Elizabeth Maughan



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Draft new London Plan

I'm an Irish Traveller and I have lived in temporary accommodation for 2.5 years. I have a 3 year old daughter with bad speech and a learning disability. I'm receiving PIP for my child. It's a delay in her life and our housing situation is making this worse. I should be entitled to a ground floor property because my child has a heart murmur and asthma. I wouldn't mind living in a Gypsy and Traveller site or in a ground flat with a garden. We live far away from the Traveller community and I can't drive to go to sites.

I get depressed from being isolated from my family and culture. I suffered from depression for 8-9 years and I'm on medication. I also suffer from back pain and can't get up the stairs. My daughter needs her own room and her play space. She's in a small room, she doesn't get to see kids, she goes to nursery but that's not enough.

I need a home in Hackney, closer to school and her appointments – her speech and language and doctor. I need to be around family myself because I don't get any support. It's miserable the little room I'm in.

In the new London Plan there should be priority for family size council housing and new Gypsy and Traveller sites. Children with special needs should get priority for suitable housing to give them better chances in life.