

Press release

2 April 2009

Hackney Homes' Callie Duncan scoops national award

Hackney Homes' female carpenter Callie Duncan has scooped a major national award in recognition of her commitment to the trades, excellent service to residents and dedication to young people in Hackney.

Callie was just 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 on 1st April 2009.

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 "Winning ALMO team member of the Year is a fantastic accolade for Callie. We are incredibly proud of her and it's great that she has received public recognition for her commitment to going the extra mile."

She adds: "At Hackney Homes we are committed to making our workforce as diverse as possible to reflect the community we serve and I hope that Callie's success will be an inspiration to other young women."

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.