# Interim Staying On Agreement

Date:

* Interim Staying On Agreements can be applied for by the young person and their carer (s) (or family) where a Home Stretch WA Provider is not established in a region or there is not capacity for a Home Stretch WA service provider to deliver the full Home Stretch WA Service Offer.
* As part of applying for an Interim Staying On Agreement the young person and carer(s) (and family) must agree to transition to a Home Stretch WA Service Provider when a place becomes available and complete a new Staying On Agreement.
* When a Home Stretch WA Provider is established in the region or has capacity to provide the full Home Stretch WA Service Offer, the young person and their carer (s) or family will be supported to transition to a Home Stretch WA provider and a new Staying On Agreement will be established.
* If the young person and or their carer (s) (and family) choose not to sign up to the Home Stretch WA Service Offer once the place becomes available, then the Interim Staying On Agreement will cease.
* Referrals for Interim Staying On Agreements follow the existing referral process for Home Stretch WA and must come through a district office.

## Difference between Staying On & Staying On Interim Agreements

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| **Staying On Agreements**  **(Full Home Stretch WA Service Offer)** | **Interim Staying On Agreements** |
| **Staying On Subsidy**  Staying On Subsidy paid to the living arrangement and agreed contribution from young person. | **Staying On Subsidy**  Staying On Subsidy paid to the living arrangement and agreed contribution from young person. |
| **Facilitation of Agreements and support for the living arrangement**  Home Stretch WA Providers facilitate Staying On Agreements and provide ongoing support for the living arrangement up until 21 where a Staying On Agreement is in place. | **Facilitation of Agreements and support for the living arrangement**  Home Stretch WA Providers or Department of Communities Staff (where relevant) facilitate Interim Staying On Agreements and signpost other supports for the young person and carers/family.  The Interim Staying On Agreement is a fixed period until a Home Stretch WA Provider in place or has capacity. |
| **Support to Young Person:**   * Access the Full Home Stretch WA Service Offer until 21 * Individualized support from a Transition Coach * Access to Invest in Me Funding and Housing Allowance. | **Support to Young Person:**   * No allocated Transition Coaching support * Support available through Department of Communities and signposted in Interim Staying On Agreement. * Access to financial support and resources through Department of Communities District Office. |
| **Support for Carers/ Family:**  Support signposted and provided through support from Staying On Facilitator. | **Support for Carers/ Family:**  Support signposted through Staying On Facilitator, but limited. |
| **Reviews**  4 week check in, 3 monthly (via phone/in person) and annual subsidy review (in person). Completed in collaboration with the Transition Coach, Young Person and Carer(s)/Family. | **Reviews**  4 week check in, 3 monthly (via phone) and annual subsidy review (in person). Completed by the Staying On Facilitator who will phone both Carer(s)/ Family and Young Person. |

## Interim Staying On Agreement

This Agreement sets out the roles and responsibilities of the Home Stretch WA Service Provider, the Department of Communities, young person and their carer (s) and/ or family, for the Interim Staying On Agreement.

## Roles and Responsibilities

**Home Stretch WA Staying On Facilitator / Home Stretch WA Provider**

* Support the carer/s and family to develop the Interim Staying On Agreement
* Support the carer/s and family with the living arrangement by referring to resources and specialised supports
* Facilitate and organise reviews of the Interim Staying On Agreement and Subsidy as required
* Support the young person and family to transition to being supported by a Home Stretch WA provider when they become available in the region.

**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 Interim Staying On Agreement.
* Be available for support to the young person and carer(s) if they need assistance with the living arrangement.
* Provide financial support and resources to the young person after they turn 18, through a District Office.
* Support the young person and family to transition to being supported by a Home Stretch WA provider when they become available in the region.

**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 Home Stretch WA Provider or DoC if required).
* Be available for reviews and participate accordingly, should the agreement with the young person need to be amended.
* Notify the Home Stretch WA Provider if the young person leaves the living arrangement (to avoid liability for overpayment of the Subsidy you must do this as soon as possible).
* Connect and transition to being supported by a Home Stretch WA Provider when they become available in the region.

**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 (seek support from the Home Stretch WA Provider or DoC if required).
* Be available for reviews and participate accordingly, should the Agreement with the carer(s) need to be amended.
* Notify the Department of Communities and Home Stretch WA Provider if you leave the living arrangement.
* Connect and transition to being supported by a Home Stretch WA provider when they become available in the region.

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| **What supports are currently in place? Does the young person Carer/ Family want or need additional supports?**  Discuss current goals of the young person & carer/family. Discuss what supports are currently in place or might need to be put in place, whilst waiting for the full Home Stretch WA offer. |
| Young Person   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Goals/Needs | Who can help? | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  |   Carer/Family   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Goals/Needs | Who can help? | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |

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| **Available Supports/Crisis Services** |
| * Crisis Care- 1800 199 008 * Mental Health Emergency Response Line (MHERL) - Perth - 1300 555 788 / Peel – 1800 676 822 * Legal Aid- 1300 650 579 * Legal Yarn- 1800 319 803 * Emergency Relief & Food Access Services – 1800 979 777 [www.thefwc.org.au](http://www.thefwc.org.au) * Youth Services Directory- [www.amawa.com.au](http://www.amawa.com.au) * Home Stretch WA Handout of Post Care & Advocacy Services   Support for Carers/ Families   * Our Space WA - Statewide counselling service for Foster Carers- 1300 381 581 * Foster Care Association of WA - independent organisation that supports Foster Carers and advocates on their behalf – 92424222 [www.fcawa.com.au](http://www.fcawa.com.au) * Foster Families of South West Inc - not for profit association supporting Foster carers in South West Region on WA- [www.fosterfamiliessouthwest.com](http://www.fosterfamiliessouthwest.com) |

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| **Setting up the Interim Staying On Agreement**  **Explain what a Staying On Agreement is and why it is important**   * A written agreement the young person and carer family develop together to outline the expectations of living together * Everyone has different expectations of living together so it is important to be clear about what is expected of each other and how you overcome issues if they arise   **Use the ‘Setting Up a Staying On Agreement Discussion Guide’ to fill out this agreement**  **Once completed, attach the agreement to the Interim Staying On Subsidy Application Form** |

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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-negotiables 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 for and how the money will be distributed. |
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| **What happens if we disagree or need to change this?** |
| **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 arising 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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| **Where can the young person and/or carer (s)/family access support if things are not working during the Interim Staying On agreement period?** |
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# Agreement

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

We understand that this living arrangement is voluntary and can continue for the period of time agreed in the Interim Staying On Agreement.

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

We will review the Interim Staying On Agreement should things change and amend the relevant areas in the agreement.

The Interim Staying On Agreement is going to be reviewed on \_\_/\_\_/\_\_ (4 weeks) from agreement date, then reviewed every 3 months.

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

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

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

We agree to transition to a Home Stretch WA Provider when a place becomes available.

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

(Name)

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

(Name)

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

(Name)