## Future-Proofing Housing: Attracting and Developing Young Talent for Lasting Impact



A Keynote by Nicola Dillon, We Invest in Young People, People & Wellbeing Practitioner & Robyn Collins, Account Manager and Sales Executive







Both generations play a significant role in future-proofing our sector.



The need to continuously evolve attraction, development & retention strategies is critical, while deepening our understanding of each generation's unique needs & expectations to ensure long-term success.





## Attracting & Recruiting Young People: The challenges





## **River Clyde Homes' Strategy to Attracting Young People**



Use Storytelling and Data to Attract Purpose-Driven Candidates



Diverse audience

Stakeholder Engagement

Inspiration from the youth forum



Young People & Partners now come to



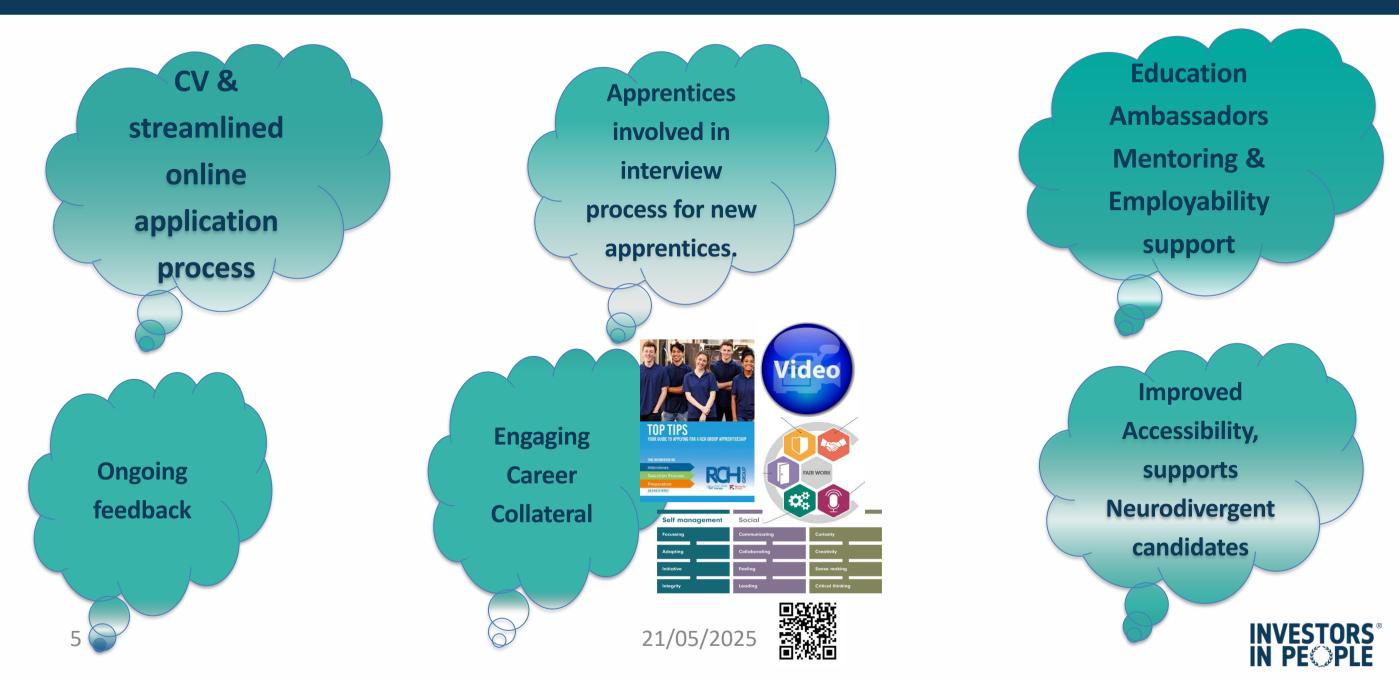




**CONTINUOUS** IMPROVEMENT

21/05/2025

## **Continually Improving Attraction & Recruitment Practices**





When young people are <u>empowered</u> to lead and shape your attraction and recruitment strategy, they don't just join your association, they transform it. RCH is proof: driven by YP, they've gone from a handful of applicants, to over 100 applying each year for apprenticeships.



a <u>youth led</u> approach, doesn't just build an early talent pipeline; it inspires a generation. YP are better informed, more confident and genuinely excited about choosing Housing as a career.



## **Developing Younger Colleagues**





Secondments

**Job Rotation** 







Matters



#### PURPOSE LED PROJECTS



## Nicola & Robyn's Story; 2019-2025



## **Developing Younger Colleagues**

#### when young people thrive, our sector survives







#### Josh's Journey: A rising star.

- Winner the Recruit: Inverclyde's version of *TV show the Apprentice*,
- Joined Cloch age 17, **IT Modern Apprentice**
- Digital Innovator
- Fast Tracked to Cyber Security GA
- Digital Inclusion lead
- Young Voice in **working groups**
- Sector Advocate and sector support
- Promotes Housing as a career
- Partnership Opportunities (Dalmuir Park & Barrhead)
- Rising Star of the Year Share 2025 Annual Conference
- Structured career mentoring
- Long term vision: Auditor for multiple Housing associations and sectors



Josh's journey is a blueprint for the future. When we invest in YP with trust, mentorship and meaningful opportunities, we unlock extraordinary potential and build future leaders.



The next generation is ready. Let's invite them in, develop and empower them; watch them lead, and future-proof our sector. When young people thrive, our sector survives.

### **Retaining Young People through culture & wider opportunities**

#### Industry EVENTS BOARD IIYP best SHARE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS practice sharing **NETWORK NETWORK** MEMBER events Psychologica BUSINESS Safety EDUCATION VALUED S TRUSTED OF Standard **CIH Futures Network** Connecting young professionals across housing The importance of 4 December 2024 () 11:00 - 12:30 O Microsoft Teams regular check-ins HEARD Celebrate **Succession Planning Real Time** even small is KEY, but ... Feecback successes not having a formal IVESTORS Succession Plan PEOPLE **WORK PROJECT**

## **Retaining Younger Colleagues**

#### when young people thrive, our sector survives

Building Future Leaders through Graduate Projects

- Digital Inclusion University of Stirling
- More YP as **CIH members**
- Mid-Market Rent Best Practice Guide
- SG Value for Money Toolkit
- Leadership Academy Career Mentoring Programme







#### Liam's Leap from Trainee to Trusted Leader in 1 yr

- Started as **HR Trainee**.
- Seconded to co-lead Fit for the Future
  Restructure for final year Project
- Nominated for CIH Apprentice of the Year
- Progressed from Trainee to People
  Advisor
- Experience and meta skills gained from FFTF project led to being job matched into promoted role of **People Partner** in new structure.

# KHA shows us when we trust YP to lead change, we unlock potential to deliver lasting impact and shape the future of housing.





- **Adopt a new approach to attracting and recruiting young people:** ask YP for their ideas.
- 2. Try a fresh way to develop and retain young people: consider sector-wide engagement
- **3. Leave a lasting legacy for the sector:** Build a system or a culture that future generations can grow into.
- **4. Strengthen your Investors in young people journey:** Whether you're just starting or ready to go further, we're here to help.
- 5. Visit our exhibition stand: Hear more stories, ask us questions, and share your reflections.



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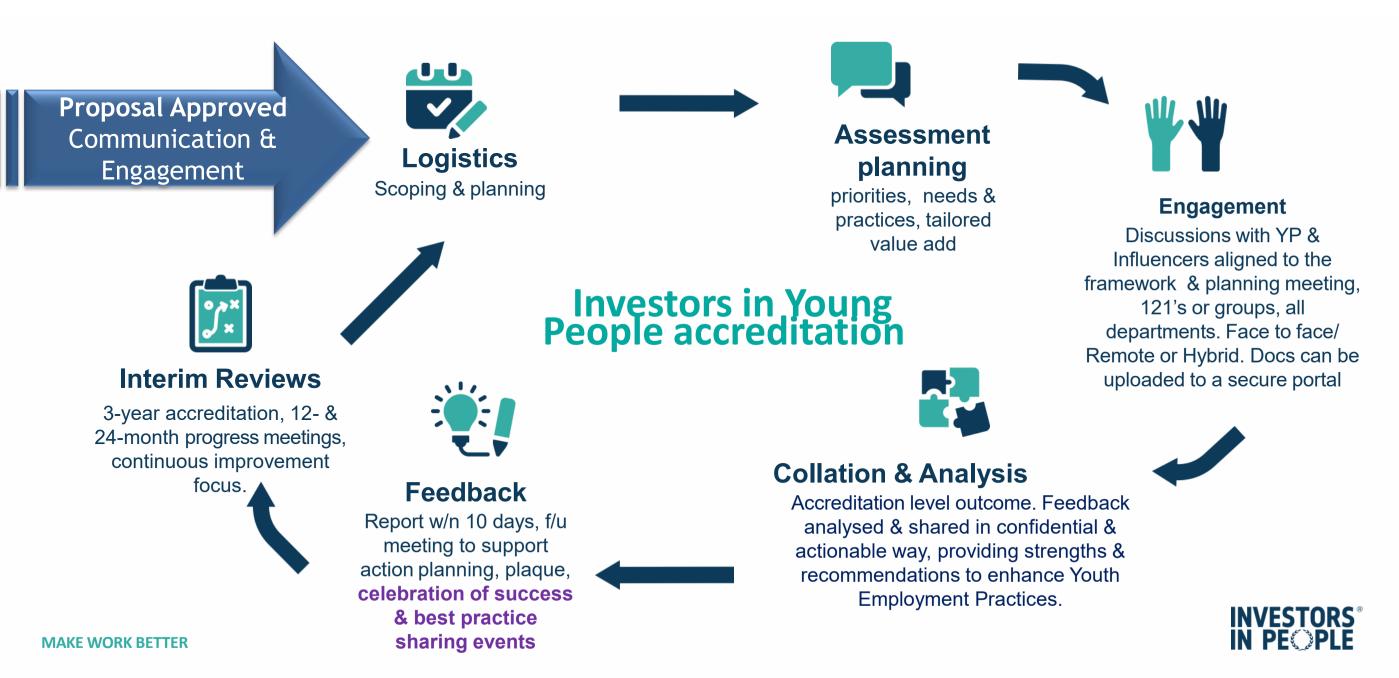




INVESTORS IN PEOPLE We invest in wellbeing Silver



## How can we support you?



## **Consultancy Support**









We are passionate about young people and their development. We can work with you to evaluate your current practices, help prioritise future development needs, and create meaningful change to build resilience.



**MAKE WORK BETTER** 



A guide to attract, recruit, develop and retain Young People

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