or negotiate past them.

Acknowledgements for contributions to the Supported Lodgings Learning and Development Modules

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**Individual contributors:**
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- Mike Lane - Bournemouth Supported Lodgings Scheme
- Gill Lewis - Newcastle Supported Lodgings Scheme
- Paula Thompson - Lewisham Supported Lodgings Scheme
- Sarah Knott – Stonham Supported Lodgings Scheme – Hampshire
- Lanne Sanni – London YMCA Supported Lodgings Scheme
- Clare Couch – Somerset Supported Lodgings Scheme
- Keith Head - CAYSH
- Lydiah Ntamwana - Cambridgeshire Supported Lodgings Scheme
- Carol Preston - Barnardos North East

**Collective contributions from round table meetings:**

- **London:** 12 November 2010
  - Keith Head [CAYSH], Lisa Davies [AKT], Paula Thompson [Lewisham]
- **London:** 30 November 2010
  - Rob Beardsworth [Milton Keynes], Keith Head [CAYSH], Paula Thompson [Lewisham]
- **South West:** 9 February 2011
  - Pete Rowland [Swindon], Anne Mathieson [South Gloucester], Stewart Petitt [North Somerset], Angela Hunt [Dorset], Rob Beardsworth [Milton Keynes], Michelle Cookson [Swindon], Karen Provins [Young Devon], Nicola Robinson [Bath and North East Somerset] Claire Couch [West Somerset] Neil Sanger [Poole], Shirley Kilbride [Bournemouth] Becky Fowler [Bristol] and Mike Lane [Bournemouth]
- **South West:** 7 March
  - Penny Diver and Sarah Knott [Stonham Supported Lodgings Scheme – Hampshire]
- **London:** 8 March 2011
  - Sonia Hopkins [East to West], Liz Phipps [SLYMCA], Angela Elliott [Islington], Sarah Donovan [Lewisham], Sasha Whyte [SW London YMCA], Lanne Sanni [West London YMCA], Rob Beardsworth [Milton Keynes], Keith Head [Croydon], Jude Norden [SLYMCA], Sue Clifton [Catch 22], Elizabeth Hearst [Hillingdon], Nicola Bryant [Herts], Dennis Eno [Merton]
- **North East:** 9 March 2011
- **Eastern Region:** 5 April 2011
  - Angela Thornton [YMCA Suffolk], Debbie Elliston [Stonham], Alicja Barton [Cambridgeshire County Council], Lydiah Ntamwana [Cambridgeshire County Council], Kay Ashford [Cambridgeshire County Council]

Bibliography and reference list available separately.