



Press release

Date: 19th August 2009

GCH tenant evicted for anti-social behaviour

On 27th July 2009 Gloucester City Homes was granted possession of 8/56 Matson Avenue following a series of complaints that the tenant Tracy Bowen was causing anti-social behaviour. She was evicted from the property on Monday 17th August.

Gloucester City homes had previously obtained an Anti Social Behaviour Injunction against Tracy Bowen following incidents of nuisance including threats of violence, drunken behaviour, drug abuse and continuous harassment to neighbours.

On the 8th December 2008 His Honour District Judge Singleton of Gloucester County Court committed Tracy Bowen to prison for 6 months as a result of several breaches to her injunction including distracting an elderly pensioner while others broke into his home and stole his life savings. Tracy Bowen is currently serving a 15 month prison sentence for the criminal charges relating to this offence.

Gloucester City Homes along with officers from Gloucestershire Police have worked together with residents who were affected by the horrendous anti-social behaviour caused by Tracy Bowen to gain possession of her property.

His Honour District Judge Singleton said: "It is the worst case of nuisance I have seen".

Local resident James Smith who was a victim of Tracey Bowen's anti-social behaviour expressed relief at the result:

"I am over the moon that Tracey has been evicted. She's made not just mine, but other neighbours' life hell. Thanks to Gloucester City Homes for helping me throughout this terrible experience."

Valerie Hayllor, Director of Services and Business Development commented:

"This is a good outcome for all, a great achievement. It will improve the quality of life for all. I would like to thank all of our partners that have helped to achieve this."

Victoria King-Lowe, Anti Social Behaviour Manager added:

"Tracy Bowens behaviour has had a devastating effect on the residents of Matson Avenue and the wider community. I believe that this action demonstrates our commitment to resolving anti-social behaviour effectively, ensuring our tenants feel safe in their homes and community, and enjoy a high quality of life."

We could not have taken successful action against perpetrators of Anti Social Behaviour without the courage and commitment of residents who have witnessed nuisance behaviour. Gloucester City Homes recognises the bravery of these individuals."

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 4500 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 on the 9th March 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
- Achieved the Equalities Framework Award April 2009