

Community Investment
Employment & Skills



Investing in Wythenshawe



Wythenshawe
Community Housing Group

photo on cover:
WCHG's Apprentices with Abbey Watson,
Apprentice Manager

photo below:
Ed Balls, former Shadow Chancellor with
Mike Kane MP and Kirsty Sales, former
WCHG Apprentice



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Welcome

Wythenshawe Community Housing Group, based in South Manchester is a landlord that invests in its communities. With 14,000 homes and over 20,000 tenants, our vision is to create a community where people choose to live and work.

The Group has a strong track record in successful community investment and partnership working. A recent independent analysis showed that our investments have generated a five-fold social return for the community of Wythenshawe.

This brochure offers an insight into the work we are doing to support people into employment. These include a wide variety of projects and partnership working – from Real Opportunities, Talent Pool, Wythenshawe Futures, Apprenticeships, Work Experience, Airport Group to our very own Business Enterprise Centre.

We welcome conversations with partners, old and new, and anyone looking to invest in Wythenshawe.

Victoria McDowell
Senior Community
Investment Manager



Into employment: Employment and Skills

Real opportunities. Wythenshawe.

Real Opportunities

Our frontline staff are trained to signpost local residents to employment and training support. The simple referral form identifies barriers and tailors advice and guidance to help residents on their journey to employment. Since 2011 we've helped:

- 543 residents into work
- 307 residents into training
- 797 residents benefit from information, advice and guidance



Talent Pool

Wythenshawe Community Housing Group provides job matching and recruitment service for local employers.

A partnership between WCHG and Metrolink's operator led to more than 250 applications for 14 customer service jobs at the company.

Marie Daly, Director of HR and Customer Service at Metrolink RATP Dev Ltd, said:

"We approached Wythenshawe Community Housing Group to help us in our search for talent as we believe it not only provides employment opportunities for local residents but also a knowledge of the local area helps to offer a better experience for customers using the new airport line."

The new Metrolink network to Manchester Airport opened to passengers in November 2014.



Ben Harrison from our Welfare Reform Team with Samantha.

Samantha's story

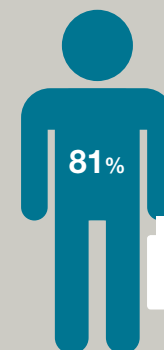
"Since starting on the Welfare Team as part of my apprenticeship, I have been made to feel like part of the family. It has been a real eye-opener working with the team, as I get to see how tenants are coping with the changes that have been put in place."

Sam has since been promoted to Financial Inclusion Officer.

Wythenshawe Futures

Our award-winning training programme offers a tailored bundle of opportunities such as: paid work experience; qualifications; and personal development opportunities to improve the employability of people furthest from the job market.

7 Housing Apprentices are recruited yearly
100% of them have gone into full employment



63 people who successfully completed a Futures placement since 2011, 81% went into work.

2,030
people signed up

543
went into full work

307
went into training

797
attended careers advice

Gas Apprentice Charlie Shaughnessy from 2014 apprentice intake.



Apprenticeships

Apprentices can be found in all areas of our business:

- Housing
- Construction
- IT
- Finance

Since 2011 we have had **57** apprentices through the business, **38** apprentices are currently working across our business in apprenticeships lasting up to 4 years.



left: **Reece Whelan**
Award winning apprentice

In 2013, Reece Whelan scooped Apprentice of the Year for his work fitting solar panels to our homes and in 2014 Reece became a fully trained roofer!



To find out more about our Apprentice Opportunities, please contact:
Abbey Watson, Apprentice Manager

T: **0161 946 9159**

E: **Abbey.Watson@WCHG.org.uk**



Business Enterprise Centre

The Enterprise Centre is a thriving hub of activity for small businesses and budding entrepreneurs. It provides:



- Business advice, guidance and sign-posting
- Training programmes such as Women in Business
- 'Incubation' offices for start-ups
- Networking opportunities
- Meeting room hire in a professional environment

Office tenants include law, marketing, technology, health, cleaning and security services.



30 Women have gone through the Women in Business Course



Bespoke Future for Colette!

"I love being based at the Enterprise Centre. I used to work from home, but it is much better being around other like-minded people. We have our own businesses, but we get the chance to

network and support each other. It's an ideal set up!"

Colette Nuttall
Fit-tastic



To find out more about our Enterprise Centre, please contact:
Sian Payg, Assistant Manager

T: **0161 945 0655** | E: **sian.payg@wchg.org.uk**
www.wythenshaweenterprise.com

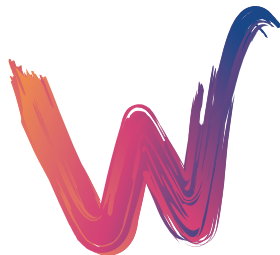




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*“a community where
people choose to
live and work, having
pride in their homes”*

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