# Staying On Agreement

Date:

This is a written agreement between the young person and their carer(s) (and family where relevant), which has been developed together, to outline the expectations of living together and how the Staying on Subsidy will be spent.

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| **What is working well?** Discuss what is working well in the current living arrangement. This can be done separately or as a group using the discussion guide to discuss different topic areas.  |
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| **What are the things that we would like to discuss?** Discuss what is important to the young person and carer(s), and their family where relevant, in the living arrangement and what could become an issue. You can use the discussion guide to come up with a list of topics to discuss. Write down the key issues for discussion that came up. |
| Young Person:Carer(s) and family: |
| **What are our plans to make it work?** (House Rules/Expectations) Discuss each topic area that came up and what your plans are to make it work. This may include ordering the responsibilities by who is responsible for what or going through each topic area. Here you should list the non-negotiable and the key house rules and expectations.  |
| Young Person:Carer(s) and family: |
| **Finances: what will the Staying On Subsidy be used for?** How will the young person contribute? Here you should list what the subsidy will be used to pay and how the money will be distributed.  |
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| **What happens if we disagree or need to change this?** |
| **What is the young person’s housing pathway plan and how will Staying On in this living arrangement help to achieve that?** Discuss how long the living arrangement is for and what happens if the young person wants to end the arrangement. |
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| **What will we do if we have any issues?** Discuss what each party will do if they are not happy with the agreement, someone is not meeting their side of the agreement or if there are any issues. This may also need a discussion with other household members. |
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| **How will we end the agreement?** Here you should list the what the young person and carer or family member agree to should one person want to end the Staying On Agreement. This should also include how much notice is to be given to the other person. |
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## Roles and Responsibilities

**Carer(s) and family**

* Support and encourage the young person with their transition to independence, including contribution to costs.
* Discuss any issues or concerns with the young person (seek support from the Department of Communities if required).
* Review the agreement with the young person should it need to be amended.
* Notify the Department of Communities if the young person leaves the living arrangement (to avoid liability for overpayment of the Staying On Subsidy you must do this as soon as possible).

**Young Person**

* To meet with Department of Communities caseworker prior to age 18 to work towards identified goals and planning for transition to independence.
* Contribute to costs of the living arrangement once you are receiving an income.
* Discuss any issues or concerns with the current living arrangement with the carer(s) and family.
* Review the agreement with the carer(s) and family, if required.
* Notify the Department of Communities if you leave the living arrangement.

**Department of Communities**

* Support the young person to explore their goals and aspirations prior to turning age18, review and update the leaving care plan for the young person and assist with their transition to independence.
* Support the young person and carer(s) to develop the Staying On Agreement.
* Be available for support to the young person and carer(s) if they need assistance with the living arrangement.

# Agreement

We \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (full name of young person) and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (full name of carer/s) agree to this ‘Staying On Agreement’.

We understand that this living arrangement is voluntary and can continue under the Home Stretch WA Staying On Agreement until the young person is age 21.

We agree to respect each other and follow any agreed ‘house rules’.

We will review the Staying On Agreement should things change and areas in the agreement need to be amended.

We agree to an annual review of the Staying On Agreement.

We agree to give the other person \_\_\_\_ weeks’ notice to end this Staying On Agreement.

We agree to contact the Department of Communities district office if this agreement is not working and/or the young person moves out of the living arrangement.

Carer 1: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Name)

Carer 2: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Name)

Young Person:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Name)