



## Information For Guests

**The Aim of this Project** is to offer hospitality, in the form of accommodation, meals, welcome and solidarity, to destitute asylum seekers in Swansea.

The person who is offering you accommodation is offering you a place in their home as a gesture of **friendship**.

**They are not** being paid any money

**They are not** connected to the Home office

You will be offered a room of your own in the Host's house. Some will offer you the room for a few nights, others may offer it for a few weeks. Some Hosts may only be able to offer you Bed & Breakfast, so you would have to spend the day somewhere else.

This Voluntary Project has very few places, so this accommodation is **only temporary** and it is important that you keep-up your current arrangements.

### How do I refer myself to Swansea Voluntary Hosting?

You cannot refer yourself directly to Swansea Voluntary Hosting, but if you are destitute, you can ask the WELSH REFUGEE COUNCIL to refer you.

We are sorry to say that we cannot help asylum seekers who already have BIA/NASS housing, economic migrants, or people with serious physical or mental ill-health, a current drug or alcohol addiction or a history of seriously aggressive or criminal behaviour.

### How long will I have to wait?

That is hard to say, it depends on what accommodation is available, on your situation, the number of others who need accommodation, and who we think will best fill a vacancy.

### What happens when there is a vacancy?

We look at what is being offered, and then we look through our list of people needing accommodation. We arrange a meeting with you, and then we arrange a meeting with you, your host and the Hosting Co-ordinator.

At the meeting an agreement is reached with the host before you move in.

### How will I know what I can do and can not do, in the house?

The Hosting Co-ordinator will work out with you and the Host some 'House Rules'. This would include things like privacy for you both, cooking, house keys, cleaning

etc. Once you were both happy with these house rules, you would BOTH sign an agreement.

### **How long can I stay?**

If you are offered a place, the owner of the house will decide how long you can stay. If it is an EMERGENCY, it will probably be for a 1-3 nights. But most stays will be for a two-week trial period. You will be told about this before you decide to move in.

If you receive Section 4 support while you are there, we expect you to move out as soon as possible, so that someone else can have your room.

### **What if things don't work out between me and the host?**

If you were having some problems with your stay, you should try to sort it out with your host first of all. If you can't resolve the issue together, then you should contact the Hosting Co-ordinator.

If everything is going well, the Co-ordinator would review the situation with you and your host after the first week. After that meeting, you will be told if you need to leave at the end of the second week, or be able stay longer.

The Project stresses however that guests have no legal rights to stay in hosts' homes and hosts have the right to ask guests to leave at any time.

If you want to know more about being a Guest, ask at one of the Agencies listed on the front page of this information sheet, or e-mail the Hosting Co-ordinator at [cards@cityofsanctuary.org](mailto:cards@cityofsanctuary.org)

#### **DISCLAIMER:**

*Swansea Voluntary Hosting's role is to facilitate an offer of accommodation from a host to a guest. The agreement made is then purely between Host and Guest. Swansea Voluntary Hosting take no responsibility for any issues that may arise from this arrangement. However, support to resolve these issues will be given wherever possible.*