



Responsible Oxfordshire Business Involvement Network

Case Study

Helping to get life back on track

Collaborating organisations: Morgan Cole (Solicitors) – Aspire Oxford (Working to Change Lives)

The opportunity

Tom had experienced a number of disadvantages including homelessness. Aspire worked with him as he made good progress getting his life back on track. But he needed the opportunity to take the next big step - back into employment.....



The Solution

Through the ROBIN network, Aspire explored possibilities within the Oxford office of the law firm Morgan Cole. They collaborated to set up a short-term, unpaid placement for Tom. He very quickly settled into his role making telephone calls to update the firms database. Utilising his polite and persuasive manner, in part developed from life on the streets, he was extremely effective, satisfying the Business Development Manager and boosting his own self-worth and confidence.

The Outcomes

Tom received a well-deserved, glowing reference and his newfound confidence considerably helped him apply for, and win, a full-time post for a local company. After his appointment his new employer commented on how impressed he was with Tom's resilience and determination to succeed, attributes often inherent yet rarely noticed in those who have been marginalised and have had to deal with very serious personal issues.

"I really didn't expect Tom to fit in so well and carry out the role so effectively. He was a breath of fresh air. When Tom bumped into someone he knew in the office, it brought home to me how close the issue of homelessness is to us all."
Fiona Curnow – Business Development Manager - Morgan Cole, Oxford.

Morgan Cole 



"Morgan Cole took a leap of faith supporting Tom in getting his life back on track. As well as making a real difference to Tom, it paid them dividends too. The qualities that people like Tom can bring to organisations are extremely valuable."

Rick Mower - Partnership Development Manager - Aspire Oxford

For further information on ROBIN

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