

FACTSHEET 16

Accommodation after a successful Section 4 appeal

Your options

If you win your appeal and you are not already staying in accommodation provided by the Home Office you have two choices:

1. Return to where you were staying and wait (on average 18 days) for the Home Office to provide accommodation. You will not receive any financial support while you are waiting.
2. Ask for **emergency accommodation**, which will be provided on the day of your hearing.

Consider your options carefully and make sure you will have a place to stay temporarily if you turn down the offer of emergency accommodation.

Emergency accommodation

The emergency accommodation is normally provided in a hostel called Barry House in East Dulwich in London. If you ask for this you must go there on the day of your appeal.

You will only stay in Barry House for a short time before being moved to accommodation outside of London.

The Home Office will not pay for transport for you to travel back to your last address to pick up your belongings and then go to Barry House at a later date.

If your appeal is heard through a video link from a court outside London, then emergency accommodation will be provided at the closest Home Office hostel to you. This might be in a different city.

The emergency accommodation is full-board. This means you will be given three meals a day but no cash.

The process

At the end of your appeal, if you were successful, the judge will ask whether you need emergency accommodation. If you say yes, the Home Office Presenting Officer will book you into Barry House.

If there was no Presenting Officer in your hearing, a member of the Tribunal staff will make the necessary arrangements. They will also explain to you how to travel there using the public transport.

If you were not asked about emergency accommodation by the judge, you should contact the Tribunal usher and explain that you need it.

You can travel to Barry House using the travel ticket you were given to get to the Tribunal. Barry House is in London Travel Zone 3 and your ticket will cover travel there.

What happens next?

You will stay in Barry House until the Home Office gives you accommodation somewhere else in the UK (known as being 'dispersed'). According to research conducted by ASAP, people can wait several weeks before they are dispersed.

Asylum Support accommodation is offered on a 'no-choice basis'. You will not get to decide where you go. There are exceptions to this rule, such as for people receiving counselling from Freedom from Torture or the Helen Bamber Foundation, so make sure you explain any reasons why you need to be accommodated in a certain area to the Home Office before you are dispersed.

EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION AFTER SUCCESSFUL APPEAL

