

## Beneficiaries:

### Clients

- a trusting relationship,
- increased self-esteem,
- access to and support in appropriate housing,
- personal development in relationships,
  - work prospects,
- assistance with finance, benefit and debt issues.

### Accommodation Providers

- support in management of tenants

### Wider Community

- local people connected with other support agencies and networks
  - reduce re-offending
  - greater social inclusion

## Supporters

The project has received funding from a variety of sources from the statutory sector and charitable trusts

## Partners

### Key agency links with:

Devon and Cornwall Police  
Devon and Cornwall Probation Area  
HM Prison Service  
Devon Partnership Trust  
Exeter City Council  
Safer Devon Partnership



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DEVON & CORNWALL



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



# PORCH Project

*P*ersistent

*O*ffender

*R*esettlement through

*C*o-ordinated

*H*ousing



# What is the PORCH Project?

The PORCH Project was formed in 2006 as part of the Prolific and Priority Offender Unit to provide specialist housing and support to promote the resettlement of prolific and other persistent offenders.

The overall aim of the project is to reduce re-offending and contribute to safer communities by providing suitable accommodation and support to offenders.

The dictionary definition of 'PORCH' is a 'sheltered entrance' and this is exactly what we seek to provide those offenders returning to the area from Prison, by providing an intensive package of support and assistance in partnership with colleagues from the Police, Probation and Health.

Referrals come from a variety of sources including prisons, drug treatment agencies, the police and probation. The service is available to men and women offenders over the age of 18 who live in the Exeter, East, Mid and West Devon, or are returning to these areas from prison.

## Housing

Following a referral, initial contact will be made within 3 weeks and involves a detailed needs and risk assessment in order to develop a package of support that suits each clients individual needs.

We also offer practical support to the accommodation providers ensuring the placement goes smoothly for both the service user and the landlord and we are always looking to develop relationships with new housing providers in the area we cover.

We work closely with accommodation providers to extend the amount and variety of accommodation options for offenders and are always seeking to develop partnerships with landlords and housing providers in the areas we cover.

### Landlords

If you are a landlord or accommodation provider and would like to learn more about working with PORCH, please contact the Project Manager Trevor Gardner [trevor@eci.org.uk](mailto:trevor@eci.org.uk) or 01392 205851

## What can you expect?

### As an offender:

- ⇒ You will have a dedicated housing worker who will work with you to address your accommodation and resettlement needs,
- ⇒ We will keep in touch with you regularly whether you are in prison or in the community
- ⇒ We aim to seek a variety of accommodation options depending on your circumstances
- ⇒ We will help you to access benefits and deal with finance and debt issues
- ⇒ We will treat you with fairness and respect

### As a Landlord:

- ⇒ We will risk assess clients to ensure that they are appropriately referred to your service
- ⇒ We will support your tenants to maintain their tenancies well
- ⇒ We will ensure that claims for housing benefit are applied for and will assist in liaising with Housing Benefit Departments when necessary
- ⇒ We will assist you with landlord/tenant relationships
- ⇒ We guarantee to respond to any query or problem within one working day