

Press release

20 April 2009

Local support for residents experiencing domestic violence and hate crime

Hackney Homes residents who have experienced domestic violence and hate crime can get advice on their rights and housing options by dropping into a surgery taking place at their local neighbourhood office.

Case Workers in the Homerton, Stoke Newington, Stamford Hill, Queensbridge and De Beauvoir and Shoreditch offices can offer free advice on legal, welfare rights and housing options.

There is no need to book an appointment for the surgeries which run at each office every two weeks.

Judith Fitzsimons, Hackney Domestic Violence and Hate Crime Team Policy Coordinator, said: "In the last year, local police have been called to deal with over 2000 domestic and hate crimes.

"We want to make it even easier for locals to receive support for these crimes which are significant offences that still remain largely unspoken of and hidden in communities."

Find out which surgery is closest to you by calling the Domestic Violence and Hate Crime Case Workers on 0800 056 0905 or 0208 356 4459. You can also contact your local Neighbourhood Housing Office.

Ends

Press queries to Nicola Morgan on 0208 356 3528, 07854 825 702 or email nicola.morgan@hackneyhomes.org.uk

Notes to Editors

- Domestic violence is controlling behaviour involving the emotional, psychological, financial, sexual or physical abuse of adults within intimate or family relationships. Hate Crime is any incident where the victim believes he or she has been subject to abuse or harassment as a result of their race, ethnicity, religious beliefs or sexual orientation.
- The surgeries are a joint initiative between Hackney Homes and the London Borough of Hackney's Domestic Violence and Hate Crime Team (DVHCT).
- Addresses and opening times of neighbourhood offices can be found on the Hackney Homes website www.hackneyhomes.org.uk
- 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.

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