

## Media release

30 July 2008

### **Hackney Homes resident turns budding designer**

Hackney Homes has helped kick-start the career of one of its young residents and budding designers, Ben Woodley aged 23 from Hawksley Court Estate, by enlisting his help in designing promotional posters for upcoming Community Fun Days.

The posters, which are displayed across the borough on estates, in Neighbourhood Offices, libraries and schools, have given Ben much needed experience in working with organisations on design concepts and seeing them through to production.

Ben has also been instrumental in breathing life into a newly opened youth club on his estate together with the local Tenants' and Residents' Association and other young residents.

"The youth club offers kids the chance to be entertained and have some fun in a safe environment and keep them off the streets.

"I wanted to give these kids something I never had when I was growing up on my estate and steer them on the right path," Ben said.

Ben and Jammie Dickens (aged 23) who also lives on the estate played a major role in getting the club off the ground. They worked together with the Hawksley Court TRA, Estate Manager Sharona Weekes and Community Safety Officer Denise Brown.

If you are a Hackney Homes resident and are interested in joining your local TRA, phone Hackney Homes on 020 8356 7845.

**ENDS**

**Press queries to Susan Walsh on 0208 356 3528 or email [susan.walsh@hackneyhomes.org.uk](mailto:susan.walsh@hackneyhomes.org.uk)**

#### **Notes to Editors**

- Hackney Homes is an Arms Length Management Organisation (ALMO) launched in April 2006 to manage the Council's social housing stock. Hackney Homes is led by a board which includes residents, councillors and independent representatives and is responsible for managing

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Our mission is to deliver excellent, responsive housing services with decent homes and estates. To help residents lead healthy lives in safe and sustainable communities.

22,000 tenanted properties and 8,000 leasehold properties in the borough. For further information visit [www.hackneyhomes.org.uk](http://www.hackneyhomes.org.uk)

- Tenants' and Residents' Associations (TRAs) are set up and run by residents living in Hackney Homes properties. They work to improve the social, physical and environmental conditions in their area. TRA Committee members are elected by residents in the local area.
- A series of Community Fun Days have been planned on Hackney estates from late July until early September. The events provide a chance for residents to meet their neighbours and enjoy a fun and social day out. There will be plenty of free activities for young and old and the TRA's will be speaking to residents about getting involved. Visit [www.hackneyhomes.org.uk/hhs-community-events-fun-days08](http://www.hackneyhomes.org.uk/hhs-community-events-fun-days08) for more information about the Fun Days.