

## **Appendix 6 Letter from Romi Bowen**

Dear Colleague

An offer and a request...

As part of our commitment to helping young people leaving Southwark's care, the council is launching a Coaching for Care Leavers programme. My request is that you consider signing up to work with a care leaver and help them make the best possible start to their independent adult lives.

Southwark's four hundred plus care leavers are a diverse group of young people (18 – 21 yrs old) with a wide range of skills and aspirations. Some are starting out at college or university whilst others are still trying to find their first jobs. Most are learning to find their feet when it comes to independent living and some have particular responsibilities in their life such as looking after a child.

The Southwark Coaching for Care Leavers scheme aims to provide young people with a unique relationship in their lives that can help motivate them to set and work towards achieving personal goals. The voluntary and confidential nature of the relationship offers a chance for the young person to benefit from the learning and wisdom of a more experienced adult. And it will give the coach and mentor the satisfaction of really making a difference to a young person's life.

What I can offer you in return is all of the information, training and support you'll need to be an effective coach and mentor for a young person, including a coaching qualification from the International Coach Federation.

Details of the scheme can be found at the following link.. If you are interested in volunteering for this important project, please register for the briefing session which will take place on July 1, 2009 from 2pm until 4pm, at 1 Bradenham Close, London SE17 2QA by replying "yes" to this message. If you have any questions, please contact Robert Lang in Organisational Development on extension 52816.

As you would expect we will ask all volunteers to have a police check.

Kind regards

Romi Bowen  
Strategic Director of Children's Services