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Job advisers pick up career tips at city hotel

A group of Birmingham careers advisers spent a day at one of the city's top hotels to get an insight into the hospitality industry.

Twenty three advisers from 12 job centres across Birmingham took part in the event at the Radisson SAS Hotel in Beetham Tower, which was aimed at giving them a better understanding of the city's second biggest industry so they can pass on their knowledge to job seekers.

The advisers toured the 18-storey hotel, visiting a range of departments, such as housekeeping, Filini restaurant and kitchen and accounts and sales. They learned about the hotel's recruitment philosophy and career opportunities.

Karol Doveston of Birmingham Employers Coalition, which organised the event in conjunction with the Radisson SAS Hotel, said the day had been a big success.

"In order to help people find work, JobCentre Plus advisers need to understand employers' needs, areas of employment growth and the kinds of opportunities that are out there," she says. "Hospitality is not only one of the biggest employment sectors, it is also misunderstood. Many people think it's long hours, low pay and limited opportunities, but in reality it offers flexible working and an almost limitless amount of opportunity.

"The event at the Radisson SAS Hotel was a real eye-opener to our advisers and they've come away with valuable knowledge they can then use to help influence job seekers' decisions."

Valerie Stewart, the hotel's Human Resources Manager, said the hotel was committed to promoting the industry in general and helping local people to find work.

"Events like this help us to build up a network of people to assist us with recruitment locally, but also we feel it's very important to promote the industry in general and debunk some of the myths."

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