

Press Release

**Release Number: 42
For immediate release**

07 April 2014

Southern Housing Group helps its 250th resident into work

Southern Housing Group has supported its 250th resident into work through its employment and training advice service, called Southern Works.

The Southern Housing Group resident, Andy Sielele, 18, from Barking and Dagenham, approached the Group for assistance and began working with its specialised advisers to help him in his job search.

As well as building his confidence, Andy has developed a range of valuable skills that have assisted him to find a job as a Business Administration Apprentice in East London.

Minaz Uddin, Employment Adviser from Southern Housing Group, worked directly with Andy throughout his job search and said, "I helped Andy with updating his CV, ensuring that he emphasised his potential by demonstrating the transferable skills that he had developed through his previous work experience.

"Andy had previously studied A levels at college but wasn't able to see it through due to personal issues. It became clear that Andy needed to gain the confidence and ability to communicate effectively."

As a result of the support he received from Southern Housing Group, Andy became more confident in job interviews which led to him securing his new job.

Andy said, "The staff at Southern Housing Group were caring, offered support and were really involved throughout the whole process. They also got in touch with me regularly to see how I was getting on.

"I'm grateful for the advice and tips they gave me, including how to be confident in job interviews; this really helped me to learn the basics I needed to get work."

ENDS

For more information on Southern Works and the support Southern Housing Group provides to residents visit www.shgroup.org.uk/southernworks

Notes to Editors

- Over the last 110 years, Southern Housing Group has become one of the largest housing associations in the south of England, housing 66,000 residents, managing more than 25,500 homes, employing almost 800 people and working with more than 70 local authorities across the South East, including the Isle of Wight.
- Our vision, 'A business with social objectives' draws on our history and traditions while recognising the need to change with changes in the housing sector.
- Our social and economic regeneration work is undertaken to improve the lives of residents in the communities and neighbourhoods where we build and manage homes. It provides tangible evidence of our commitment to building sustainable communities.
- Southern Housing Group is a member of the g15, which represents London's 15 largest housing associations. The g15 houses one in ten Londoners and builds a quarter of London's new homes. We are working to solve the housing crisis by delivering good quality, affordable homes of all types. To find out more about the g15's work please visit www.g15.org.uk

For media enquiries contact communications@shgroup.org.uk or call the Communications Team on 020 7017 8521. Find out more about Southern Housing Group at www.shgroup.org.uk