

Short case study – September 21

Mary was referred to us by a night shelter that we work with, where she had been staying after she was evicted from her home. Mary was evicted under s.21 – the law which gives landlords the power to evict their tenants without having to give a reason. These kinds of evictions are the biggest cause of homelessness in the UK, and the government is currently consulting on banning them. Unfortunately for Mary and many like her, they are very much still in force.

Mary was also having problems with her Universal Credit, which had left her with no income after a mistake was made in calculating her benefits, and this was not helping her to move on from the shelter. We were able to help Mary negotiate with the DWP to get her Universal Credit in payment again. We then referred her to estate agents that we have a working relationship with who we know will take on tenants in receipt of benefits. After a few viewings, Mary found a place she was happy with, and has now moved in and been able to leave the shelter.