

# TBG Learning Provides Support in a Competitive Jobs Market



*Pictured left:* At the launch of the 'Response to Redundancy' programme at TBG Learning's Lambeth centre were (left to right) Barry Rowland, 'Response to Redundancy' participant, Abi Osho, Regional Manager, TBG Learning, the Hon. Kate Hoey MP, Andrew Conlan-Trant, Head of TBG Learning and Roy Chambers, 'Response to Redundancy' participant.

**P**EOPLE IN THE UK WHO HAVE RECENTLY LOST their jobs or who may be facing redundancy have been offered a chance to upskill and find their way back to employment, with the launch of the Government's new 'Response to Redundancy' programme. The Hon. Kate Hoey MP for Vauxhall, London, recently visited TBG Learning's Lambeth centre in London to officially launch the new flagship programme, which is delivered in centres in three regions – London, the south east and the mid-east.

During a tour of the centre, the MP met Roy Chambers and Barry Rowland whose jobs had been made redundant and who joined the programme to upgrade their skills so as to better their chances of returning to employment.

Kate Hoey MP was certainly impressed with what she saw at the centre. "It is great to see this wonderful centre right in the heart of this community, helping people like Roy and Barry get through this difficult period. I have been struck by the genuine keen-ness of the staff to really help people and I am sure that everyone who comes to TBG Learning on the 'Response to Redundancy' course will be given all the support that they need to get them back on track," she said.

Roy was quick to point out how helpful the TBG Learning staff had been. "I have been in work all of my life, so being unemployed has been an alien situation for me. When I realised I needed to improve my IT skills quickly, the Jobcentre referred me to TBG Learning. On starting the course, I was assessed on my literacy and numeracy skills and then attended a CV workshop – I had not altered my CV for over 20 years! I found the staff to be knowledgeable, friendly and helpful, with lots of patience for dinosaurs like me and I now feel more confident in competing in today's job market."

Abi Osho, Regional Manager for TBG Learning in London is very positive about the programme. "Stories like Roy's are very real and are just a snapshot of what is happening in society today due to the recession. There's never been a greater need for the kind of individual support we provide through TBG Learning. 'Response to Redundancy' can be tailored to individual needs and to people of all experience and skill levels, from manual workers to those from professional and management roles."

Over 1,400 people living in south London will be able to benefit from the programme over the next 18 months, whatever their line of work or educational background. ■