

# Manchester Apprentices' Awards Ceremony

On Tuesday night we attended the above ceremony, held to recognise and celebrate the successful apprentice scheme jointly operated by Manchester City Council, Aspire and Manchester's constructor partners working on their frameworks; of which we are one.



The ceremony was held in the magnificent Great Hall of Manchester's town hall and was for the benefit of the apprentices, their parents and constructor partners. It was a splendid evening with nearly 300 attendees, including a number of celebrities, Ricky Hatton, Bruce Jones (aka Les Battersby from Coronation Street) and Andy Gregory (former Wigan and England rugby league star) organised by our own master of ceremonies Paul Hill.

We have sponsored three apprentices under this scheme, with one, Leanne, now employed full time on our HIF scheme. The two remaining apprentices, Lee and Cleave, each won Personal Achievement awards for demonstrating their commitment and enthusiasm to the scheme despite their challenging backgrounds. We have undertaken to employ them both once their apprenticeships have been completed. It is great to be involved in a scheme that is helping to destroy the stereotype of unemployed young women and shaven headed young men being disaffected and without ambition. They have all grasped the opportunity of an improved future and are in the process of making a better life for themselves through construction.

We have received the following comments from senior MCC staff

***"Just a quick note to say a BIG thank you for all your enthusiastic support and commitment in bring about a truly memorable evening which appeared to be enjoyed by all. Many Thanks***

Terry Burke. Head of Technical Services Group

***"Can I just add my thanks to you all for delivering a well conceived and executed event. It was obviously greatly enjoyed by the apprentices. Well done to all of you"***

Des Morris, Managing Director of Manchester Working



L to R : Terry Burke. MCC's Head of Corporate Services, Mick McManus MCC's former PM for HIF, now their Head of Housing Renewal, Cleave Pythian apprentice, Mick Whittam, GB's PM Paul Hill, Lee Dawson apprentice and GB's Steve Longhurst



L to R : Lee Dawson apprentice, Ricky Hatton, Cleave Pythian apprentice and GB's PM Paul Hill