

Adult Social Services and Housing

No recourse to public funds (NRPF) Factsheet

'No recourse to public funds' (NRPF) means a person can't get benefits or public housing, even if they are very poor and might become homeless.

You might have NRPF if you:

- have a 'grant of temporary permission' to enter or stay in the UK
- have no permission to enter or stay in the UK
- are in breach of immigration laws

If your permission to enter or stay in the UK has a 'maintenance undertaking' (which means a family member said they'd give you somewhere to live and support you financially during your stay), you also won't be able to get certain benefits.

For more information about public funds and rights to it as someone not from the UK, [visit the NRPF Network website](#).

Adult social service support and NRPF

Care and support are not classed as a "public fund" for immigration purposes. A person should not be refused a needs assessment or care and support solely because they have no recourse to public funds. To receive assistance under the Care Act 2014, an adult must have care and support needs that arise from, or are related to, a physical or mental impairment or illness.

There are two main groups who might be able to get support from us:

- single adults with care and support needs (including carers)
- young people leaving care.



You will need an assessment of need by social services to check if you are eligible for support.

Some people can only receive support if it is necessary to stop a breach of their human rights. Section 54 and Schedule 3 of [the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002](#) place a bar on the provision of social services' support to a person who is 'in breach of immigration laws' (i.e. is without lawful status in the UK), unless such assistance is necessary to prevent a breach of human rights. We may undertake an extra assessment (Human Rights Assessment) to see if this is a risk. Please read the NRPF guidance which outlines what this means - [NRPF Network | Introduction](#).

The NRPF and adult social service checklist

Here is a checklist of things to expect from us when requesting an assessment under the care act.

- ✓ You have requested an assessment under the Care Act. We have contacted you to acknowledge your application.
- ✓ We have begun the Care Act assessment.
- ✓ We have checked with the Home Office whether you are subject to immigration control. We have asked you whether the information we have received is accurate and up to date.
- ✓ We have considered whether your support needs have arisen solely due to destitution in the UK.
- ✓ If you do not have eligible care and support needs, we have given you accessible information and advice regarding the help and support that you can access.
- ✓ If you do have eligible care and support needs we have determined whether a human rights assessment is required. We will tell you if this is something we need to do.
- ✓ We have considered whether emergency support is needed whilst the human rights assessment is conducted.
- ✓ We have completed the human rights assessment.

- ✓ We have reached one of the following conclusions:
 1. *A legal barrier or practical obstacle to return has been identified.*
 2. *No barrier to return has been identified but you require immigration advice about your options before any conclusions about return can be drawn.*
 3. *No barrier preventing return has been identified and, in consultation with senior members of the directorate, and where appropriate – the legal team, we have concluded that return will not give rise to a breach of human rights.*
- ✓ We have provided you with an accessible copy of the completed assessments (Care Act Assessment and where required, Human rights Assessment). We have explained the outcome of the assessment[s] using an accessible form of communication, in your preferred language.

Hong Kong BN(O) visa holder facing destitution

A person with leave on the BN(O) route will not be able to claim benefits to top-up a low income and cannot rely on the safety-net of Universal Credit if they lose employment or are unable to work. They will only be able to access housing in the private sector and those who are at risk of homelessness will not be eligible for homelessness assistance from their local council. However, families and adults with care needs who are destitute or at risk of homelessness may qualify for accommodation and financial assistance from social services, with the cost of providing support being met by the local authority. For more information see: [Hong Kong BNO route | NRPF](#)

Contact details

This factsheet provides a summary of our NRPF policy. For information about NRPF in North Somerset please refer to the full policy found on [our website](#). Help is also available for people who require council information in languages other than English. Please email asshsstrategyandpolicyteam@n-somerset.gov.uk or ring 01934 888 888 for support with this.

Any resident with NRPF who requires care and support should contact social services:

Adult Social Services.

- 01275 888 801
- careconnect@n-somerset.gov.uk

Further information and support

- Islington Council hosts the national [NRPF Network](#) which shares free advice and guidance about local authority duties.

Local information and organisations that provide specialised information and guidance

- [Race, culture and working with people seeking Asylum: Learning and Practice resource \(cloud.microsoft\)](#).
- [Race Equality North Somerset | The award winning charity promoting race equality across North Somerset \(rens.org.uk\)](#)
- [Refugees Welcome North Somerset – Welcoming resettled people to North Somerset \(rwns.org.uk\)](#)
- [Immigration & Legal - Advice North Somerset](#)

Feedback

We value your feedback and welcome both compliments and areas for development. [You can send us feedback through our website](#). If you have any concerns about any action or decision taken by Adult Social Services and Housing, you should initially talk to the person you normally talk to. You can also contact our complaints manager at:

Complaints Manager

Adult Social Services and Housing

Town Hall

Walliscote Grove Road

Weston super Mare

BS23 1UJ

Telephone: 01275 882171

Email: complaints.manager@n-somerset.gov.uk

Complaints Manager, North Somerset Council, Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare,
BS23 1UJ

Accessibility

All North Somerset Council documents can also be made available in large print, audio, and other formats. Documents on our website can also be emailed to you as plain text files. Help is also available for people who require council information in languages other than English. Please email adultspolicy@n-somerset.gov.uk or ring 01934 888 888.

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