

Date: 27 July 2010

Sovereign Kingfisher unveils new community mosaic created by young residents

Sovereign Kingfisher is committed to working hard to develop local areas where people want to live. An important part of this is working with local partners to support diverse community projects in and around Basingstoke.

A recent example of this is a new community arts project which has recently been launched by the Sovereign Kingfisher Community House in Branton Close, Basingstoke. This project was launched by local artist Rachel Silver and staff from Sovereign Kingfisher, The Making and Westside SureStart Children's Centre. The arts initiative was aimed at getting local children involved during the May half-term holidays and also allowing them to give something to give back to the community.

The mosaic, which suitably pictures a giant kingfisher, is now taking pride of place on the wall of the Kingfisher Community House. It was officially unveiled last Friday by Sovereign Kingfisher's outgoing Chairman, Chris Holland, and Councillor Karen Cherrett, Basingstoke and Deane's cabinet member for Education, Performance and Partnerships. Over 50 guests, including children and residents who had been involved in the art project, attended the unveiling which was celebrated with a BBQ in the garden of the community house. The mosaic, which took 30 hours to complete, is also protected by a giant awning which was provided thanks to the Sovereign Kingfisher Residents' Committee.

Chris Holland, Sovereign Kingfisher's chairman, said, "I joined the Board of Kingfisher so that I could give something back to the community and it is fantastic that these youngsters have been able to do the same through art. The mosaic is

something they should be proud of and I am sure it will give local residents a lot of pleasure.”

- 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, External Communications Adviser for Sovereign, on 01256 302307, or email debbie.down@sovereign.org.uk.*



Unveiling the mosaic from left to right:

Harry McKeown,
Antisocial Behaviour
Officer and Chris Holland,
Chairman, Sovereign
Kingfisher and Cllr Karen
Cherrett, Basingstoke
and Deane Borough
Council