



Nov 29

## BCHA celebrates homes purchase in Devon and Dorset

**South West social housing provider BCHA has underlined its ongoing commitment to developing and growing its housing stock and services with the purchase of around 90 homes in Devon and Dorset from Sovereign Housing Association.**

Working in partnership with Sovereign Housing Association, BCHA successfully took ownership on 20 November 2017.

Earlier this year BCHA was able to secure additional capital funding of £10.5m towards its new housing development and investment plans over the next couple of years. Further facilities are being arranged to enable BCHA to deliver at least 50 units a year into ownership as part of its 5-year plan.

BCHA, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary next year, provides both housing and support to help people access the right housing, health, learning and work opportunities. It currently has a range of just under 2,000 homes across the South and South West.

Stacey Northover, BCHA's Assistant Director of Housing and Customer Experience, said: "We are delighted to welcome new customers to BCHA and believe that this acquisition will allow for a more joined-up and streamlined service and continue our vision of building better lives, better homes and better communities.

Helen Hann, Divisional Director South, Sovereign, said: "We're committed to providing good quality, affordable homes for people in housing need, and our merger with Spectrum Housing Group last year offered us the scale and resilience to make sure that we can continue to meet our long-term commitments to residents and communities, as well as developing even stronger local relationships."

"During our merger, we reviewed our geography to make sure that we can work effectively and efficiently across such a large area. In some cases, we realised that selling or swapping some of our homes with another housing association would mean a more local, improved service for residents. In this particular case, we felt that BCHA, who are a specialist housing and support provider, would be better placed to continue meeting the needs of the residents living in the properties that were transferred."

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