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PRESS RELEASE

Chevin Housing Group deliver festive smiles to the children's ward at Pinderfields General Hospital

On Monday 15th December 2008, staff from the Chevin Housing Group along with the Manager of Argos (Westgate branch) delivered just over £600 worth of wrapped presents for children staying at Pinderfields General Hospital over the Christmas period.

What started off as one department donating their Secret Santa money rolled out across the whole of the Chevin Housing Group. Staff from office bases in Sheffield, Guiseley, Hull, Selby, Bridlington and Wakefield all gave willingly to support the local hospital with the wish to make Christmas a little better for children who have to be in hospital over the festive period.

Argos were more than willing to support Chevin by offering a discount on the toys and supplying the wrapping paper which was greatly appreciated.

Steve Close, Group Chief Executive of Chevin Housing Group said: It's always important to think of those less fortunate than you and staff regularly collect for a wide range of good causes. A couple of staff came up with the idea of donating money to buy presents for the youngsters in the local hospital and as usual everyone else joined in. We hope it brings a little bit of joy to the youngsters who can't get home over Christmas.

Rita Cammidge, play specialist at Pinderfields General Hospital, said: "I would like to thank Chevin Housing Group and Argos for this kind donation of presents. We make Christmas time as nice as possible for children staying on the ward so we really appreciate the kindness and generosity of local groups and people."

-Ends-

Photographed:

Back left to right:

Chris Moran – Store Manager – Argos – Westgate branch
Paula Littleboy – PA & Corporate Marketing Officer – Chevin Housing Group
Trevor Cadman – Finance Accountant – Chevin Housing Group

Front

Jack Howarth – age 3
Mollie Crawshaw – age 8

Notes to Editors

Chevin Housing Group

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 Ltd and Harewood Housing Society Ltd.

The vision for the Chevin Group is, 'building 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.

The Group's reinvestment programme is around £6m per annum and the Development Programme is producing around 250 new homes each year. In 2004 the Group formed the Synergy partnership which is a regional based development partnership of associations with Chevin Housing Group as the lead partner for delivery. Synergy Housing Solutions Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Chevin provides a development service to the Synergy partners.

An inspection carried out by the Audit Commission in 2006 determined that Chevin provides a good 2 star service with promising prospects for improvement. The report commented that, 'Chevin is a customer focussed organisation, which develops services based on customer feedback'.

The Group employs around 200 staff headed by the Group Chief Executive, Steve Close.