

Golden Gates Housing Trust press release

20 December 2011



GGHT Help Spread Christmas Cheer in Orford.....

Residents aged 60 to 90 from Orford in Warrington were given the chance to meet new friends and enjoy some festive cheer this week thanks to **Golden Gates Housing Trust (GGHT)**. The residents were invited to a Christmas event at the Orford Community Hub, where they joined neighbours and other residents in enjoying a hot buffet, playing games of family fortunes and prize bingo as well as receiving tips on how to save money on their fuel bills and stay warm this winter.

Following the severe weather experienced in Warrington last year, the Trust have produced a guide providing information to their residents on how they can cope and help to support their neighbours if we experience similar conditions this year. To help get the information out, staff from the Trust's Tenant Participation team along with their Elderly Person's Manager and Energy Advice Officer visited the homes of 100 of their older tenants in the Orford area. Staff provided advice on how to keep warm and reduce heating costs while providing tips on avoiding burst pipes and how to find their stop taps and respond in an emergency.

During the visits residents were also invited to the Christmas event, where they were encouraged to meet their neighbours and look out for each other over the Winter.

GGHT Chief Executive Peter Mercer, said: "It was great to see so many of our residents attend the Christmas event and enjoy the festivities. As winter sets in, it is important that our residents are aware of the support available to them to keep warm and well. We recognise that times are tough but we are

committed to doing all we can to help our residents make the most of their money in the winter months.

“The event was a great way to bring together some of our older tenants but during the cold weather it is important that we all look out for any elderly or vulnerable neighbours. Just spending 10 minutes checking that they are managing can make a huge difference, even if it is just in reassuring them that someone is looking out for them”.

To read GGHT’s winter guide visit www.gght.org.uk

-IMAGES-



Staff from GGHT visiting one of the Trust’s residents



Residents at the GGHT Christmas community event.

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For further information contact Neil Martin, Communications and Involvement Manager neil.martin@gght.org.uk or phone 0800 25 26 27

About Golden Gates Housing Trust

Golden Gates Housing Trust (GGHT) launched on 29 November 2010, formed as part of the Stock Transfer of 8,700 homes from Warrington Borough Council. The transfer converted the successful Arms Length Management Organisation Golden Gates Housing into a registered provider of social housing.

GGHT will be investing around £105M in tenants' homes and neighbourhoods over the first 5 years and £530M over 30 years to deliver the "Warrington Standard". This Standard has been developed by GGHT's tenants to ensure that improvements and investment is prioritised in the areas that tenants have said are a priority. Plans include the installation of double glazing and secured front and rear doors in all properties over the next five years as well as environmental improvements such as fencing, gates and lighting.