

Press release

For immediate release

April 2008

**One Support to deliver service to help socially excluded residents in
Bracknell Forest live independently**

One Support, the housing, care and support arm of One Housing Group, has been chosen to deliver a Floating Support service throughout Bracknell Forest, to help prevent homelessness and maximise living for socially excluded residents.

The specialist Floating Support service will work with around 60 people across the borough each year. By empowering vulnerable individuals to reach their full potential, the service will support people in housing crisis to develop the skills required to live independently and avoid eviction.

Kevin Beirne, Group Director of One Housing Care and Support, said: "We are extremely delighted to have the opportunity to deliver this pioneering support service in Bracknell Forest. One Housing Group has a proven track record in supporting people in housing crisis, who might often be facing eviction.

"Through the delivery of this vital service, One Support's commitment to helping people across Berkshire, will provide residents with an opportunity to achieve real independence and realise their full potential."

Councillor Dale Birch, Chair of the Supporting People Commissioning Body
which is funding the service, said: "I am delighted that we are able to extend

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Supporting People Manager

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Forest

[the housing support resources available for vulnerable people in Bracknell.](#)

The Bracknell Forest Tenancy Support Service has now been launched in partnership with One Housing Group. This fantastic service provides [further](#) much needed support to vulnerable tenants. It aims to help our residents sustain their tenancies and to prevent homelessness in the borough of Bracknell.”

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Key features of One Support’s Floating Support Service in Bracknell Forest are:

- **Working with the community to deliver floating support** – One Support will work with each service user to link them into Bracknell community resources which meet their needs, ensuring their capacity for independent living is rooted in local services. One Support will also establish strong links with the Anti-social Behaviour teams within the borough, in order to further promote engagement with the local community.
- **Come & Go Day** – These events are held throughout the year. As well as providing entertainment, speakers and refreshments, services users can give feedback on all services provided.
- **Community Investment Team** – Service users will be able to access employment and training initiatives. Training projects to date include a Construction Industry Apprentice Scheme, a One Housing Group Customer Service Centre Trainee Scheme, a One Housing Group Property Services Fire Safety Officer Initiative, and a Football Coaching Partnership Project.
- **Links Magazine** – One support service users will receive this quarterly newsletter, which provides information on upcoming events, information on community and cultural events, and articles by service users.

Client groups able to take advantage of this support include:

- People in a state of housing crisis, often facing eviction notices
- People with low level mental health problems
- People with substance misuse problems
- People with offending histories and at risk of re-offending
- People with poor physical health and long term illness
- People with a mild learning disability
- People with problems of Anti-Social Behaviour – those causing it and those suffering from it

Referrals will be accepted via [the Bracknell Forest Young Persons Resource Panel and Adults Panel](#),

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One Support is one of London's biggest providers of floating support, currently supporting over 200 people live independently. It has extensive experience of providing large scale borough-wide generic floating support services in the borough's of Camden, Enfield, Hackney, Lambeth, Haringey, and Westminster.

For more information on One Support visit

www.onehousinggroup.co.uk/content/supportservices

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For further information please contact Helen Bishop at Society Media on telephone: 020 8980 0013 or email: helen@societymedia.co.uk

Notes to Editors

Toynbee Housing Association, Toynbee Island Homes and Community Housing Group have joined to form One Housing Group.

One Housing Group currently manages over 10,000 homes in 25 local authorities across London and the Home 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.

All new schemes look at the need for balanced communities and therefore include a mixture of tenures and uses.

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.

Visit www.onehousinggroup.co.uk for further information.