

Press release

2 May 2008

Six more apprentices to join Hackney Homes award winning scheme

Six more apprentices will be recruited this year to Hackney Homes award winning Apprenticeship Scheme. The scheme which was recognised last year with two Training Excellence Awards by the Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE) is renowned as one of the best schemes in London.

Young people aged between 16 and 19 can apply for a chance to gain an industry recognised qualification and work side by side with experienced professionals.

As a Hackney Homes apprentice, they will attend college one day a week and work the rest of the week as Hackney Homes staff. They will gain new skills and learn a range of crafts including plumbing, electrical, carpentry and painting and decorating and multi-skilling.

On the job support will also be provided to new apprentices from staff who have been through the scheme and who understand first hand what it is like to work in construction.

One such staff member is Hackney Homes carpenter and 2007 Female Apprentice of the Year, Callie Duncan who is working hard to challenge the notion that construction is 'blokey'.

Callie said "Part of the job that I love most is getting to talk to new apprentices especially girls and answering their questions and dispelling any myths they might have about working in the trade".

Charlotte Graves, Hackney Homes Chief Executive said "Year after year, our apprenticeship scheme continues to produce highly skilled, well qualified and above all, customer focused operatives. We are committed to encouraging more young people to consider a career in the trades and this scheme is a great way to do this".

For more information about applying for the 2008 Apprenticeship Scheme, log on to www.hackneyhomes.org.uk/hw-work-for-us

Notes to Editors

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.

- Hackney Homes currently has 24 apprentices employed on our training scheme.
- The 2008 Apprenticeship Scheme will recruit six apprentices : one painter and decorator, one plumber, one carpenter, one multi skilled and two electricians.
- In 2007, a number of Hackney Homes apprentices were selected to enter the APSE Housing and Construction Apprentice Awards. Ryan Rebeiro won Male Apprentice of the Year and Callie Duncan won 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. The aim of the awards, which are open to every authority in the UK, is not only to give recognition to future tradespersons, but also to the councils and authorities themselves who continue to invest in and provide first class training / employment initiatives in bona-fide Modern Apprenticeship schemes.

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