

The London Training Academy will provide a programme of free training to frontline housing options staff starting in February 2018. Recognising the particular recruiting challenges faced in London, staff working for London boroughs will be prioritised with unused places made available to authorities in the South East. Based on recent communications we expect high uptake from London boroughs. The training offered will vary depending on the employment type and experience level of the staff enrolled.

Eligibility for each cohort is as follows:

Cohort A - Apprentices/Housing Options trainees

Training offer: training includes a CIH qualification (NVQ Level 3). Training courses provided by Shelter, AHAS, Homeless Link, Tabris Ltd, Solace Women's Aid and Southwark (total of 22.5 days of training + 3 days study)

Eligibility for cohort A:

- New housing options staff recruited to deliver the Homelessness Reduction Act through a recognised apprenticeship programme <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/a-guide-to-apprenticeships>
- New housing options staff recruited to deliver the Homelessness Reduction Act through a trainee/'grow your own' model where staff have no housing experience or less than 3 months experience
- New housing staff recruited through the government defined traineeship scheme <https://www.gov.uk/find-traineeship> where the council has committed to offering an apprenticeship upon successful competition of the traineeship.

Cohort B - New Housing Options staff

Training offer: training provided by Shelter, AHAS, Homeless Link, Tabris Ltd, Solace Women's Aid and Southwark (total of 19.5 days of training)

Eligibility for cohort B:

- New housing options staff recruited to deliver the Homelessness Reduction Act recruited outside of a trainee model who may have limited experience of housing

Cohort C - Existing Housing Options staff

Training offer: Training provided by Homeless Link on Homelessness Reduction Act, softer skills including interviewing and partnership working (total of 5 days of training)

Eligibility for cohort C:

- Existing housing options staff working to deliver the Homelessness Reduction Act who have been in post for at least 6 months.