



**Press release**

**For immediate release**

**16 June 2009**

**One Housing Group takes ownership of  
Arlington House and Dean Street hostels**

One Housing Group is pleased to confirm that it took over ownership of Arlington House and Dean Street hostels from Novas Scarman Group yesterday. The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), Communities and Local Government (CLG), London Borough of Camden and Westminster City Council have been involved throughout negotiations and fully support One Housing Group in their new role as landlord of the two hostels.

Located in Camden Town, Arlington House hostel has provided a shelter for roughsleepers and the homeless since 1905. One Housing Group, based in Chalk Farm, will continue the much needed programme of refurbishment envisioned by the CLG and London Borough of Camden that was started by the previous landlord. Scheduled to complete on target in December 2009, the refurbishment work will transform the hostel, providing a high quality accommodation and employment resource for vulnerable homeless people in Camden.

Dean Street Hostel, situated in Soho, is a high quality hostel for homeless people and roughsleepers. Under the new ownership it will continue to offer a range of support services to vulnerable people with a history of sleeping rough around mental health, alcohol and drugs, resettlement, employment and training.

Kevin Beirne, Group Director of Housing Care and Support at One Housing Group, said: "We are delighted to acquire Arlington House and Dean Street hostels and will deliver true flagship schemes for the local communities."

Richard Cunningham, Manager of the Places of Change Programme at the Homes and Communities Agency, added: "We have every confidence that One Housing Group will deliver the vision for Arlington House and Dean Street hostels as world class accommodation and 'Places of Change' for vulnerable people, with support for training and employment in line with the Places of Change vision."

Cllr Chris Naylor, Executive Member for Homes and Housing Strategy at Camden Council commented: "We look forward to working with One Housing Group to complete the transformation of Arlington House into a flagship scheme in the borough's Hostels Pathway approach."

Rosemary Westbrook, Director of Housing at Westminster City Council, said: "We are pleased that One Housing Group is taking ownership of Dean Street hostel, enabling the hostel to continue its invaluable work and support for homeless and vulnerable people in the local community."

Maria Donoghue-Mills of Novas Scarman said: "I think we have found the best possible new owner in One Housing Group, which has proved its commitment to high quality supported housing over the last five years. We look forward to working together to continue the highest levels of services at Arlington House and Dean Street."

## **Ends**

**For further information please contact Fiona Crook at One Housing Group on telephone: 020 7428 4107 or email: [fcrook@onehousinggroup.co.uk](mailto:fcrook@onehousinggroup.co.uk) or Florence Obinna at Camden Council's Press Office on 020 7994 5716 or email [florence.obinna@camden.gov.uk](mailto:florence.obinna@camden.gov.uk)**

## **Notes to Editors**

- Arlington House is located on Arlington Street in Camden and Dean Street Hostel is located on Dean Street in Soho

Arlington House has benefited from substantial CLG investment of £12.8m under the Hostels Capital Improvement Programme Programme (Places of Change Programme). This is the largest scheme in this national programme

- Camden Council approved planning permission for the refurbished development of Arlington House in October 2007 and provides Supporting People funding to the hostel. Once refurbishment is complete Arlington House will provide 94 hostel spaces and 35 low income worker units

- One Housing Group currently manages over 12,000 homes in 26 local authorities across London and adjacent counties, with over 2,700 homes in the development pipeline. These include shared ownership schemes; intermediate rent homes for key workers, affordable rented homes and homes for outright sale

- One Support is the Group's housing care and support arm. With a reputation for providing high quality modern supported housing and services, One Support has been the biggest developer of supported housing in London for the last 5 years

- Community Housing Association, Island Homes and Toynbee Housing Association joined to form One Housing Group in September 2007

- Visit [www.onehousinggroup.co.uk](http://www.onehousinggroup.co.uk) or [www.camden.gov.uk](http://www.camden.gov.uk) for further information.