



# What is the 'GEM' programme

## Graduate Scheme

- Practical work experience
- Professional qualification
- Paid



Catalyst  
Housing



origin HOUSING



# Why I applied for the GEM programme

## Combined learning

- Knowing that I would be able to study alongside practical work appealed to me.
  - Further education – expensive risk
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# My difficulties finding employment

## Experience

- 'Falling into the career'
  - Application declined due to lack of experience
  - Application declined due to having more potential
  - Declined voluntary work
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# Why I sought a career in the social housing sector

## Values & Variety

- Heard about the sector through word of mouth
  - Previous work experience
  - Interest in the scope of a career in housing
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# How do Housing Associations benefit

## Workforce

- Aging workforce
  - Employing people with a genuine interest in the profession
  - Developing housing professionals
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# Incommunities

## Junior GEMS

- First cohort
  - Providing young people with a housing qualification
  - Alternative to University
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