

Your Contact:
Nadia Khan, Communications Manager
Telephone: 020 8937 2363

E-Mail: nadia.khan@bhphousing.co.uk

Brent Civic Centre

Engineers Way
Wembley
HA9 0FJ

www.bhphousing.co.uk

19 May 2017

PRESS RELEASE

BHP and Wates apprenticeships offer invaluable opportunities for young BHP tenants

Brent Housing Partnership (BHP), working with our repairs and maintenance contractor, Wates Living Space has offered five apprenticeship opportunities to young BHP tenants since the beginning of the year.

BHP and Wates offer an apprenticeship programme for local residents aged 16-24 as part of their work to reinvest into the Brent community. This year, they have placed apprentices in the role of Business Administration, Brickworks and Painting & Decorating.

The apprenticeship programme is part of a wider social value commitment from both organisations. In the last financial year, BHP and Wates have created £8,710,745 worth of economic and social value in Brent, created 72 training and employment weeks for local people and have invested £58,154 into local charities and community causes.

The apprenticeship programme enables the apprentices to work directly with the Wates' site team or with their supply chain to help participants develop a career in construction and to ensure the sustainability of key trades in the industry. The programme is also an excellent pathway for school and college leavers to develop their skills and knowledge and prepare them for the workplace.

Latisha Harris aged 22 from Neasden and Abayomi Moronfolu aged 16 from St. Raphael's Estate in Stonebridge are both working as Business Administration Apprentices. They started their placements in January which will last one year. They are also studying for an NVQ in Business Administration Level 2.

Latisha said: "I work in the Wates Operations Team and help with IT support, speaking to residents about upcoming works and assist with office duties. The best part of my job is being part of the Wates and BHP family, I also enjoy helping residents and find it rewarding to assist them."

Abayomi said: "I would definitely recommend apprenticeships to other people as it gives you great experience and gets you ready for a work environment."

David Morgan, Managing Director, Wates Living Space, commented: “When Wates was appointed by BHP, both parties pledged that the local area would benefit from the creation of training and employment opportunities as part of our work together. I’m very happy to see how the apprenticeship programme is helping local people such as Latisha and Abayomi gain valuable skills and experience. As the contract continues, we look forward to investing further in the local community, boosting employment prospects for local people and making a lasting impact on the Brent economy.”

Rowann Limond, Interim Managing Director at BHP said: “We are really pleased to work with Wates and support apprenticeships for local young people. These apprenticeships offer valuable training and experience which will provide opportunities for participants in their future career. We wish this round of apprentices the best of luck and will be monitoring their progress and offering support and encouragement throughout the process. It is a requirement for all BHP issued contracts to offer investment in the community we serve, and we are pleased to see how this is having a positive impact and making a difference to local people.”

If anyone is interested in the apprenticeship opportunities offered by BHP and Wates, please contact propertyservices@bhphousing.co.uk.

Link to BHP and Wates Apprenticeship Video: <https://youtu.be/vLTDAglZUF8>

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITOR

Brent Housing Partnership (BHP)

- Brent Housing Partnership is an arms length management organisation (ALMO) 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

Communications Team
Brent Housing Partnership