

Press release

12 February 2007

Hackney Homes leaseholders get advice on managing bills

Paying bills is a fact of life for many people. That is why Hackney Homes put on a day long seminar at the Town Hall offering help and advice to leaseholders on managing the payment of their service charges and major works and fitting this in with their day to day bills.

Bringing together a number of welfare and debt advice agencies such as Age Concern, Houseproud and Citizens Advice Bureau, the Hackney Homes Financial Awareness Day provided answers to questions about managing bills as well the opportunity to learn more about grants, funding and welfare support available.

Pat Ronayne, Head of Hackney Homes Leasehold and Right to Buy Services was pleased that over 100 residents were able to attend.

“This was a very useful afternoon for our residents. They were able to get one-to-one assistance and advice from experts in the field on how they can cope with major works bills and service charges and ensure that they stay in the black”.

Some useful advice offered to attendees on the day were:

- Pay the important bills first – your mortgage, service charges not just the ones with the smallest repayments.
- Speak to agencies who can help you.
- Keep track of how much you have coming in and how much you need to set aside for essential spendings.
- Check that you are getting all the benefits or tax credits that you are entitled to.

If you need to find out information and advice on managing your bills, there are a number of organisations in Hackney that can help you.

Details are listed below:

CHAS Central London

Money Advice and Housing Advice Service for Leaseholders

Tel: 020 7723 5928

Email: advice@chascl.org.uk

Houseproud

Tel (free phone): 0800 783 7569

Age Concern Hackney Information Service

Tel (free phone): 0800 917 9830 - 09.30 – 5.30pm Monday to Friday

Drop in times: Monday & Wednesday 10 – 1.00pm, Tuesday 2 – 4pm

For those with hearing difficulties contact via minicom: 020 7241 9402

enquiries@ageconcernhackney.org.uk

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.

Citizens Advice Bureau

Dalston and Mare St Branches

Tel: 0870 126 4013 (24-hour recorded information)

Dalston Benefits Office

Tel: 0845 600 6334 (Mon - Fri - 9-5pm)

National Debtline

Tel (free phone): 0808 808 4000

Ends

Press queries to Olaide Oyekanmi on 0208 356 3522 or email
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