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## **Press Release**

### **COUPLE MOVE INTO FIRST NEW CHEVIN HOMES ON PRESTON ROAD AND RETURN TO THE SPOT THEY MET OVER 50 YEARS AGO**

**Moving to a new home has brought back special memories for Bill and Jean Toker, who are among the first to benefit from Gateway's and Chevin's plans to revive the housing market on Preston Road. For Bill and Jean, who recently moved into their brand new bungalow at Ellerby Grove, are returning to the very spot where they met in 1949.**

Jean explains: "When the new development started, we realised that the bungalow that was to be built on plot six was right on the site of Bill's old house, where we met and did all of our courting. It's really exciting to be back there after all these years – but in a really lovely new home."

Bill and Jean had lived in one of Preston Road's 260 'Wild' houses since 1965. All of the Wilds suffer from serious damp and structural problems and are now being demolished by Gateway as part of plans to improve the quality and choice of housing in the area.

The Toker's new two-bedroomed bungalow is part of a development of 108 new homes. The new property boasts central heating, double glazing, and off-road parking as well as a fully fitted kitchen, two bedrooms, living room and bathroom. French doors open from the kitchen into the garden and patio area. Built to Eco-homes standard "good", the bungalow will be far warmer and more energy efficient than their previous home.

The design of these new homes incorporates traditional materials used innovatively across the estate with elements such as balconies, bay windows and roof dormers giving the individual style to the properties. The orientation of each dwelling has been carefully considered to create internal spaces full of sunlight throughout the day with each one overlooking its own garden and parking and unique landscaped public spaces.

The development includes a range of accommodation including two bedroom bungalows for older people, three bedroom bungalows designed for families with disabilities, two, three and four bedroom houses and two and three storey apartments.

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Janet Whipps, Gateway's Acting Chief Executive said: "Local residents had a large input into the design of these new properties and Gateway and Chevin Housing Group were keen to listen to their views. We found that residents wanted fresh, contemporary designs and a range of housing types. This development offers all these factors and I'm sure it will go a long way in creating a mixed and stable community."

Steve Close, Group Chief Executive of Chevin Housing Group said: "Gateway and Chevin Housing Group felt it appropriate for Jean and Bill to be re-housed into plot six as they have such a strong link to this particular part of the site on which their new home now stands. We hope they will both be very happy in their new home."

Cllr Allen Healand, Hull City Council Portfolio Holder for Housing said: "We are delighted that Jean and Bill's new home is stood on a plot with such memories and that we were able to work towards such a happy ending. I hope they will both be very content in their new home."