



## **Equal Opportunities Statement**

Deptford Housing Co-operative wishes it to be known that it is committed to its equal opportunities policy.

Our goal is to develop a community in which everybody, irrespective of race, colour, religion, gender, sexuality, illness or disability, can live with dignity and realise their potential.

This means that in the provision of housing services, the co-op will seek to ensure equality of opportunity and treatment for all persons.

The co-operative is committed to the co-operative principles and in particular the first Co-operative principle, which states that:-

"Membership of a co-operative society should be voluntary and available without artificial restriction or any social, political, racial or religious discrimination to all persons who can make use of its services and are willing to accept the responsibilities of membership".

We aim to ensure that no person or group of persons applying for housing, or for contracts with Deptford Housing Co-operative will be treated less favourably than any other person or group of persons because of their sex, sexual orientation, race, colour, nationality, ethnic origin, religious belief, physical or mental disability, age, class, appearance, responsibility for dependants, unrelated or spent criminal convictions, being HIV positive or any other matter which causes any person to be treated with injustice.

In carrying out its responsibilities and in all other activities, Deptford Housing Co-operative will operate fair and anti-discriminatory policies and procedures.

The management committee is responsible for implementing the co-op's Equal Opportunities Procedure and for ensuring that all members of Deptford Housing Co-operative abide by the co-op's equal opportunities policy.

The management committee will monitor key indicators including the proportion of new lettings to Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) applicants, to ensure that the co-op's policies are being implemented effectively.