

Mr Cordell says he frequently has suicidal thoughts and that he has been researching ways to kill himself "on YouTube". These have included "poisoning, over-dose, hanging". He said that he has tried to kill himself by hanging in the past. He says he has all the materials at home ready to act on his thoughts and has done so for the last nine months. He says what stops him from acting on these thoughts is a desire for justice, wanting to be proved innocent at trial. He says the police are very worried about him, saying "they know they have messed up and now I am on their most vulnerable list, I call 101 regularly, I had police officers out to my flat twice last week to check on my safety".

Mr Cordell says he feels angry with the police, that he has been victimised by them because of the colour of his skin and that he will continue to be victimised by them.

### **Past Psychiatric History**

Mr Cordell tried to hang himself at the age of 16 when in a young offender's institution; he says he lost consciousness and needed to be resuscitated. He was moved to a high security hospital and kept in seclusion on a number of occasions, but he says he would destroy the padded cell with his teeth. He says he was seen regularly by a psychiatrist called Dr Caplin from "the safe project". He says there was a second occasion where he tried to hang himself when in a cell after he was sentenced.

He has not had contact with mental health services for the last 15 years.

### **Past Medical History**

Nil.

### **Personal History**

Mr Cordell was born at North Middlesex University Hospital. He has a younger brother and sister. Mr Cordell says he knows his maternal grandmother attempted suicide on a number of occasions and had had psychiatric hospital admissions. Mr Cordell's father worked as a union representative and his mother ran her own computer company.

Mr Cordell says he did not get on well with his father who was a violent man. He was violent towards Mr Cordell, Mr Cordell's mother and siblings. Mr Cordell left home at the age of fifteen and was homeless for a while. He was placed in to care after stealing a pint of milk. He was placed in a series of children's care homes around the UK, but says that each time he would steal a car and drive back to London.

Mr Cordell said he was pushed hard to achieve at school by his father and that he was "an A-star student" for most of the time. He says he was intelligent and would do the work at other times and as a result would often just "mess about" in class. He went on to college and studied engine mechanics, completing a city & guilds qualification. After leaving school he went on to get jobs in the construction industry.

Mr Cordell says he has tried to build himself up a business for providing party entertainment. At the moment he says he is not able to earn from this due to the restrictions of his bail.

Mr Cordell has had one long term relationship which he describes as "my first true love". This is with a woman called Diana who is currently studying physiotherapy. They were together thirteen years but he says she has moved back out of his flat in recent months. Mr Cordell thinks this is secondary to the repeated involvement of the police in their lives and the stress this has caused.

Mr Cordell lives in a one-bedroom council flat. He says things have been financially difficult in recent months as his benefits were stopped and he has had to borrow from friends and relatives. His benefits have been restarted now.

Mr Cordell says he does not smoke tobacco and does not drink alcohol. He says he does occasionally smoke "skunk".