



**Press release
10 August 2009**

Local housing association shortlisted for national housing award

An innovative approach developed by Melin Homes has reached the final of the UK Housing Awards 2009 in the 'Outstanding achievement in housing in Wales' category.

The 'Golden Thread' concept, developed by Melin's Community Investment team, aims to have a long-term, positive impact on its residents' lives and those living within their communities. This involves investing in activities that help local people access work and training, helping them with any financial difficulties that they may be experiencing and taking steps to tackle social exclusion.

Melin's Chief Executive, Mark Gardner, is thrilled to be in the running for a national award. He said: "In addition to providing homes for people, we are committed to making a positive difference in the communities where we operate. Helping people access training and employment and assisting them with managing their finances will have long-term benefits both for individual residents and the wider community. To reach the final demonstrates what a huge difference our Golden Thread approach is making to our residents and the communities that they live in."

The winner will be announced at a special award ceremony in London in November.

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For more information contact Laura Maddrell, Communications Officer on 01495 745929 or email laura.maddrell@melinhomes.co.uk

Notes to editors

- Melin Homes is a not for profit landlord providing quality homes and services across Blaenau Gwent, Monmouthshire, Newport, Powys and Torfaen. For further information please visit www.melinhomes.co.uk