



CITYWEST HOMES

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Pimlico residents turn drab into fab in Pimlico

A drab tower block lobby has been transformed into a bright, modern and airy space thanks to the commitment of the Westminster block's residents.

The tenant management organisation committee (TMO) at Hide Tower, a 20-storey block moments away from landmarks such as Tate Britain and the River Thames, has spent the last two years consulting fellow residents and working with CityWest Homes and contractors to refurbish their lobby that was "stuck in the Seventies".

The results of their hard work were unveiled by the Lord Mayor of Westminster, Cllr Steve Summers, at a special opening last week (Wednesday 26 October 2016). The Lord Mayor, a neighbour, commented that he often envied Hide Tower residents their garden whenever he walked by.

Housing more than 250 residents, some of whom have lived there for over 45 years, Hide Tower also counts Members of Parliament as residents due to its proximity to the House of Commons.

The block is also home to a number of telephone aerials on the roof which earns income for the resident committee. This income allowed the lobby to be refurbished. Work included a new double height ceiling, new lighting, flooring, cladding, doors and decor.

Maureen Stephenson, chairwoman of the committee, said: "It really needed work. When people came through the doors, all they saw were these dreadful orange panels and big long tube lights. We don't have to live like that anymore".

"Our steering group involved residents, leaseholders and the committee. We formed ideas about how we wanted it to look, engaged a designer and got CityWest Homes on board to help with the contractors. They made the job a lot easier. It's one of the benefits of TMO - residents get exactly what they want."

Hide Tower residents are thrilled with the new lobby which is much more welcoming.

Martin Edgerton, executive director of customer services at CityWest Homes, says: "Hide Tower has been a TMO for nearly 17 years, and has an active and resident focused committee. We have really enjoyed working together on this project, the lobby looks fantastic, and I look forward to our teams working together on future projects."

The next step for this hardworking committee is new communal lighting and a new front door to allow easier access for disabled residents and people with young children.

Ends

Photograph captions:

IMAGE 1: The Lord Mayor of Westminster, Cllr Steve Summers, officially opens the new lobby surrounded by thrilled residents

IMAGE2: Before the refurbishment

IMAGE 3: After the refurbishment.

Notes to editors

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About CityWest Homes

CityWest Homes is an award-winning property services provider based in London.

As Westminster's leading housing manager, CityWest Homes manage over 21,000 homes, which includes 9,000 leaseholder homes, 12,000 social homes and the communities which they are situated in.

Since launching as an ALMO in 2002, the organisations dedication to customer service has resulted in an expansion of its offering to the private sector. Services now include a private estate agency and managing an energy facility providing heating to over 3,250 homes and businesses.

This customer focus has resulted in numerous accolades including Investors in People Gold and entering the Sunday Times Best Companies list.