

Press release

26 September 2008

Hackney Homes supports young locals to succeed

The opportunity to gain a career and make a difference is important to young people in Hackney. That is why Hackney Homes has taken on seven apprentices aged between 16 and 19 within the repairs and maintenance division.

Whittled down from hundreds of applicants, the successful apprentices passed an application process which consisted of an interview and a written test.

They will work alongside a Hackney Homes operative four days a week and attend college for one day a week. They will gain relevant skills in a range of crafts including plumbing, electrical, carpentry, multi-skilling and painting and decorating.

Full of enthusiasm, the apprentices are looking forward to this opportunity. Omari, a 17 year old electrical apprentice said: "I found out about the scheme from the Hackney Homes website and I decided to apply. I am glad that I got through and I am looking forward to getting the experience".

The apprentices will be paid a wage whilst on the scheme and they will also be supported with training and personal development.

Charlotte Graves, Hackney Homes Chief Executive welcomed the apprentices "Congratulations to the seven apprentices who were successful this year. Our repairs teams are ready to support them so that they can gain the right skills and experience needed to provide excellent services to Hackney residents."

Applications for new apprentices will open in mid-2009. Information about this will be available on our website at www.hackneyhomes.org.uk

Press queries to Olaide Oyekanmi on 0208 356 3522, 0777 2565514 or email olaide.oyekanmi@hackneyhomes.org.uk

Notes to Editors

- Hackney Homes currently has 29 apprentices employed on our training scheme.

- Our Hackney Homes apprentices specialise in a range of different areas including plumbing, electrical, carpentry, multi-skilling and painting and decorating.
- In 2006, Hackney Homes apprentice Ryan Rebeiro won APSE Male Apprentice of the Year and in 2007, Callie Duncan won APSE Female Apprentice of the Year.
- APSE is the Association for Public Service Excellence and works with over 300 authorities throughout the UK. The APSE Apprentice Awards have been running successfully for 10 years throughout the UK.
- Hackney Homes currently employs over 900 staff covering a diverse range of jobs and roles. We regularly recruit in housing, repairs and maintenance, ICT, finance, human resources, estate cleaning and gardening. For information about positions in Hackney Homes, check the Hackney Homes website www.hackneyhomes.org.uk and click on the link 'Work for us'.