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PRESS RELEASE

LAVENDER COURT RECEIVES 2 VIP VISITS IN 6 WEEKS

Chevin Housing Association Ltd in partnership with Bramall Construction, Berneslai Homes, Barnsley MBC and the Housing Corporation are proud to have completed Lavender Court the first extra care scheme to be built in Kendray, Barnsley. This wonderfully designed scheme has 19 two bed and 25 one bed apartments in the main building plus 8 semi detached 2 bedroom bungalows in the surrounding grounds offering the same benefits as the apartments.

On 27th July 2007, David Behan, Director General of Social Care, Local Government and Care Partnerships visited the Lavender Court Extra Care Scheme at Kendray, this was followed by a visit from The Rt Hon Alan Johnson MP, Secretary of State on ***Wednesday 5th September 2007***.

The purpose of both visits has been to take a tour around various healthcare/support facilities across the Barnsley district and see first hand the accommodation, facilities, services and support that are on offer.

The guests were greeted at Lavender Court by Steve Close, Group Chief Executive and Paul Hayes, Director of Housing of the Chevin Housing Group. A tour of the facilities took place which included a chance to see the accommodation and services on offer and the opportunity to meet and speak to some of the residents, staff and service providers.

Steve Close, Group Chief Executive said:

We are delighted to have the opportunity to show Mr Behan and The Rt Hon Alan Johnson MP the lifestyle opportunities provided for residents at Lavender Court. The partnership with Barnsley MBC has produced an excellent facility for the Kendray area and both visitors went away with a very positive message from residents about the quality of the scheme and the important role of extra care provision in local communities.

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Notes for editors

The Chevin Housing Group was formed in 2001 following the merger of a number of associations who had been in operation from as far back as 1974. The current group consists of Chevin Housing Association and Harewood Housing Society. Chevin, the parent company owns, manages and maintains the Group's rented homes and Harewood manages and maintains the Group's leasehold properties and also provides a management service to private sector leaseholders.

The vision for the Chevin Group is, 'buliding a better future for people and communities'. In order to achieve this we are involved in a diverse range of activities. These include; managing and maintaining rented and leasehold homes, the development of new and refurbished homes (including rented, leasehold and sale options) and regeneration services, working in partnership with local people to enable them to play a part in the future of their neighbourhoods.

The Group operates across Yorkshire and the Humber and North Nottinghamshire, with around 6,000 rented homes in management. We also manage a further 1650 leasehold homes which include 750 private sector flats.

Extracare housing - Extracare housing schemes link accommodation with care and are seen as the way forward to provide older people with their own high quality accommodation, with access to housing related support and a personal care package that is close at hand. The main aim is to give older people the support they need in an environment that promotes independence, whilst providing a real alternative to residential care.

Ends
