



STOCKPORT HOMES' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE

TRANSFORMING LIVES
IN STOCKPORT

292

Stockport residents supported into employment in 2020



“Our ambition is to support people in Stockport to transform their lives.”

“We deliver a bespoke employment service that guides individuals to find the employment role that is right for them.

Our Employment Coaches provide information, advice and guidance, so whether you are looking to make a career change, creating a new CV, super charging your job searching or writing an eye-catching application form, we are here to help.

We can offer guidance with final preparation for your interview, taking you through our holistic coaching techniques increasing your confidence prior to the big day.

In addition, we deliver training, supporting individuals to increase their skills and knowledge, improve community engagement and enhance well-being.

Our learning pathway has three core themes; Employment, Community and Health & Wellbeing.

Participants can create a bespoke pathway that is right for them. Learn in the comfort of your own home via our online learning videos, alternatively join us at Cornerstone for a group session or really boost your knowledge with one of our accredited sessions or extended programmes.

Contact us today to join our learning pathway and see where it takes you!”



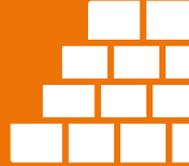
Amanda Ward
Employment Support Manager

Employment and Training 2020



292

Employed



32

Apprenticeships



1

Sponsorship



79

Volunteering
over 50 hours



159

Accredited

**Training
Attendance**



723

Non-accredited

**Training
Attendance**



9

**Work
Placements**



25

Video Training
sessions with 3070 views

Customer employment stories

Carolyn

Customer Service Officer

“I first lost my job due to Covid in the beginning of February. Luckily, I managed to get a job straight away in hospitality, but after the lockdown, that job wasn't viable anymore and in August I was made redundant. Since then I struggled to get back out there.

Maria has been supporting me with job searching, helping me to find new jobs to apply for; updating my CV and providing cover letters plus training materials and support. In less than two months this has resulted in an interview that was successful, and I am soon starting a new career in customer services in an insurance company. Maria also referred me to Smart Works, a service that provides clients with a complete outfit of clothes and accessories to feel more confident. I loved everything I was given and felt very spoilt.

Maria has been amazing with our regular 1:1 sessions! Having that person I can call for advice and support or to chat to, and sometimes cry to. I haven't been very happy in the last few months but this whole process has definitely boosted my confidence and my future now looks bright.”



“The Employment journey is personal, and it can be very different for everyone. Sometimes people just need a confidence boost and sometimes it can take months, but we are prepared for that”

Maria, Employment Officer

Customer employment stories

Brent

Environmental Services Apprentice

“I had been volunteering at Stockport Homes for a while when there was an opportunity to become an Apprentice. I had been unemployed for nearly 5 years and was keen to find work.

Iain from the employment team, who was my employment coach, helped me with interview skills and to spruce up my CV. When the opportunity for the apprenticeship came along Iain recommended me to apply.

I feel that SHG cares about its staff and customers. I can go as far as saying that getting in contact with Stockport Homes' employment team in the first place saved my life. Before getting my apprenticeship, I was too nervous to talk to people, but this has boosted my confidence and I am learning new skills daily. I really recommend volunteering and apprenticeship programmes to anyone!”



Alla

Tax Assistant

“I am originally from Moldova where I worked as an Office Manager, but after moving to the UK I was struggling to find work and being at home taking care of two small children it was impossible to get work experience.

I was referred to Stockport Homes' employment support by the Growth Company. I met with Maria from employment support team just before the first lockdown and got lots of help with my job applications and updating my CV. She was amazing, very supportive and made me realise how many transferable skills I had when applying for

roles. I attended the virtual job club drop-in.

and even got referred to Smart Works when I needed an outfit for an interview. The hard work resulted in two job interviews in late 2020 and I was successful in both! I chose to do an apprenticeship in accounting and tax. I am currently working as a Tax Assistant in a tax service company. I don't think I would be where I am now if it wasn't for the employment team's support and guidance. Thank you very much for your support and help. I can recommend your service to everyone, you are doing a great job!”

Customer employment stories

Kelle

Administration Assistant

“Last year I answered a couple of questions for a customer survey at Stockport Homes. One of them asked if I was currently employed, which I was, but it was in a café, a job I had taken after my maternity leave, even though my background is in finance sector.

To my surprise, the phone rang less than a week after this, to meet with Stockport Homes’ employment team, and that’s when I met with Jamie. We spruced up my CV, looked at different job opportunities and prepped for interviews as I hadn’t been interviewing for several years, and was nervous. I went to a couple of interviews but the one I was successful in was within



the employment team as an Administration Assistant.

I couldn’t praise the employment team’s work enough. I still remember Jamie’s last words in our first meeting together “We need to get you out of that café”. He kept his promise and here I am, in a lovely job with a great and inspiring team who help other people just like me.”

Adam

Works at B4Box

“Stockport Homes’ Employment Team have helped me secure a role with B4Box, working as a general labourer. Previously I had worked as a self-employed plasterer, unfortunately work had dried up, and I was struggling to pay rent on time.

Within two weeks of my first meeting, I had found employment, I couldn’t believe how quickly this happened. Before this, for months I had been applying for jobs and had only been invited to one interview. Thanks to the employment team’s hard work, I now have the security of a full-time, permanent role.”

Customer employment stories

Gillian

Homeless Support Officer

“I arrived in Stockport at the end of February 2019 from USA. I came to Stockport Homes to register as homeless. With the help from temporary accommodation, I met Maria from the employment team in April ‘19. We worked on my interview skills and spruced up my CV, I hadn’t interviewed in 10 years.

The whole process with the employment team was a real confidence boost after some very difficult months. Maria kept telling me “you can do it” and then suddenly the pieces started to fall into place. In one week, I got an interview within the corporate support team at Stockport Homes and got my own place and moved out of the temporary accommodation.

I am now a Project Worker in temporary accommodation, which is the role I have been doing since the beginning of 2020, as the role at corporate support was temporary. I love my work and the best thing about this role is to see the tenants moving on and getting the same kind of amazing support



I did. At this moment, even though I miss my family in USA, I am happy with my new job, friends and hobbies here in Stockport. I wouldn’t be here without the support from the employment team.”

“I often feel very happy and excited for the person when things just click into place”

Greer, Training and Employment Apprentice

Customer employment and training stories

“I expressed an interest, to my employment support officer, about a career in plumbing. To my surprise, he told me there could be funding available for me to complete a course, right up to level 3.

I really appreciate how much Stockport Homes’ employment team has helped me, especially my employment coach. I still keep in contact with him, and he’s helping me look for a course to complete my gas safety engineering course, which will help me achieve my goal of self-employed.”

Mark, working towards self-employment

“Being in contact with nature, learning the basics about veg, growing and flowers it has been very relaxing, also inspiring to learn about”

Participant on a Greenfingers Gardening course



Customer Training

Our training programmes support individuals to increase their skills and knowledge, improve community engagement and enhance well-being. Whether you are after an online well-being course or an accredited course in health and safety, we have something for everyone. Our learning pathway has three core themes; Employment, Community and Health & Well-being. We work in collaboration with B4Box to provide training with industry accreditation designed to help support the skills gap within the construction industry.

“I have learnt so many new things. The relaxed approach was both informative and moved at a good steady pace.”

Participant on Volunteer Induction Course



“I enjoy what I do, every day my job is different, and it’s great to be learning new skills and doing things I’ve never done before. To people looking to get back into work or find a new career direction, I say keep trying. Don’t wait for something to fall straight into your lap because it won’t happen, but if you work hard and try new things, then there can be light at the end of tunnel and like me you can find something that is perfect for you.”

**Clare, Multi-Trade Building Maintenance
Apprenticeship with B4Box**



Customer Training Stories

“There was a great balance between presentation and hands on group work. Content was informative and presenters kept the sessions flowing. I felt that the course stretched my capacity, encouraging me to learn a score of new subjects and disciplines that I was involved in, while also improving the skills I already held thus making me more efficient and more confident in the use of those skills.”

Participant on Participation course



“The sense of wellbeing it gave me. The course really opened my mind. So interesting.”

Participant on Mindfulness course

“Our online video training covers a variety of subjects from ‘Online Interview Skills’ to ‘Resilience’ and can be viewed as an introduction to the subjects or as a support to either an online session or a classroom-based course. These interactive online learning sessions are available to access anywhere and anytime, offering our customers flexibility.”

Chris, Customer Training Officer



Meet the team

The Stockport Homes Employment and Training team are passionate about supporting customers to find their pathway to success.

Contact us today to see how the team can support you.

“It’s about sharing skills and knowledge to help customers to improve their own lives – we just open the door, the customer steps through”

Iain, Employment Creation Officer

“I love watching people do well and transform. We support people to unlock their potential”

Deborah, Employment and Volunteer Officer

“Training helps customers to look further down the path and grow”

Chris, Customer Training Officer

“It’s exciting work – we learn, the customer learns, and that makes it very rewarding”

Jamie, Employment Officer

“We are lucky to have such a positive job”

Kelle, Employment Administration Officer



Contact the team



Email:

employmentsupport@stockporthomes.org
customer.training@stockporthomes.org



Phone:

0161 474 2862



Website:

www.stockporthomes.org/employment-support/



EMPLOYMENT AND
TRAINING SUPPORT