

Supported Accommodation Services

What are supported accommodation services?

Supported accommodation services provide housing and other help for high risk offenders with high-level reintegrative needs to help ease their transition back into the community.

Most users are referred before they leave prison; others may already be in the community but have similar needs.

Corrections has contracted providers in several locations around the country to provide supported accommodation.

Who's eligible?

- Supported accommodation services target offenders who:
- have no suitable accommodation when nearing their final release date.
 - have a number of high-level reintegrative needs in their sentence plan
 - require assistance with basic living, literacy and numeracy skills and help with gaining employment
 - wish to live an offence-free lifestyle
 - are willing to take part in the service.
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How are people referred?

Probation officers in CPPS and reintegration case workers in prisons can refer eligible offenders to a service provider for assessment. This usually happens during the pre-release process before a prisoner is released.

Probation officers can also refer offenders who are on parole if their accommodation becomes unavailable *and* the offender has a number of other high level reintegrative needs.

Referrals are to be made using the Supported Accommodation Service Referral Process, which is currently being developed. In the meantime, contact the Area Manager or Liaison Service Manager for the supported accommodation provider you wish to deal with.

How long can offenders use the service?

Offenders are provided with temporary accommodation for up to three months, during which time they are supported to find permanent accommodation to move to.

They then have access to support for their reintegrative needs for a further three months.

Offenders using the service are encouraged to increase their level of self-reliance and to develop and practice pro-social behaviour.

Supported Accommodation Services, Continued

How long can offenders use the service
(continued)

They also get help with money management, housekeeping, literacy and numeracy, finding work or training, forming positive links with the community, and support to comply with their community-based sentence or order.

How Is the NZ Parole Board involved?

The NZ Parole Board cannot make direct approvals but its administrators are able to contact providers directly to check availability if instructed by the board. Additionally, the Board can approve supported accommodation addresses for parolees.

Current services (Oct 2008)

Supported accommodation services currently operating are set out below. Together they offer 56 beds.

Location	Provider	Contact	Beds
Auckland	Auckland Prisoners' Aid and Rehabilitation Society (PARS)	Rachel Ngaitai racheln@prisonersaid.org.nz Ph: (09) 630 0862 Fax: (09) 630 0328	15
Hamilton	Anglican Action	Ani Connor-Simon ani@anglican.org.nz Ph: (07) 856 5820	10
Napier	Hawke's Bay PARS with Auckland PARS	Rachel Ngaitai racheln@prisonersaid.org.nz Ph: (09) 630 0862 Fax: (09) 630 0328	6
Wellington	Salvation Army	Hana Seddon Email: Hana_Seddon@nzf.salvationarmy.org Ph: (04) 529 7701	10
Christchurch	Salvation Army	Glen Buckner - Christchurch Glen_Buckner@nzf.salvationarmy.org Ph: (03) 338 5154 Ext 836	10
Otago	Otago PARS	Ali Holmes Accom.pars@xtra.co.nz (03) 474 1811	5