

KENT SHARED LIVES

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(14) Emergency placements

By its very nature, when making an emergency placement it will not always be possible or practical for Shared Lives to follow the usual matching and introduction procedure. Instead, a placement may have to be made with minimal matching and without opportunity for the individual to 'test drive' the placement. In this situation, Shared Lives will adhere to the following procedure:

1. To ensure the mutual safety of the individual and the host and his/her household, Shared Lives will:
 - 1.1 at the time of the emergency placement ensure a report or assessment is in place to provide the host with sufficient information about the individual and his/her needs
 - 1.2 as soon as possible, provide the host with comprehensive information on the individual and his/her needs
 - 1.3 complete an emergency placement agreement
2. The host offering the emergency placement will, within 24 hours of the placement being made, ensure that the individual is informed about the main aspects of the placement e.g. other placed individuals and other family members, the facilities and support available and any particular house rules that the individual needs to be aware of.
3. The emergency planning meeting will be considered and coordinated by the referring team with an aim to involve:
 - 4.1 the individual ; and
 - 4.2 his/her family members, advocates or key workers; and
 - 4.3 the host(s) providing the emergency accommodation;
 - 4.4 the Shared Lives worker responsible for supporting the host(s);
 - 4.5 the case officer or social worker
4. The meeting will explore the suitability and viability of the emergency placement in accordance with the Shared Lives needs assessment procedure and also clarifies the procedure in the event of a breakdown of the placement.
5. **The Meeting may:**
 - 5.1 Agree to move the individual to another more appropriate placement, in which case Shared Lives may follow its usual matching procedure or make another emergency placement; or
 - 6.2 Agree to the individual remaining in the emergency placement: In which case it is the joint responsibility of the social worker/host manager, Shared Lives and host to ensure that:
 - a full placement agreement is in place ; and
 - all other placement criteria are met ; and

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6. An emergency placement does not imply the right or requirement of the individual to stay in the same placement and this will be clarified at the outset of the placement.
7. Shared Lives will ensure the host receives the usual Shared Lives scale of fees.