

## Floating support case study – Matt

Matt, has been working with Anthony Oliver, an independent living adviser at Selwood Housing since June 2017 following a referral from his social worker.

Still living with his parents at the time, Matt was keen to move into independent living as a Selwood Housing customer, following his successful job appointment at the local Leekes store.

Matt, who has physical and learning disabilities, was initially offered support around applying for benefits via the floating support service at Selwood Housing. Anthony also initially spent time with Matt's parents in supporting and preparing them to move their son into independent living.

After applying for specific and relevant benefits, Anthony also supported Matt to attend the medical assessment for his disability benefits in Swindon and advocated for him. Matt was successful in getting the benefits he needs to live independently.

Alongside Anthony, Matt also worked closely with Louise Cowler, a lettings coordinator at Selwood Housing, where he was supported in registering with Homes4Wiltshire, and then onto bidding for properties. Louise worked with Matt on the sign up process for a suitable property for his needs.

When asked about how he feels with his new found independence Matt said, "I like having my own space. My parents were a little worried when I first moved in but are more confident now that I'm here and settled in. I've made friends here and it is very peaceful. I wouldn't change anything about the flat."

Now that Matt has settled within his new home, the Selwood Housing floating support service will continue to meet with him to support his tenancy.

Matt's parents commented on the support provided by the floating support service, "Thank you for your support in the early stages of a housing application and talking through options with Matthew and the choices he had, he appreciated having another adult to talk to away from the family home.



“Since seeing the flat on the Selwood Housing Group website, Louise Cowler, lettings coordinator, supported us through the process and was very professional, efficient and caring. The studio flat is perfect for Matthew especially within a sheltered scheme with Selwood Housing's hardwired alarm service and secure front door to the building. The warden has popped in to introduce herself so he knows where to go for any queries he has.

“The residents so far have been so friendly and caring towards him and hold regular gatherings which Matthew has been to already. He feels safe which is the most important thing for all of us. Many thanks for all your help and support.”

Matt is thriving in his new home and continues to stay active, with a meaningful week involving paid and volunteer work.