

## Business in the Community: Ready for Work fortnight- getting people back into the workplace

From 31<sup>st</sup> March to 11<sup>th</sup> April, our supply chain partners, Nottingham City Homes, hosted a fortnight's work placement for John Waplington within their Caretaking department. The programme, facilitated through Business in the Community, aims to get unemployed people back into the workplace.

Aided by his workplace 'buddies' Geoff, Simon and Maurice, John was employed as a Mobile Caretaker at the offices based in Radford.

### Business Unit:

inspiredspaces,  
Nottingham

### Date:

31<sup>st</sup> March-11<sup>th</sup> April 2014

### Location:

Nottingham- Radford

### In Partnership with:

Nottingham City Homes &  
Business in the Community

### Key Contact:

Nicola Foster-  
inspiredspaces Nottingham

### Outcome Area(s):

Our People

Community

### Business Benefits:

Employee engagement

Increased productivity  
through raised staff morale

Aligns with socio-economic  
objectives and supports our  
commitment to Nottingham  
city.

Corporate Social  
Responsibility evidence

### Community Benefits:

Raising aspiration

Getting people back into  
work



*Inset: John and his fellow Ready for Work colleague, Daniel, with their placement completion certificates and the Nottingham City Homes team.*

During his time spent on placement, John carried out a range of tasks, including but not limited to:

- Daily health and safety checks
- Bin changing and cleaning of bin room
- Litter picking
- Floor sweeping and mopping
- Vacuuming of carpets
- Usage of buffer to clean a floor
- Safety checks prior to using electrical equipment
- Cleaning brass strips on entry in lifts
- Internal window cleaning
- Cleaning rails using correct chemicals
- Use of appropriate communication styles with customers
- Development of customer care skills
- Development of health and safety practices
- Development of fire safety skills
- Development of skills in the appropriate use of Personal Protection Equipment
- Clearing fly tipping
- Use of graffiti vehicle and machinery
- Alleyway clearances
- Tree stump removal

John's colleagues at Nottingham City Homes commended him for his 100% attendance and his consistent early arrival into the workplace. They praised him for his proactiveness and ability to use his own initiative, stating that he showed a 'get up and go' work ethic from the outset and carried out all tasks assigned to him to the very best of his ability.

His buddies also cited his excellent communication skills and good customer service. His confidence enabled him to fit in particularly well with the rest of the Nottingham City Homes team, who stated he was a pleasure to work with.



Above: The two Ready for Work clients with their three 'buddies' outside the Nottingham City Homes offices.

Of his own time on the placement John said: "I really enjoyed the placement, the Block Caretaker role especially as that gave me the chance to use my own initiative and I was able to get a routine going. I was happy with the pace and level of the work required and faced no specific challenges to date.

My buddies were friendly and supportive; it must be challenging for them to deal with clients on [placement. They should be recognised for the excellent support that they provide.

The placement has improved my confidence in work and I felt welcomed and part of the team. I feel this is a positive step towards gaining employment."

Following the completion of his placement, John has now been declared 'Work Ready' and will now be paired with a job coach through Business in the Community, to help him prepare his CV and look for permanent employment. He will also be signed to a recruitment agency based in the city.

We would like to wish the best of luck to John in his future endeavours and say a massive "thank you" to our colleagues at Nottingham City Homes for supporting the 'Ready for Work' fortnight once again.

