Public bodies with a duty to refer homelessness to a local authority
From the 1st of October 2018, certain public bodies now have a legal duty to refer their services users who they believe are homeless, or are at risk of becoming homeless in 56 days, to a local housing authority.

**Public bodies included under the legislation:**
- Prisons (public and contracted out)
- Youth offender institutions and youth offending teams
- Secure training centres (public and contracted out) and colleges
- Probation services (community rehabilitation companies and national probation service)
- Jobcentre Plus
- Accident and emergency services provided in a hospital
- Urgent treatment centres, and hospitals in their capacity of providing in-patient treatment
- Social service authorities.

The individual you refer must give their consent to the referral, and they can choose with local authority they are referred to.

If you think one of your service users meets the criteria to refer, and would like to be referred to St Albans, then please notify the Council by completing our referral tool:

[https://hpa2.org/refer/SADC](https://hpa2.org/refer/SADC)

**Email:** housing.options@stalbans.gov.uk

**Telephone:** 01727 819355