

Press release  
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## Secretary of State for Wales' visits Torfaen's first extra care scheme



Secretary of State for Wales, Paul Murphy MP visited Torfaen's first extra care scheme – Ty George Lansbury – today to meet residents and see first hand the benefits that extra care offers.

Melin Homes' £6.1 million development consists of 35 self-contained apartments and provides modern, purpose-built accommodation for people over 55 who need care and support to help them to continue to live independently.

Shared facilities for residents include a restaurant/dining room, hairdressing salon, laundry, bowls area, reading, craft, computer and physiotherapy rooms and support workers are available on site to deliver individual care packages.

The scheme, built in partnership with Torfaen Council, was opened in August last year and has already made a huge difference to the lives of those living there.

Husband and wife Marion and Terry Morgan age 73 and 84 moved from their own home in Upper Cwmbran as they needed additional support. Mrs Morgan said: "Having access to on-site support when we need it, but still maintaining our independence, means everything to us. We are very happy here."

Chief Executive of Melin Homes Mark Gardner said: "We look forward to welcoming the Secretary of State to Ty George Lansbury. We are very proud of our first Extra Care scheme and it's very rewarding to know that by providing high quality homes, coupled with excellent support services, residents will be able to live independently in their own homes for longer."

Secretary of State for Wales Paul Murphy said: "Ty George Lansbury enables residents to live independently whilst having the piece of mind of knowing that there is dedicated care and support at hand if they need it. I look forward to seeing first hand the benefits the first extra care scheme in Torfaen is bringing to local residents and their families."

## **Ends**

**Photo caption:** Secretary of State for Wales Paul Murphy enjoyed a chat with resident Dorothey Haddock and Doiran Jones, Chair of Melin Homes, during his recent visit to Ty George Lansbury.

## **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](http://www.melinhomes.co.uk)
- Paul Murphy was appointed Secretary of State for Wales on Thursday 24 January 2008.
- He has been MP for Torfaen since 1987. He was appointed Chair of the Intelligence and Security Committee in May 2005. He also chaired the British-Irish Inter-Parliamentary Body and was an Executive Committee member of the British-American Parliamentary Group.
- Mr Murphy previously served as the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland from October 2002 until May 2005 and was Secretary of State for Wales from 1999 until 2002.
- Mr Murphy was born in 1948 and was educated at St Francis Roman Catholic School in Abersychan, West Monmouth School in Pontypool and Oriel College, Oxford. He was a management trainee with the CWS, before becoming a lecturer in Government and History at Ebbw Vale College of Further Education.