

Case Study – Mr Y

Background

Mr Y is a 39 year old gentleman who has spina bifida and is wheelchair dependent. Mr Y works full time and was living at home in his parent's property, he was striving to maximise his independence by moving into his own property but was unable to afford to privately rent a property. Mr Y had applied for housing through Flintshire County Council; due to his housing needs his details were placed on the Specialist Housing Register.

Re-housing

The Housing Occupational Therapist (O.T.) was informed regarding a partially adapted ground floor , two bedroom, maisonette in Mr Y 's chosen area. Upon inspection of the property the O.T. recognised the opportunity and potential to fully adapt the property for a wheelchair user. The Specialist Housing Register was consulted and Mr Y's details were identified as a possible match for the property. The Housing O.T. visited Mr Y and reviewed the Housing Report which had been completed two years previously; following review the O.T. was satisfied that the property could be further adapted to meet Mr Y's long term needs.

Further adaptations were carried out to the property, these included the provision of a washer dryer toilet, widening the doors to the kitchen, bedroom and living room, lowering of light switches, the provision of ramped access to the property and the provision of a disabled kitchen.

Independent Living

Upon completion of the essential works Mr Y moved into the adapted flat. The O.T. further assessed for and provided a self propelling shower chair for use in the wet area shower, this enabled Mr Y to shower safely and independently. Mr Y was provided with a clos o mat toilet, enabling him to manage his hygiene independently when toileting. The adapted kitchen provided him with all facilities he needed to prepare meals safely and independently. The provision of ramped access enables him to access his car safely and continue to go to work.

Mr Y has friends living locally and is thrilled to be able to socialise in this own home.

The Future

Mr Y hopes to continue working full time and going to meet his friends in the local pub.

Mr Y and his parents are happy knowing that his home will meet his long term needs. His mother stated "I've always worried about him and how he'll manage when we're no longer here, now I don't feel I have to"