

Media release

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Hackney residents show off their green thumbs

A vast number of Hackney Homes residents have been showing their interest in growing and looking after their own gardens and green spaces.

Over 70 people registered their interest in a free 10 week gardening course run specifically for Hackney Homes residents by St Mary's Secret Garden in Shoreditch. With the course now complete, residents are 'in the know' about gardening tools and tips for growing their own green areas.

Christina Adams from Stonebridge Estate said: "I've really enjoyed this course and I've learned so much about how to plant and how to identify and remove unsightly weeds. Greenery can make such a difference on estates and can really improve the look and feel of an area."

Likewise, Deborah Chandler from Somerford Grove Estate said she enjoyed the course so much that she wanted to do further gardening training in the future.

"People tend to feel brighter when there's flowers and colour around the place. I'd encourage other residents to try their hands at it."

St Mary's Secret Garden is located at 50 Pearson St, E2 8EL and is open Monday - Friday from 9am - 5pm. The Garden sells plants and vegetables on-site. Check out www.stmaryssecretgarden.org.uk for more information.

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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 22,000 tenanted properties and 8,000 leasehold properties in the borough. For further information visit www.hackneyhomes.org.uk

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.