

Press release

29 August 2006

Hackney Homes in double whammy crack den closure

Hackney Homes Crackdown team and local police have successfully closed two drug dens in Shoreditch.

The first swoop happened at Rosemary House following tip offs that the property was being used as a drugs den. A large quantity of heroin and crack cocaine was recovered and a 34 year old man is now awaiting trial for possession of Class A drugs with intent to supply.

Thames Magistrates Court granted a closure order on 10th August and the flat will soon be re-let to a genuine tenant.

The second raid was at a flat in Follingham Court that was used as a drugs den. Hackney Homes Crackdown team and local police raided the flat in August after a number of complaints from local residents regarding drug users openly taking drugs in the stairwells and fighting. Police recovered a small amount of Class A drugs.

Thames Magistrates Court granted a closure order on 18th August and the property has now been boarded up and will be re-let following a thorough cleaning.

Hackney Homes Chief Executive Steve Tucker said: "These two raids and closures will be a tremendous relief for everyone in who has suffered the criminal and anti-social activity that accompanies drug dens." He adds: "We are committed to closing all drug dens in the borough and we hope this sends a clear message that we won't tolerate this kind of anti-social behaviour."

Call Crackdown Project Team in confidence to report a suspected crack den on 020 8356 3333, text 07976 911 165 or email crackdown@hackney.gov.uk

Ends

Press queries to Chloe Goddard on 0208 356 3528 or email housingeditor@hackneyhomes.org.uk