

Short case study – March 21

Barry

My client Barry became homeless last year through a 'no fault' eviction, meaning that he did not do anything to lose his home, his landlord simply wanted to sell the property. As Barry was living off welfare benefits, he did not have any savings to fall back on for a deposit for another house, so was forced at that time to move in with his sister. However, his sister lived in a small property with young children, which became very overcrowded with Barry living there as well. When this situation became intolerable for everyone, Barry came to us for help. He was a very pleasant, quiet and polite man who was suffering with depression. He told me that he wanted to find somewhere to live in a specific area of London, because he had relatives there who could support him. Luckily, we have a long standing relationship with a good quality hostel in the area that Barry wanted, who provide accommodation for people like Barry, who have minimal support needs and are down on their luck. I gave them a call and they told me they had rooms available from the following week. Barry is now living in the hostel. The government has spoken about ending 'no fault' evictions, as so many people become homeless through this route, but as of yet many people such as Barry face losing their homes because of it.