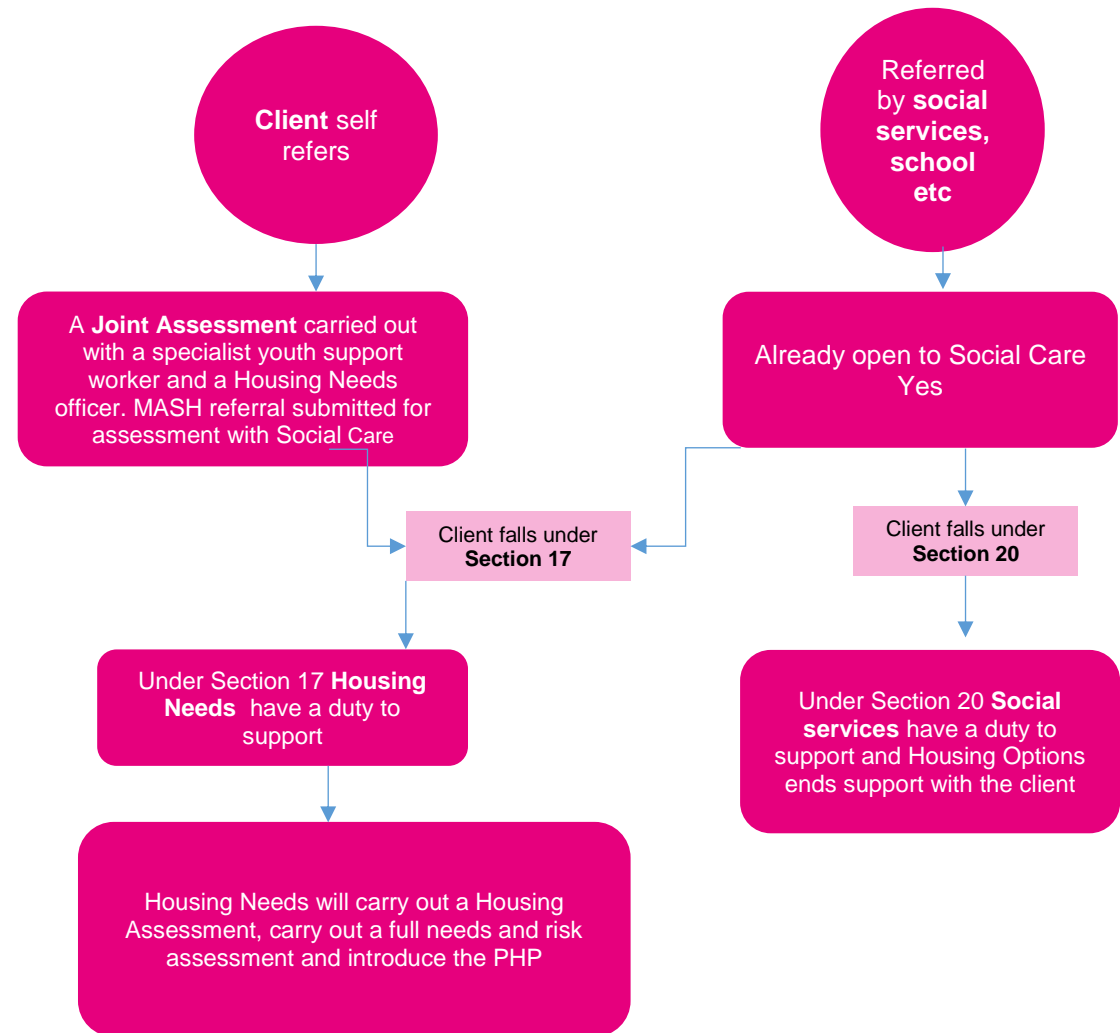


Young People – 16/17 year old pathway

There are many reasons why a young person may be homeless or at risk of homelessness. Common issues include family disputes or domestic violence, although problems in their area, and mental health, also contribute towards the risk factors that can result in a young person being asked to leave or having no choice but to leave. Suffolk County Council and Housing Needs Teams have a County wide working protocol to outline the way both services should work together to address homelessness and housing need of 16 and 17 year olds in order to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.

The 16/17 year old protocol details how Social Care and Housing Needs work with children and young people in relation to their duties under Part 3 of the Children Act 1989 and Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996.

Local Authorities should, where feasible, promote the upbringing of children by their families. A range of services exist within the Suffolk to ensure that children within the ages of 16 and 17 are able to remain within their family where there is a threat of homelessness. These services include informal mediation, family networking meetings, parenting resources, social work allocation and alternatives to Care Team in Social Care.



Young People – 16/17 year old pathway

