Welcome to the Cross River Partnership monthly e-bulletin

Recruit London Success!

Cyrus, aged 27 from Westminster, had been out of work for five months when he was supported into work as a Commis Chef at Saint George’s Hotel by Recruit London Workplace Coordinator Isabelle Benard. His career really took off and he was promoted to Junior Sous Chef within the first three months, and is already in training for a Sous Chef position. Cyrus said “I never thought that I would be able to get a promotion so fast. Isabelle did state how fast it was to move up the ladder. I really enjoy the job and the people I work with. I am glad that Isabelle is only a ‘phone call away….having this job has changed my personal life too, I feel more confident with friends and family”.

CRP Team

Cross River Partnership has recruited a new project support assistant for Recruit London using the
same recruitment methods we promote to businesses. We cast the net far and wide to find the right candidate and Nikoletta Gjergji was referred by the Cardinal Hume Centre. She is a Westminster resident with a degree and experience working in graphic design, but was out of work at the time. She is a fantastic addition to the Recruit London team and will help Workplace Co-ordinators provide an even better service to businesses and candidates.

Onwards and Upwards!

Cross River Partnership is very pleased to announce that Faheem Qureshi has been promoted by The Crown Estate, and from 1 April 2015 he will be working nationally across The Crown Estate’s holdings to roll-out the successful Workplace Co-ordinator model. We wish Faheem all the very best in his new role! Cross River Partnership will continue to work closely with The Crown Estate and other public and private sector partners to deliver the Recruit London Workplace Co-ordinator model in London.

Construction Sector Delivery

The evaluation of the Cross River Partnership-managed Construction Employer Accord (CEA) scheme is now complete. Four of the five outcome targets were exceeded, including 118% achievement for 26 week sustained jobs for formerly workless Londoners. 88% of the challenging 52 week sustained jobs target was met. Strong feedback was received from employers who stated the CEA meant they recruited candidates they would not have done otherwise. Delivery providers found the network and collaborative approach led by CRP on behalf of the GLA beneficial, throughout the programme and into the future. Well done everyone!
Cross River Partnership contributed to Lambeth Council’s recent bid to the Mayor’s £9m High Street Fund to regenerate Brixton’s street market through capital investment. The bid was successful and this month Lambeth Council secured £869,000 – the highest single award in London. Cross River Partnership are delighted to be Programme Managing this exciting new project with, and on behalf of, the London Borough of Lambeth.

**EVUE II Completes**

The CRP-led Electric Vehicles in Urban Europe (EVUE II) final conference took place on Wednesday 4 March in Brussels. The project team shared their experiences and learning of tackling the core urban issue of sustainable urban mobility. The conference attracted over 100 registered participants. The event saw the launch of the EVUE II advisory notes for city implementation of e-mobility. Over a 16 month period, the EVUE II partners identified the key messages associated with: regulation, finance, communication, the environment and technology; culminating in the publication of the advisory notes which can be viewed [here](#). The EVUE II project will officially conclude on 31 March 2015.

**Illustrious Homes Contract Win through SXR2**
Illustrious Homes have recently secured a contract win with O’Hare and McGovern (OHMG) for joinery work on their new housing development in West Hampstead. The contract is currently worth around £70,000 and this could increase to around £500,000. The contract win came through the CRP SXR2 Meet the Buyer event held in partnership with Camden Council.

“The SXR2 project has allowed us to meet buyers and access real opportunities, something we couldn’t have been able to do alone. If it wasn’t for our 1-2-1 meeting at the Meet the Buyer event with OHMG, we wouldn’t have stood a chance at winning this contract. This has opened up new markets for us and given us growth opportunities we could only have dreamt of. We would also like to extend our thanks to Camden Council for all their support” Kunle Barker, Managing Director.

Illustrious Homes are now hoping to get onto the Camden Framework and expand their work in other boroughs.

For more information on the company, please visit their website on [http://www.illustrioushomes.co.uk](http://www.illustrioushomes.co.uk)

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**Businesses pledge to go Green in Fitzrovia**

On the 17th March, local businesses in Fitzrovia pledged to make a difference by taking action to improve air quality in London at an event organised by the local Business Improvement District (BID) – The Fitzrovia Partnership.

The event - supported by The Mayor of London’s new air quality public awareness campaign ‘Breathe Better Together’ - was aimed at helping commercial businesses to make small changes by reducing their exposure to pollution and help improve local air quality.

Engaging on a 1-2-1 basis with the district’s SMEs and larger organisations operating in some of the most polluted parts of Fitzrovia, the BID rallied them into committing to make positive changes by developing a bespoke action plan with them that tackled the issue with some impactful and decisive
outcomes, such as reviewing travel to work plans, taxi usage for short distance business meetings, and boiler emissions.

“Improving air quality is serious stuff, and we need to work together, promoting the area as a healthy place to live, work and do business - all virtues that make Fitzrovia a great place”. Mayor of London, Boris Johnson

The next stage of the air quality programme will commence from May. The Fitzrovia Partnership will play an active role with the Air Quality Champions in developing a freight consolidation trial working with London Borough of Camden and Cross River Partnership’s ‘Clean Air, Better Business’ initiative, to reduce the number of supply chain vehicles on the roads going to the Champions’ edifices and mitigate against their pollution.

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**Dates for your diary...**

**European Mobility Week Training Workshop**

15th April 2015  
10:00 - 16:30  
Venue: Camden Town Hall (Opposite Kings X/St Pancras Station)

A free training day for anyone thinking of doing an event on sustainable travel in the UK during the week of 16-22 September 2015.

The event is DfT funded through ACT TravelWise. Speakers include Jerome Simpson of the EMW European Coordination, transport expert Professor John Whitelegg and EMW local organisers from Aberdeen, Nottingham and Southwark.

Transport officers, campaigners and others are very welcome. Free lunch. 65 spaces available for the full day, and 55 additional spaces for the afternoon only.  
To register [click here](#).

**The Guardian Sustainable Business Awards 2015**

28th April 2015  
All day  
Venue: TBC (UK)

The Guardian Sustainable Business Awards invites a diverse range of entries. Some of the GSB awards past winners have been companies tackling a specific sustainability dilemma, others have been companies that are rethinking and redesigning their business model.

From collaboration to waste, natural capital and the new category for 2015, diversity and inclusion, each category calls for innovative, impactful approaches to making sustainability a reality. Whether from a large corporation or a tiny social enterprise, the Guardian works for the shared global goal of sustainable business. The GSB network can speak for the successes of the winners all year long.

For more information [click here](#) or contact Joanna Letts.

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Cross River Partnership is an alliance of Angel Aim BID, Baker Street Quarter Partnership, Better Bankside BID, Camden Town Unlimited BID, Cheapside Initiative, City of Westminster, City of London Corporation, Greater London Authority, Groundwork London, Heart of London Business Alliance,