

Sasha



Sasha moved to the UK in his late teens to work as a labourer. He met a woman and they married when he was 21. A year later, they had a daughter together.

When he was 25, he had an accident at work and suffered life-altering injuries. He was unable to return to work and started drinking as a way to cope with the shame of not being able to provide for his family and to manage the residual pain from his injuries. Eventually, his drinking became too much and his wife filed for divorce. Sasha left the family home and started sleeping rough. His wife is restricting access to his child due to this.

After a couple of years on the streets, Sasha witnessed one of his friends being killed in an unprovoked attack. This was very traumatic for him and he still brings it up often. His mental health suffered a lot following this incident.

Sasha begs to fund his alcohol dependency and he has had many interactions with the police about this.

Following Brexit, Sasha didn't apply for the settled status as he was unaware that it applied to him. Due to his repeated arrests and the lack of settled status, his immigration status is complex and this limits his access to public services and benefits.

Sasha is really sociable, he loves nothing more than a good chat. He thrives in the company of others and while on the streets, he actively seeks to live with others. However, he finds hostels really stressful because he has witnessed others taking or dealing drugs and he disapproves of it. He doesn't see his alcohol addiction in the same way as others' drug addiction.

His English is basic and he finds it difficult to interact with services because he doesn't always understand what they're saying to him. He is not registered with a GP for the same reason despite suffering from an alcohol related brain injury.

He likes gardening and would love to get involved in a community garden type of project. His biggest wish though is to be reunited with his daughter.

