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## **Press Release**

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For immediate release

### **EAST BORO CELEBRATES MORE SUPPORTED LIVING LEARNING DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION IN POOLE**

East Boro Housing Trust officially opened Mary Hillman Court, its latest Supported Living Learning Disability housing scheme in Broadstone, on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

Named after the late Councillor Mary Hillman, who championed work for people with learning disabilities, the new flats at Mary Hillman Court were opened by Mayor of Borough of Poole Councillor Graham Wilson, Leader of the Council Elaine Atkinson and Mr Greg Hillman.

Other guests included members of the Hillman Family, Sheriff Councillor Evans, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Social Care Councillor Adams, Ward Councillors including Councillor Brooke and Councillor Godfrey, Director of Social Services Jan Thurgood, the tenants, their families and many other guests.

During the opening Mayor of Borough of Poole Councillor Wilson addressed the guests and Councillor Atkinson also spoke as a personal friend of Mary Hillman. Together with Mary Hillman's husband Greg, the three jointly opening the scheme.

Mary Hillman Court comprises six flats providing accommodation for seven people, developed under the Campus Re-provision Project, a National NHS scheme delivered jointly across Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole by each Local Authority.

During her speech Councillor Atkinson noted the naming of the scheme "was a fitting tribute to Mary" and a "fantastic legacy" to all she did for learning disability services.

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## **Note for Editors:**

Mary Hillman was a Councillor with the Borough of Poole who acted as a champion for people with learning disabilities until she sadly passed away in 2008.

The Campus Re-provision Project is a National NHS scheme delivered jointly across Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole by each Local Authority, focused on re-accommodating people living in hospital based units into more independent living.

East Boro Housing Trust is a local, Wimborne based housing association committed to providing housing for local people. Established in 1960, the Trust owns and manages over forty housing schemes across the Dorset area, specialising in providing housing and support services for the sheltered elderly, adults with learning disabilities and other vulnerable client groups in social housing need.

In addition to its core tenant base East Boro also offer services to people in the wider community, with a Handy Van Repair and Handy Van Security Service, a Housing Related Support Service for people with physical disabilities, a Home from Home day respite Service, Always Help at Hand care and support Service plus private maintenance under its subsidiary East Boro Housing Services Limited. For more details about the Trust's work please visit [www.ebht.org.uk](http://www.ebht.org.uk)

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