

News release



Date: 15 January 2010

Kingfisher HVHS raises Money Awareness!

Kingfisher HVHS held a Money Awareness Day in Porchester Square, Festival Place, Basingstoke on Wednesday 13 January.

With the festive season now out of the way many people are questioning their spending in December and now as the monthly bills start coming in, could find themselves wondering how they will make ends meet. Help is at hand.

Kingfisher HVHS invited residents to their MAD (Money Awareness Day) in Festival Place where they could speak to a number of agencies such as the Trading Standards South East illegal money lending team and representatives from Kingfisher HVHS to name but a few, for free impartial advice.

Sarah Kirby, spokesman for the illegal money lending team, said: "This is a great way to help people understand their finances, encourage them to start saving and ensure they keep control of their own money. Loan sharks will try to target people who are finding money a bit tight after Christmas, offering cash loans with no paperwork and extortionate interest rates, so we want to make sure people have the knowledge and confidence to say no. Don't get bitten by a loan shark - call us in confidence on 0300 555 2222."

The important message Kingfisher HVHS wanted to get across to its residents and the wider community, was that help is out there. Don't fall into the trap of borrowing from illegal money lenders or taking out expensive loans to pay your bills, by talking to agencies now you can prevent debts snowballing and becoming uncontrollable.

Luke Bingham, Assistant MD at Kingfisher HVHS had this message for residents:

"Kingfisher HVHS are fortunate to be able to offer the services of a dedicated Tenancy Support Officer and two in-house CAB (Citizens Advice Bureau) advisors, as well as links

with numerous external agencies to help tenants. It is important to speak to your Housing Management Officer as soon as possible if you fall into arrears to avoid the debt increasing. We are here to help ..!

- ENDS -

Notes to Editor:

- *The Sovereign Housing Group is made up of five charitable associations: Kingfisher HVHS Housing Association Ltd, Sovereign Housing Association Ltd, Sovereign Housing Group Ltd, The Vale Housing Association Ltd, and Twynham Housing Association Ltd - plus their subsidiaries.*
- *If you would like more information, please contact Debbie Down, PR Officer for Sovereign, on 01256 302307, or email debbie.down@sovereign.org.uk.*