

Chloe



Chloe grew up in a home where domestic violence was the norm. She was also sexually assaulted by a family member when she was 5. When she was 8 years old, she and her mum moved out of the family home to escape her abusive step dad. After a year in temporary accommodation, they ended up living in a high crime area and there, Chloe befriended other youngsters associated with gangs. At the same time, her mother was really struggling with her mental health and would find it hard to look after her daughter.

Chloe was groomed by some of the older boys on her estate and started using party drugs (cannabis, cocaine, ketamine) as a young teen.

Her mother's mental health continued to deteriorate and this eventually led to the break down of the family unit. Chloe was placed in independent living accommodation through social care leading to adultification.

Due to her chaotic home life, Chloe struggled at school and was eventually excluded.

This made her even more vulnerable to exploitation by the gangs she was affiliated with and her drug intake started increasing.

She was sexually assaulted by another gang member so decided to move in with her boyfriend for protection. Sadly, said boyfriend is violent and she finds herself repeating the cycle of domestic violence that she grew up in.

With support, she has reflected on her childhood experiences and wants to break the pattern. She wants to get a job and have her own flat.

However, she is struggling to access the services she needs. She can't use Homechoice as she is perceived as too high risk. She has experienced systemic racism in health services and can't get access to a diagnosis or treatment for her mental health issues.

She is attending a college course in hair and beauty with a view to open her own salon one day. She's able to build trusting relationships with the professionals around her but hasn't been able to build friendships with her peers. Chloe is estranged from family apart from her much older siblings so she is very isolated.

She uses social media as a way to connect. She has a strong social media presence doing beauty tutorials. She suffers from PTSD and depression and receives PIP. She's currently not well enough to maintain full time employment. She is still at risk from her previous gang affiliations which limits where she can travel and live in the city.

