

PRESS RELEASE

Date: 10/10/2016

Ordinary People Extra Ordinary Lives Exhibition arrives at the Palace of Westminster

Later today Peter Nugent, an inspirational young Brent Housing Partnership (BHP) tenant alongside other dynamic tenants and residents from across England will be attending the formal opening of the 'Ordinary People: Extraordinary Lives' photography exhibition at the Palace of Westminster.

Hosted by Lady Victoria Borwick, the National Federation of ALMOs (NFA) exhibition celebrates the lives of tenants and residents living within social housing. Each person featured within the exhibition makes a really positive and meaningful contribution within their neighbourhoods and communities, and each has an extraordinary story to share.

Challenging the unpleasant and sensationalist stereotyping of social housing tenants portrayed by some media in recent years, the NFA launched its portrait photography competition to tell our tenants stories. The exhibition, initially sponsored by Resource, shows that even in what may seem like the most ordinary of streets, in the most unassuming of houses, the most inspirational of stories can be found.

Sue Roberts MBE, NFA Tenant Board Member added:

"We are absolutely delighted to be invited to exhibit our photographs at the Palace of Westminster and share our stories. We know we are not going to be able to change perceptions overnight but we are making a start. Tenants are good, decent people, with hopes and aspirations for themselves and their families. Sharing these stories through photography is the inspiration for this exhibition."

At the opening event tenants Peter Nugent from BHP, and Alvine Dongmu-Noumey, Wolverhampton Homes, will be sharing their stories with MPs and Peers. Each of the tenants attending will also have the opportunity to chat to their own constituency MP about their experiences of living within social housing.

Peter Nugent was brought up in St Raphael's Estate in Stonebridge and is now working as a Bridge Engineer after graduating with an MEng from Imperial College London. He got involved with BHP through the BHP Youth Editorial Board and is now a BHP Board Member. He said: *"It's a huge honour to be included in this exhibition alongside so many great people. I've always tried to give back to my community in a positive way and it's great to see how others are contributing across the country in so many different ways."*

The exhibition will open Monday 10th October 2016 and will remain on show at the Palace of Westminster until Friday 14th October 2016.

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Notes to editor

Brent Housing Partnership

- Brent Housing Partnership is a community housing company owned by Brent Council and is responsible for managing and maintaining 12,500 of the council's housing stock as well as developing new homes and owning 300 of its own properties
- BHP is run by a Board of residents, council and independent non-executive directors and is based in Brent Council's award-winning Civic Centre in Wembley

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