



PRESS RELEASE

Tools of the trade for trainees

Monday 8th March 2010.

Robert Price Builders' Merchants today presented sets of trade tools to three building trainees currently working for Newport City Homes (NCH) as part of Newport City Council's Future Jobs Fund project.

The scheme, designed to give individuals who have been claiming Job Seekers Allowance for between 39 and 51 weeks, gives them the opportunity to gain much needed work experience and assist them in their search for full time employment.

Since November 2009, NCH trainees Abey Gulard has been gaining experience as a window fitter, Chris Berry as a carpenter and Jamie Nicholas as a painter and decorator. Chris said: "I am really grateful to have been given this chance to gain real work experience with NCH. The tools supplied by Robert Price will help me so much in developing my skills, and I hope to be able to find a full time job in Newport when I have completed my training".

Mervyn Green, Head of Property Investment at NCH said "we are so grateful to Robert Price for donating these tools to our trainees. Not only are they

important in developing their skills during their training, they will benefit them enormously by helping them to secure full time employment”.

The hands-on experience that the Future Jobs trainees have gained has been bolstered by a structured training programme run by NCH which included the completion of an application form, learning CV skills, receiving careers advice, attending workshops and participating in mock interviews. A fourth trainee, David Turberville, who gained experience as an electrician has already been successful in finding employment with a local company.

Emma Parkes, Marketing Manager of Robert Price Builders’ Merchants explained that: “we were delighted to agree to help with this project when NCH approached us in December last year. As a local company, the majority of our customers come from the local community as well as all of our staff. We are therefore very aware of our responsibility to the communities within which we operate. This scheme enables us to give something real and useful to the community of Newport as well as the construction industry which has been hit so hard during the recent recession”.

Ends



Left to Right: Chris Berry, Abey Gulard, Jamie Nicholas (NCH trainees) and David Pattison (Public Sector Coordinator, Robert Price Builders' Merchants Ltd)

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Further Information about Newport City Homes:

Newport City Homes (NCH) is a not-for-profit Registered Social Housing Landlord whose major focus is on its tenants.

NCH came into existence on 9th March 2009, after Newport City Council transferred its housing stock to the new organisation, the first urban stock transfer to take place in Wales.

Our mission

We have a passion for providing quality homes and services by investing in people, places and partnerships.

Our vision

Our ambition is to pursue excellence and deliver opportunities for all to transform the quality of their homes, communities and lives

Encouraging residents to engage with us and create a confident, dynamic organisation that listens, learns and continuously improves

Our core values

FIRST for PEOPLE, PLACES and PARTNERSHIPS

- Fair
- Innovative
- Respectful
- Sincere
- Trustworthy

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