



Homes for Haringey

News release: National finalists for women in housing

For immediate release

18 July 19

Homes for Haringey is celebrating two of its senior managers being announced as finalists for the Women in Housing Awards 2019.

Esther Campbell – who leads the Finance team – and Denise Gandy – the Executive Director of Housing Demand – have both beaten stiff competition to be shortlisted in the national awards.

Esther has been shortlisted for the 'Finance professional of the year' for her work in demystifying finance for non-finance people; leading on hiring apprentices and managing the development of our Value for Money strategy.

The work on apprentices has included hiring young people from the local community – where unemployment is higher than the national average – and shaping the apprenticeship offer, including developing a 'buddying' programme of support to ensure these young people obtain a wide range of financial skills, and building this into our HR strategy.

Denise is a finalist in the 'Woman of the Year: Leadership' category. Her vision, leadership and guidance have restructured Homes for Haringey's housing demand service leading to impressive performance in temporary accommodation reduction.

She was also responsible for leading on the successful implementation of the Homelessness Reduction Act. As part of this work, she has successfully campaigned for utilising council-owned buildings to house homeless households - reducing the cost of temporary accommodation.

Denise has led the way in Homes for Haringey's Corporate Parenting pledge to make a real difference to residents recently leaving care. Thanks to the work Denise has done on this pledge, Homes for Haringey – with local partners – has developed supported housing that meets the needs of care leavers who are ready to move on from care but not straight into their permanent housing solution. This has included pre-tenancy workshops that provide information on the bidding process, giving care leaver extra time to view and bid on properties



so that they can talk their decision through with a support worker; information about what to expect when moving into your first home and what is expected of a new tenant, along with offering basic home maintenance skill courses such as basic DIY, painting and decorating.

Sean McLaughlin, Homes for Haringey's Managing Director, said, "This national recognition for Esther and Denise shows the depth of talent in Homes for Haringey. As well as being outstanding professionals in their chosen fields, they both support many other women to make a positive contribution to public services in Haringey. I am proud that Esther and Denise have been shortlisted for the Women in Housing awards for their dedication to the people of Haringey."

This is the second year in a row Homes for Haringey have had finalists in the Women in Housing Awards, after their domestic violence support service Hearthstone in the 'improving the lives of women or communities' category.

The winners of the awards will be announced on 10 October at a ceremony in Manchester.

About Homes for Haringey

Homes for Haringey is an Arms' Length Management Organisation (ALMO), set up in April 2006 to manage Haringey's council housing.

- We manage around 16,000 tenanted and 4,500 leasehold properties and employ around 600 staff
- We have our own in-house repairs service (Haringey Repairs Service) which carries out around 60,000 repairs to council homes every year.
- While Haringey Council owns the homes and takes overall responsibility for housing policy and strategy, Homes for Haringey is responsible for the day-to-day management of council homes.

For media enquires please contact Communications@homesforharingey.org.