

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

Business Unit:

inspiredspaces, Nottingham

Date:

3rd-14th February 2014

Location:

Nottingham- various locales

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 -supports our
commitment to Nottingham
city.

Corporate Social
Responsibility evidence

Community Benefits:

Raising aspiration

Getting people back into
work

From 3rd-14th February, our colleagues at Nottingham City Homes hosted a fortnight's work placement for Christopher Ellison within their 'Mobile Caretaking' team. 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, Christopher was employed as a Mobile Caretaker at the offices based in Radford.

During his placement, Christopher carried out a range of tasks, including but not limited to;

- Daily health and safety checks
- Safety checks prior to using electrical equipment
- Internal window cleaning
- Cleaning using appropriate chemicals
- Communication with customers
- Learning new fire safety skills
- Development of skills in use of PPE (Personal Protection Equipment)
- Alleyway clearances- removal of weeds and fly-tipped items
- Tree stump removal
- Mopping and sweeping of floors
- Cleaning of brasses (brass strips on entry) in lifts
- Usage of a buffer to clean floors
- Development of customer care skills

Senior team members at Nottingham City Homes praised Chris' 'Can Do' attitude during his time spent in Radford and said that he had carried out every task given to him to the very best of his ability. They commented that he was a pleasure to work with and was able to work on his own initiative.

Christopher spoke of his enjoyment of the programme; "I particularly enjoyed using the buffing machine which was a challenge initially but one I overcame with practice." He commented that the support of his buddies had been invaluable, and that they had been helpful and friendly, welcoming him as part of the team.



From L-R: Christopher Ellison with Ian Perry and Maurice Smith-Guest from Nottingham City Homes.

The staff at Nottingham City Homes were impressed by Christopher's attendance and motivation during the course of the placement, declaring him to be 'Work Ready.'

Following the completion of his placement, Christopher will now be paired with a job coach through Business in the Community, to help him prepare his CV and search 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 Christopher and say a massive "thank you" to our partners at Nottingham City Homes for supporting the 'Ready for Work' fortnight once again.