

Case Study 3

Olivia's story

Olivia is 15. She was removed from her birth parents as a baby and adopted when she was a year old. Olivia was referred to child and adolescent mental health services through school at the age of 6. Concerns were again escalated at the age of 8. Concerns continued for Olivia and she was placed on a care order under section 20 at the age of 12. Olivia had a number of homes break down. This included foster homes and residential homes. Olivia would become verbally and physically aggressive. Olivia had made disclosures of historical abuse. These were concluded with 'no further action'. Olivia made an attempt of taking her own life at 14. Olivia was also found in possession of cannabis. Olivia was moved to one home under a deprivation of liberty order. Olivia did settle here for a time but notice was served following one incident. The local authority are struggling to find Olivia an appropriate setting. They are proposing to place her in an unregulated flat with agency staff. The continued restrictions sought are 3:1 supervision, the removal of items that she could use to harm herself, sharp objects and medication locked away, the use of plastic plates and cutlery, monitoring throughout the night, doors and windows locked. She will not be permitted to leave the placement, and physical restraint will be used as a last resort.

What information would you like to know in terms of local authority paperwork?

What are your immediate concerns for Olivia?