



North Herts Sanctuary

(Registered Charity Number 1071610)

'Providing shelter and targeted support to people in need'



5 December 2011

New partnership to help homeless people in North Herts

Charities North Herts Sanctuary and St Mungo's announce new joint venture

Services for homeless people in North Herts are set to be improved and extended as two charities announce a new working partnership.

The 17-bed North Herts Sanctuary hostel in Nightingale Road will work with St Mungo's to extend and develop facilities and services further. St Mungo's is a leading homelessness charity, established over 40 years ago, with more than 100 projects in London and the south.

St Mungo's will begin managing the Sanctuary from today [5 Dec] in partnership with North Herts Sanctuary staff and Trustee board. The plan is to upgrade the hostel over the next three years.

Gboyega Adetunji, Sanctuary Project Manager, said: "We have been extending our services and approached St Mungo's to work with them to further improve the site and services we provide. We are looking forward to working together to provide state of the art services and facilities for homeless people in North Herts."

Elizabeth Harper, St Mungo's Regional Director, said: "The Sanctuary is a valuable resource which has helped many people over the last 20 years. We're very pleased to be working in partnership, and with North Herts District and Herts County Council, to deliver an even more effective, high quality service that will really support people in North Hertfordshire as they recover from the experience of being homeless."

Cllr Bernard Lovewell of North Herts District Council said: "Solving the problem of homelessness is about more than putting a roof over someone's head and our priority is to ensure there is a quality, cost effective support service in our community. We are very pleased to have helped develop this new joint venture between North Herts Sanctuary and St Mungo's and I am confident it will be a successful one."

Colette Wyatt-Lowe, Hertfordshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Health & Adult Care said: "We have supported North Herts Sanctuary for some years, and welcome this partnership working. The outcomes from this will further improve the support and services delivered to people, and we look forward to building on the positive relationships we have with the Sanctuary in the future. We welcome the knowledge and experiences that St.Mungos bring, and know they are keen to share their expertise."

ENDS

For more information contact Judith Higgin, St Mungo's, on 020 8762 5645 or email Judith.higgin@mungos.org or Karen Dean, North Herts Sanctuary on 07805 515771, email kdean2002@hotmail.com

- North Herts Sanctuary is a registered charity, acting as a hostel for single homeless people since 1992. Based in Hitchin, it is open seven nights a week, providing shelter and targeted support for people in need to help them gain the skills and resources to achieve independent living. For more information, see www.northhertssanctuary.org.uk (reg charity no: 107610).
- St Mungo's runs over 100 projects across London and the South, providing accommodation and much more for over 1,700 people every night of the year. From emergency support off the streets to semi-independent housing and move on guidance, employment opportunities, training and health support, the charity helps thousands of people to make permanent life changes every year. www.mungos.org