

Case Study

Homelessness and Housing Need

“EF” – Young Care Leaver

EF came to the attention of Social Work Services in 2002 aged 12, having problems both in the family home and problems at school. She became involved in offending, committing a serious crime, and received an 8-year sentence. Following her release in 2012 (aged 22) she lived at the James Shields Hostel. EF began engaging with services to address barriers to employability, subsequently referring her to the Care Leavers Employment Service (CLES) to progress into employment, having been unsuccessful in looking for work.

EF had a clear plan of wanting to work in Child Social Care or Hospitality but faced barriers in pursuing this due to her conviction. CLES assisted her to access legal support. EF was referred to the Launchpad Training Programme, where she undertook work placements in hospitality. The placements were very positive and following negotiations with her second placement progressed into employment as a Commis Chef in 2013.

EF was submitted to the Leaving Care Services Protocol, as she had demonstrated the maturity and skills to be able to manage her own tenancy.

EF has been in her own tenancy for approximately a year, and been employed with Jamie’s Italian for 18 months. EF now plans to go to College to study Child Social Care.