



Press release

For immediate release

Ref: GCH

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GCH Supported Housing Month Events

Gloucester City Homes is taking part in South West Supported Housing month, which runs throughout March. During the month, events are taking place in all of GCH's sheltered housing schemes, ranging from arts and craft classes, Wii fit clubs, Easter activities and outings.

Supported housing helps some of the most vulnerable people in our community live fulfilling and rewarding lives through providing a wide range of services.

Gloucester City Homes has a team of 11 Scheme Managers and 2 relief managers who deliver a wide range of support services to our elderly residents within its ten sheltered housing schemes. The team also visits elderly residents living in Gloucester City Council properties in their local communities.

South West Supported Housing Month is aiming to raise the awareness and profile of the good work carried out in the supported housing sector in the region. In the south west alone the sector provides more than 2,800 services to nearly 103,000 vulnerable people.

Gloucester City Homes has joined together with the National Housing Federation and other providers throughout the south west to shout out about these vital services during South West Supported Housing Month.

GCH Supported Housing Manager Diana Wilks says

All our sheltered housing schemes offer a number of regular activities and events to our sheltered housing customers and elderly people from the community. If you would like to or know of somebody in the area who would like to get involved or join in any of the activities please contact us for further details

For further details of events and activities, please contact us on 0800 408 2000 or 01452 530626 or visit www.gloscityhomes.co.uk

ENDS

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

Gloucester City Homes is a 2 star Arms Length Management Company, which provides housing management services to 4800 homes in Gloucester on behalf of the City Council. The company is carrying out a £40 million improvement programme to bring customers' homes to the Decent Homes Standard. Since Gloucester City Homes was created in 2005 it has:

- Achieved a 2* rating (Good service) from the Audit Commission in June 2007
- Secured £39.6 million in Decent Homes funding to meet the Government's Decent Homes standard and completed improvements to over 1200 homes in the City.
- Become the first housing provider in the County to achieve a Gold standard for its supporting people services
- Achieved Investors in People Accreditation for performance management of our staff
- Achieved ISO 9001 for Quality Management systems, re-accredited again in September 2009 following re-inspection
- Achieved "managing for others" status with the Housing Corporation
- Achieved Investment Partner status with the Housing Corporation
- Implemented a programme of training for staff to achieve the Institute of Customer Service Awards
- Achieved the Customer Services Excellence Award in April 2009 and Special Recognition Award in October 2009
- Achieved the Equalities Framework Award April 2009