

MRASSOCIATES'
Advisers to Supported
Housing

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Kingston House, 3 Jamaica Street, Greenock, Renfrewshire, PA15 1XX.

Can you give me examples of what is specified accommodation?

Type of accommodation

Reason why it is specified accommodation

Hostel: three-storey building with twelve single rooms, a shared kitchen and several shared bathrooms; communal living room; office and reception area for staff. Hostel is owned and run by a registered charity. Client group is single homeless people, often with multiple problems such as drug/alcohol dependency or history of offending. Support workers employed directly by the charity and funded by a contract with the local authority.

The landlord is a registered charity and it directly provides support. This is Category 1 "exempt accommodation".

A former registered care home, now de-registered. Ten private rooms, shared living room, staff accommodation including sleepover room for night staff. Landlord is a not-for-profit company. Tenants are adults of various ages with learning disabilities and with care/support commissioned by the local authority from a private agency.

Sometimes local authorities accept that the landlord has a complementary support role that is enough to bring the accommodation within Category 1 exempt accommodation. But even if that is not the case, this is certainly Category 2 specified accommodation: tenants admitted to the accommodation to meet their care needs, landlord a not-for-profit body.

A young people's "foyer": a former block of flats on a council estate, now converted to provide 20 single rooms with private bathroom, shared kitchens, shared recreation and education rooms and staff accommodation. Landlord is the housing department of the same local authority that deals with HB.

This is Category 3 specified accommodation: the landlord is the local authority but if it were not this establishment would satisfy the definition of "hostel": non-self contained individual dwellings with adequate cooking facilities and support provided on site.

Refuge for women escaping domestic violence. A large detached house with six rooms and shared kitchen and bathroom. Owned and run by a registered charity. Support workers are funded by a contract with the local authority and a central government grant.

This is Category 4 specified accommodation because it is a domestic violence refuge and the landlord is a charity.