



RAVENHEAD FOYER
ST HELENS

applicant's **INFORMATION** sheet

about **Arena Options**

Arena Options has been at the forefront of Foyer provision in the North West and now has three highly successful operational Foyers in management. Ravenhead Foyer in St Helens offers a safe environment that provides young people with accommodation and gives them the chance to access training and employment opportunities all under one roof. It consists of 26 self contained flats, including 1 flat suitable for a wheelchair user and 6 studio flats all with private bathroom and kitchen.

If you want to be considered for a place at Ravenhead Foyer you need to fall into all three of the following groups:



- You must be aged between 16 and 25
- You must want to attend training, a life skills course or find employment
- You must have a housing problem or be living in insecure accommodation

Once you move in you will pay a weekly licence fee with a service charge to cover electricity and water rates. Depending on your income you may be eligible to some financial help towards your licence fee. Our staff will be able to advise you on how to obtain welfare and housing benefit. If you are worried whether or not you can afford to pay the licence fee, come and talk to the staff - they may be able to give you an estimate of the costs before you apply.

Once you have paid your licence fee, we provide all the other services to you free of charge unless otherwise stated. If a cost is attached to any activities, we will keep it to a minimum and you will be informed why you are being charged and how much it is likely to be.

The Foyer staff will help you to get used to living on your own and will help you to settle into training or employment. At all times during your stay, our staff will monitor your progress. When you eventually decide to leave, you will be given help to find suitable "move on" accommodation.

A Resettlement and Floating Support Service may be available from Ravenhead Outreach to offer support when you are living in your own home within the community.

what sort of Training/Employment is available?

If you become a resident, a member of staff will provide information on the different kinds of training and employment options available. They will offer advice and discuss the types you would be most suited to. They will also agree a personal development plan with you, that will outline the best possible route for you to achieve your goals, which could eventually mean employment in the field of your choice.

After the action plan has been drawn up, you will receive ongoing help, support and guidance from the Ravenhead Foyer Team through a series of action plans and review meetings.

If a member of the staff team cannot provide you with the indepth advice or guidance you need, they will signpost you to another agency, such as Connexions or the Employment Service, who will be able to help you.

As a condition of your licence agreement, you will have to work through the programme which you will have already agreed and signed up to. If you fail to follow the action plan without good reason, you will be withdrawn from the programme and asked to leave the Foyer.

Anyone not working or attending a college course, must attend the in-house training programmes.

FACILITIES

As a resident you will have access to the building at all times and be able to use the many facilities that the Foyer provides:

STAFFING

The Foyer is staffed 24 hours a day, 7days a week. Staff are always available to help and assist you with your transition from dependence to independence. However, out of the standard hours of Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm, the scheme only has a skeleton staff on duty who are primarily there to ensure a safe environment. Although they would be unable to provide indepth information, advice and guidance on any matter, they will be happy to take a message and pass it to a member of the day staff team.

PAYPHONE

The public telephone is in the reception area to take or make personal calls.

IT SUITE

This provides you with access to all the latest IT resources including the internet, so you can go surfing on the World Wide Web free of charge. Staff are on hand to help guide you through.

COMMUNAL LOUNGE

Watch TV, play pool and socialise with your neighbours. There is also a communal kitchen which can be used when cooking in a group.

LAUNDRY ROOM

We have both washing and drying machines, which are available to residents for a small charge.

other ACTIVITIES include:

**1-2-1 COUNSELLING SESSIONS
ACTION PLANNING SESSIONS
YOUTH WORK SESSIONS**

**A WEEKLY JOB CLUB
LIFE SKILLS WORKSHOPS
AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**

for more INFORMATION contact:

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