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PRESS RELEASE

Chevin Housing bring smiles to the children's ward at Christmas

On Tuesday 21st December 2009, Chevin Housing Group delivered just over £200 worth of presents for children staying at Pinderfields General Hospital in Wakefield over the Christmas period.

Staff from offices based in Wakefield, Sheffield, Guiseley and Selby donated their Secret Santa and Christmas card money to support their 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:

Staff regularly collect for a range of good causes and we are delighted to be able to provide a bit of joy for the youngsters who are unfortunate enough to be in hospital 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

Five year old Afeefau Patel who is currently recovering from having her tonsils removed on the Children's ward at Pinderfields Hospital with some of the presents donated by Chevin Housing.

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 7,000 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.