

January 23

Our client Nabil came to the advice office looking for help, along with an advocate from his church who had been to many other agencies looking for help, and been told that his issues weren't covered, or they were too complex. Nabil had come to the UK many years ago on a student visa, and had wanted to train to be a nurse. Tragically, he was brutally attacked shortly after arriving in the UK, and sustained catastrophic head injuries. Following this attack, Nabil spent many months in hospital recovering, but was left with brain injury, which affected his memory and left him with other serious mental health difficulties, meaning that he could not continue with his studies. His student visa lapsed and he was left undocumented. He became depressed and started drinking to forget his problems and soothe the symptoms of his brain injury, though of course this made things worse. He became homeless, sleeping rough or staying with friends when he could. More recently, a relative who lives in London took him into their home, as they were worried about his staying in unsuitable accommodation with his health getting worse and worse. When Nabil came to see us he was very frail and forgetful, and his family member was struggling to cope with his obvious care needs. We advised that he may be able to get care and appropriate, supported accommodation from the local authority No Recourse Team, under the Care Act. First, we would need to get him legal advice and support to start addressing his immigration case. We referred Nabil to a service for homeless people needing immigration advice, and they have been able to assess Nabil and make a plan. We were also able to get a grant for Nabil, to spend on travel and other necessities, as he is currently destitute. We are hoping that now Nabil is linked into the right legal support, that we will be able to secure accommodation in which he will be properly taken care of.