

Homeless Reduction Act 2018

Referrals from Specified Public Bodies

The 'Duty to Refer' Section 213b will require specified public bodies to notify housing authorities of service users they consider may be homeless or threatened with homelessness (ie it is likely that they will become homeless within 56 days).

Before making a referral, the public body must:

- have consent to the referral from the individual;
- allow the individual to identify the housing authority in England which they would like notification made to; and
- Have consent from the individual that their contact details can be supplied so the housing authority can contact them regarding the referral.

The 'Duty to Refer' applies only to public authorities in England and individuals can only be referred to housing authorities in England.

How to make a referral

Use this [Refer](#) link; or

email details of your referral to dutytorefer@barrowbc.gov.uk

Public services included in the duty

- Prisons
 - Youth offender institutions
 - Secure training centres
 - Secure colleges
 - Youth offending teams
 - Probation services (including community rehabilitation companies)
 - Jobcentre Plus
 - Social service authorities/children's services/adult social care
 - Emergency departments
 - Urgent treatment centres; and
 - Hospitals in their function of providing inpatient care
- The Secretary of State for Defence is also subject to the duty to refer in relation to members of the regular forces. The regular forces are the Royal Navy, the Royal Marines, the regular army and the Royal Air Force.