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Press Release

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For immediate release

East Boro Support Services Grow

East Boro Housing Trust is introducing a Visiting Support Service within the Borough of Poole.

The new service provides support to residents of Poole, aged fifty-five or over that are in need of assistance to remain independent in their own home. The Borough of Poole's Supporting People grant funds the service, so there is no charge to people using it.

Launched in May 2008, the Visiting Support Service is tailored to meet individual's needs and provides support on a short-term basis. The purpose of the service is to assist individuals with tasks they now find difficult and 'signpost' them to set up their own social support network to enable them to manage in the longer term. Support ranges from assistance with managing health and well-being, advice on housing options and support with benefit claims, information about living safely and securely in the home including advice on minimising hazards, to information about access to social, leisure and learning opportunities and ways to get involved in the local community.

The new service is the result of a successful tender in which East Boro were selected as the preferred provider by the Borough of Poole. **Housing Support Manager Mary Stepin** says, "East Boro already has a well established care and support team that provides services to the elderly and adults with learning disabilities. This new service is an opportunity to use our experience and expertise to support people throughout the Borough of Poole that are not able to obtain support from other organisations."

For further details about the Visiting Support Service contact Brian Sanderson, Project Manager, on 01202 883503 or email the Support Team at localitysupport@ebht.org.uk

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Note to Editors:

Based in Wimborne, East Boro owns and manages social housing throughout the Dorset area, specialising in housing for the sheltered elderly and adults with learning disabilities. Its other services include a Sheltered Housing Warden Service, a Learning Disability Support Team, a Direct Labour Response Repair and Care-taking Service and a Handy Van Repair service.