

Press release

30 March 2009

Female carpenter shortlisted for national award

Hackney Homes female carpenter is in the running for a major national award in recognition of her commitment to the trades, excellent service to residents and dedication to young people in Hackney.

Callie Duncan is one of just three people across the country to have been shortlisted in the ALMO Team Member of the Year category of the National Federation of ALMOs (NFA) awards.

Having recently completed a carpentry apprenticeship scheme with Hackney Homes, she graduated to become the only female carpenter on the books and has been named young apprentice of the year by the Association for Public Excellence. Despite these accolades, Callie remains a grounded staff member whose passion for providing the best services to residents and supporting her colleagues is evident as soon as she walks into a room.

With a strong resident focus, Callie also has a very approachable and warm manner when dealing with residents. Always willing to solve problems, Callie has worked hard to ensure that when issues are raised that they are dealt with accordingly and that the right outcome for residents is achieved.

Being one of a few women in the construction industry has also seen Callie taking time out of her spare time to spread the word and challenge the notion that construction is 'blokey'. She does this by mentoring young girls weekly on a local estate showing them how they can also pursue a career in the manual trades. She has helped to apply for funding for the youth group and has been successful in running the workshop for the past few months.

Chief Executive of Hackney Homes, Charlotte Graves, said "We're delighted that Callie has been recognised in this way.

"She has shown real commitment to getting the job done and to encouraging others to follow in her footsteps"

"She is an inspiration to her colleagues and to all of us at Hackney Homes, and we wish every success at the awards ceremony"

The awards will be presented in York on 1 April 2009 as part of the National Federation of ALMOs' annual conference.

Dennis Rees, NFA Chair, said: "This year the NFA awards received an overwhelming response and the quality of entry was excellent. 2009 is proving a difficult year for many but the ALMO framework is going from strength to strength, providing support to its residents on the issues affecting the whole country."

Our mission for the future to deliver excellent, accessible services and quality homes that people want to live in.

Ends

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Notes to Editors

- Hackney Homes was launched in April 2006 and is responsible for managing council homes in Hackney. This includes managing council housing. Collecting housing rental, repairing and maintaining council homes.