

Brightening Homes with Emmaus Companions

Emmaus Hertfordshire is a homelessness charity providing accommodation, food and the opportunity to get involved in one of the charities' social enterprises, to people who have experienced homelessness and social exclusion, supporting them to learn skills to help them rebuild their lives. They are one of 29 Emmaus communities across the UK, and together support more than 850 people, known within Emmaus as companions.

Facilitated by the MSPS social value team, our subcontractors Moore Interiors along with **Social Value Officer, Ade Olagbegi**, recently spent two days painting and decorating the communal rooms, with the help of a few of the Emmaus companions.

The team of decorators worked in the community helping repair and paint some external woodwork, which will add significantly to its longevity. They also transformed the interior of some of the companion rooms, one of which had suffered some damage from a water leak.

A couple of Emmaus companions also helped out, strengthening their painting and decorating skills and gaining further experience which can then be used to gain their own employment, or continue to help refurbish their community buildings.

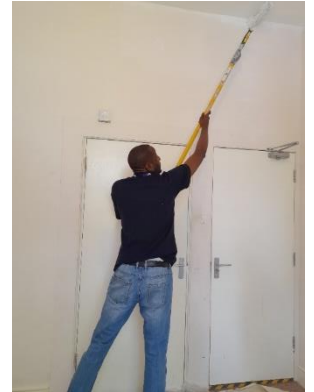
Duncan Lewis, Chief Executive of Emmaus Hertfordshire, said: "A huge thank-you on behalf of everyone at Emmaus Hertfordshire to Morgan Sindall Property Services and Moore Interiors for the decorating work that is being done in the community. The amount of work that the team of decorators from Moore Interiors have managed to get through in a few days has been fantastic and the improvements to the interior and exterior décor will make a huge difference for us, saving the charity money on long and short-term maintenance costs and making this a better and brighter home for our formerly homeless companions. The fact that the decorators have also been very approachable and professional and happy to work alongside our companions, helping them to learn some valuable new skills has been a real bonus."

Steve Watson, Senior Partnership Manager, said: "We are pleased to help community organisations doing important work such as Emmaus. It's great to be able to embed our social value work in the community and leave a legacy by supporting upskilling opportunities such as these."

Take a look at some images from the work below:



Selwyn and Patrick, Emmaus companions



Emmaus companions, Social Value Officer Ade Olagbegi, and Moore Interiors contractors working on the communal areas