

## Ian Barkley – Character reference

I have known and worked with Ian when I started at Oldham Council in 2014. When I first started working for Adults Social Services, Ian worked for the client finance team, and I worked for the care arranger team. During this time, I approached Ian on many occasions for queries, I can still remember the first time I went across to Ian for help, (we worked in the same building) he was helpful, understanding and patience, he made me feel at ease and comfortable as I was also new to my role within the service.

Since the first meeting with Ian, I am always confident I can approach Ian for any advice and help and I feel assured with the knowledge Ian has - he would resolve the query himself or point me to the right direction for help. Ian has always made me feel comfortable when working with him, I always feel that I can approach him whenever needed and he has always supported me since I have been working with him.

I am a type 1 diabetic since 2013 and I have managed my diabetes well. In 2021 I was off work with long term stress, I was finding it hard to even get out of the house. It was Ian who kept contacting me to check how I was doing; he even took me to Old Trafford to watch a game. I am honestly grateful to Ian for all the support and advice he gave me when I was off sick.

Ansar Mahmood – Brokerage Team.