

Richard Browning

Richard's Story.....

Richard became involved with GCIL Equality Academy Internship Programme in October 2014 when he was 24 years old.



Following the interview process Richard was offered a 13-week salaried internship in partnership with Oak Tree Housing Association and Cloch Housing Association as Social Media and Web Development Intern. This was an ideal match to Richards' knowledge, skills and qualification of HND in Interactive Media and Web development.

For the period of the internship specific project objectives were set for Richard. These included establishing a social media presence, an Intranet for the Group to share information between both organisations and

to bring the group website up to date. He was also tasked with the development of protocols and information to support social media and technical solutions with a longer term plan to support the development over the next few years.

Richard has a visual impairment and with support from GCIL Equality Academy he contacted DWP Access to Work scheme to arrange an assessment. Following the assessment a grant for a range of equipment was approved. This included a zoomtext magnifier/reader, headphones, prodigy video magnifier and training in prodigy.

Both Oak Tree and Cloch Housing Associations were clearly impressed by Richards' contribution and prior to the end of the placement he was offered a contract to March 2017.

Richard's manager is helping him further develop his skills and this includes Richard attending training for Installing and Configuring Windows 10. Richard's role now has more of a focus of ICT assistant.

Richard commented

“Working as an intern allowed me to learn a lot. This has helped me in my current role and improved my confidence over all.”