

Press release

April 3rd 2006

Lift off for Hackney Homes

Monday 3rd of April marked lift off for Hackney Homes, the new organisation which will manage and improve the council's housing stock while working in partnership with the Hackney Council.

Hackney Homes is owned and was set up by Hackney Council but will operate at arms' length from it. Hackney's housing residents, tenants and leaseholders are in good hands with a board of residents, councillors, and independents overseeing the day-to-day work of Hackney Homes staff.

Over the last four years, Hackney Council has put in place the foundations for improvement, with improved rent collection, and repairs, quicker turnaround for re-letting times and the first phase of Decent Homes work.

Hackney Homes will build on this success and will work in partnership with the Council to lay the building blocks for the future. Hackney Homes is tasked with further improving housing services for residents and attracting an extra £225 million Government funding to transform homes in the borough. This additional funding is intended to bring all council-owned and leasehold homes up to and beyond the Government's Decent Homes Standard, by 2010. The Decent Homes Standard will ensure that tenants, leaseholders and freeholders live in homes that are warm, dry, safe and structurally sound.

Chair of the board, David Curley, said: "Today marks the start of an exciting journey for Hackney residents. We are committed to improving the quality of life for Hackney Homes residents and building on the firm foundations laid by the Council." He adds:

"Hackney Homes vision is to work hard to deliver excellent, responsive, housing services with decent homes and estates so that residents lead healthy lives in safe and sustainable communities."

Chief Executive Penny Thompson said: "We look forward to working in partnership with Hackney Homes to ensure better homes for the future. Hackney Homes is part of Team Hackney, our local strategic partnership, and is in prime position to make a real difference on estates."

Editors Note:

Hackney Homes Board

Councillors: Linda Kelly (vice chair), Sharon Patrick, Karen Alcock, Samantha Lloyd, Afolasade Bright

Residents: David Larkin, Alice Burke, Rupert Tyson, Brian Marsh, Audrey Villas (Vice chair), Sandra Hall

Independents: David Curley (chair), Marie Photiou, Chloe Fletcher, Andrew Potter, Asim Bhattacharyya

Ends

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