

## Sons follow their mums into an apprenticeship... 25 years on!

***Apprenticeships are on the rise across England\* and two sons are following in their mothers' footsteps with an apprenticeship at Northampton Partnership Homes, 25 years on.***

Mothers' Chloe Hullis and Kelly Swift have worked for Northampton Partnership Homes now and Northampton Borough Council for 25 years. They started working together as apprentices at Northampton Borough Council in 1993 as part of the government's youth training scheme of the time. Kelly joined straight from school and her first job was to deliver the post, a task she says could be quite challenging due to the layout of the office - *"I remember walking into the Guildhall and every floor looked the same, I was convinced I was going to get lost when I was delivering the post!"*

Chloe worked as a Local Government apprentice across several departments at the Council including ICT, and Press and Public, then continued to work and study part time in Business Administration at Northampton College. Both mums now work for housing organisation Northampton Partnership Homes.



Chloe and Kelly's sons – Jake and Jordan – joined NPH in October 2018 alongside 4 other Trades apprentices as part of a recruitment campaign by NPH to hire local apprentices in their Repairs Team.

*"I've always wanted to do an apprenticeship and knew it was right for me"* – says Jake.

Jake is training to be an electrician while Jordan is training to be a plumber.

Jordan and Jake's apprenticeship includes 1 day a week at a specialist college where they learn the skills to their trade, and on the job training alongside experienced members of the NPH Trades Team.

When asked whether talk of work sometimes crops up at home, both mums said: *"Haha, yes sometimes it does. But it is nice that we can talk to each other and help out with advice if ever they need it!"*

Jake and Jordan's apprenticeship are for two years, but they already have their thoughts set for afterwards: *"Our mums have long and good careers from their apprenticeships so we are already thinking about staying past this. We are recommending an apprenticeship to our friends and telling them to keep a look out online when they next come around!"*

NPH currently have 11 apprentices employed with them. Training is funded by the government's levy scheme which was introduced by the government in 2017 to help get more people leaving school into workplace training. NPH say they intend to recruit and train 20 Apprentices by 2023.

[ENDS]

National Apprenticeship Week is the week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> March – 8<sup>th</sup> March celebrating apprentices and their community in education and the workplace.

\*277,800 people completed an apprenticeship in England in 2016/17 — the highest number since records began in 2002.

NPH is a housing organisation known as an Arm's length management organisation, owned by Northampton Borough Council. They are Northampton's biggest social housing provider and manage approximately 11,500 Council homes.