



Dear Sir/Madam

My name is [REDACTED], before I started working at the Wood Store I had spent many years homeless, was addicted to drugs and alcohol and was in rehab to address these problems. I get anxiety and depression and have schizoaffective disorder and believed I was unemployable.

My Key Worker advised me to get some work experience so I started as a volunteer on their training scheme and worked in the workshop and on deliveries and collection and really enjoyed doing this and it was the highlight of my week to do this. After a while I started to be trained in retail and started to volunteer in the shop on Saturdays as well, this was totally out of my comfort zone but doing this helped improve my confidence and gave structure to my life.

After a while i was offered a job and now I work three days a week. By working in the wood store I have been able to get back into work and get support from my colleagues who have become my friends. As soon as I was able to move they offered me help with my deposit on a house to help me move easier and an increase in days working so I could afford to pay my rent. To help me save money and not pay for buses i was bought a bike with lights and locks the whole works.

I need to check my thinking out regularly as I can get paranoid and delusional and I really lucky that my friends at work are understanding and help me not to get caught up in my own thinking.

I don't think there is any other workplace that would help the underdogs as much as the woodstore does and creates jobs for them.

Yours sincerely,

