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Press Release

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For immediate release

EAST BORO EXPANDS IN DORSET PROVIDING A NEW FUTURE FOR LOCAL SUPPORTED HOUSING SCHEMES

East Boro Housing Trust has purchased seven properties in Weymouth that provide housing for adults with learning disabilities, spreading its geographic coverage across Dorset to the Borough of Weymouth and Portland.

The seven properties, formerly run by private landlord ANA Housing Ltd, are located across different sites throughout Weymouth and include 13 self contained flats and 29 shared lettings units, housing a total of 46 individual tenants.

As a specialist charitable Housing Association and provider of supported housing services, East Boro's purchase will provide security of tenure afforded to social housing tenants.

Chief Executive Kevin Hodder says "The proposal to take on ANA Housing was an opportunity discussed between the two companies and supported by the relevant Local Authorities and by the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) with grant funding towards the purchase. This is a big step forward for East Boro that sees a substantial increase in the number of our Learning Disability Supported Living units within Dorset. What's more, the purchase means East Boro will provide secure homes for the present and future tenants at these properties both now and for the longer-term. We are pleased to have been able to take this positive step."

As part of the purchase, the existing ANA staff team of 25 support staff have also transferred to East Boro. The staff will remain based in Weymouth as East Boro takes on a new area office, Astral House, ensuring continuity in the support service provided to the existing tenants, who will continue to receive daily support with an individual person centred approach. Tenants will also benefit from other East Boro services such as housing management and response repair maintenance services.

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East Boro Chairman David Cawdery comments: “The Trust’s Board of Management and entire staff team are committed to providing good quality supported housing and first class support services. As a Dorset based Housing Association this is East Boro’s first step into providing services in the Borough of Weymouth and Portland, a significant milestone for East Boro which ties in with the start of our 50th Year. Reaching the Golden Jubilee is another significant achievement in the Trust’s history which we look forward to celebrating with our tenants, staff and the local communities in which we work.”

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Note for Editors:

East Boro Housing Trust, based in Wimborne, Dorset, specialises in providing accommodation for the sheltered elderly and adults with learning disabilities. The Trust also provides accommodation for single parent families, single young people and general needs housing for young couples/small families. 2010 celebrates East Boro’s Golden Jubilee 50th Year and East Boro’s other services include a Sheltered Housing Warden Service, a Learning Disability Support Team, a Direct Labour Response Repair & Care-taking Service, a Handy Van Repair Service in Bournemouth and Poole, a Visiting Support Service in Poole and a Housing Related Support Service to people with physical disabilities in Bournemouth.

East Boro is also a member of the Source Development Partnership, one of the largest consortiums in the South that is committed to providing high quality, affordable housing whilst supporting the local communities in which it works. For more information visit www.source-development.co.uk

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