**Your Contact: Nadia Fensom**

**Direct line: 02085834067**

**Email:** [Nadia.Fensom@hounslow.gov.uk](mailto:Nadia.Fensom@hounslow.gov.uk)

**Date: 23/05/2022**

The London Borough of Hounslow are seeking a Learning Disability Residential/Supported Living Placement for a 26-year-old female who will be referred to as the Client Current accommodation will be referred to as the Home

**Individual needs:**

The Client has complex health needs, she has diagnoses of severe learning disability, autistic spectrum disorder, severe challenging behaviour, obsessive compulsive disorder, high levels of anxiety and physical health concerns and deemed as medically underweight. The Client has lived in her current placement, since July 2017. The client requires support in all areas of her daily living and requires 24-hour support to maintain her physical and mental health and emotional well-being as well as effective management of presenting challenging behaviours as is unable to meet these needs independently.

The client is nonverbal but can read and write and previously has used an ipad to type words. She understands Makaton and when engaged is able to express wishes.

The Clients presents with unpredictable challenging behaviours that often do not appear to relate to any known triggers or signs of when the challenging behaviour is potentially going to increase. The behaviours include self-harm i.e. hitting, biting, head banging walls/doors, which are occurring on a daily or every other day basis. Has been known to attempt to swallow drawing pins or small sharp objects. There have also at times, been some attempts to climb out of window. When out in the community has been known to attempt to abscond. Also presents physical challenges towards others, with attempts to hit, bite and pull staff hair, and throwing objects or kicking doors. When unwell the client has also attempted to use available items as ligature. However, the behaviours increases when unfamiliar staff provide support or requests/wishes are not met. From mid-2021, the client’s challenges behaviours have increased in frequency, leading to the client remaining awake for the majority of the night, where these behaviours present, with also screaming and shouting. Prior to this a PBS plan was followed and the client engaged in community activities, however this no longer is known to work.

The client has health professionals who are regularly involved in her care. She does not have a mental health diagnosis but does have medication to help with anxiety and also has PRN to support with this.

The client is fully mobile and would not require a lift to access rooms in her home and is able to go for walk for short distances to shops and places of interest but always with staff support.

Prior to the increase in challenging behaviours which has impacted on normal everyday routines, had interests in car journeys, shopping, eating out. The client has a keen interest in history and likes to visit historical sites and museums. In the future the client may want to attend some form of social group appropriate to interests and needs.

The client has a good family support network and currently parents have LPA for Property and Financial Affairs and Health and Welfare. Parents would like to view any potential placements to identify/be involved in maintaining the health and safety of the client.

**Placement expectation:**

The role of the placement will be to maintain good level of Health and Safety at all times for the client and others, both staff and residents.

Provider will support in all activities of daily living, including maintaining and monitoring weight as well as food and fluid intake. The home must have strong window seals/restrictors to maintain the client’s safety in bedroom.

The placement must maintain good recording and reporting of incidents, reports using behavioural charts, health charts and daily records, to capture needs, ascertain triggers in order to formulate methods to work with client in reducing/preventing challenging behaviours. This is because as present it is not clear what the triggers are. Must have PBS, and Psychology/Psychiatric support.

* Good regular experienced, skilled staff to prevent risk of staff burnout and an impact to everyone else living in the home.
* To have only a set group of staff to support/work with her. Placement to be firm/clear in setting boundaries from the outset.
* The physical environment must be conducive to client's needs and for staff to support her. Client requires 1:1 support during the day until she is settled. 2:1 for community access.
* Upstairs bedroom to minimise noise levels and reduce constant contact with people coming in and out of the home.
* Activities to be well planned prior to going out and staff to arrange activities with client.
* Client will need a more specialist service skilled in working with people with learning disabilities who also have autism with challenging behaviours
* Any potential providers with be sent copies of recent assessment.

**Environment**

Ideally, the property should be 7 beds or less or bespoke support.

* First floor bedroom (hopefully less quiet)
* Quieter home
* No shower as she may use shower cord as ligature
* Bath essential
* No opens wires/cords in view
* Bedroom must have minimum furniture
* No en-suite to prevent client head banging on the sink
* No access to kitchen knives, cutleries, drawing pins ie sharp objects.
* To support her to register at a GP Surgery
* Safety catches on windows be strong with effective window opening restrictors

The care provider should also consider the following points as outlined below:

**Essential Staff experience:**

Carers should have a minimum of 2 years’ experience in working with people with autism. Carers must be trained and confident in working with people with learning disabilities, autism, severe challenging behaviour and know methods in how to de-escalate challenging behaviours and crisis. Please identify current methods used, and if using restraint, what and level of training of staff. Able to support client to health appointments and planned activities using PBS plans. Placement to plan and arrange family visits safely.

If you can offer an LD, Autism and Mental Health Specialist Community care setting, please respond to this notice using the email address below by **Monday the 30th of May 2022** **1400.** Those that have responded will be contacted to discuss the requirements further.

Once the Local Authority has spoken with the care Providers, a decision will be made on which is the most suitable provider to support the individual. The decision by the Local Authority will be dependent on your experience, ability to meet the individual’s needs, safe location, actual location, and care cost. As a service, you must be registered with CQC with a good and above rating.

If you can meet the patient’s needs and you have a community placement available, you can you respond to: