

# Changing Futures

Stoke-on-Trent

## Barrier to accommodation due to arson conviction

### Background

The customer is alcohol dependent and suffers from Emotionally Unstable Personality Disorder and is a victim of domestic violence and sexual assault.

The customer has an arson conviction, from an incident when she wanted to harm herself, set a fire and rang emergency services before fire took hold.

The customer is homeless and as no services/provider would accommodate her due to the conviction. Her only option was to stay at domestic violence and sexual assault perpetrator's address despite risks.

The customer originally lost placement at the Crown Hotel due to having previous partner in the room. She was awaiting placement for detox.

She has priority banding for a council property but it was felt the local authority Housing department were reluctant to assist in sourcing temporary accommodation. Their reasoning was "due to the arson conviction, nobody will accommodate".

Changing Futures sourced temporary accommodation (which was funded via the local authority Housing Department) and initiated supported via P3.

The Customer's goal is to remain abstinent from alcohol. Be settled in own property, get back driving, be able to rebuild relationship with children/wider family.

### Barriers Identified

The Arson conviction prevented access to accommodation. Probation had tried multiple times over a period of 6-months and even got their area manager involved to liaise with Housing to source accommodation.

She is on the waiting list for Community Drug and Alcohol Service (CDAS). She has had frequent relapses and several hospital admissions but wasn't detoxed in hospital.

## **Outputs**

- Changing Futures liaised directly with TA provider which secured a room, where customer did well for a number of months.
- Changing Futures referred to P3 who continue to support the customer in their own property.

## **Outcomes**

- Now settled in her own property, the customer now has a car, ongoing support via P3, CDAS and MH services.