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JOHN EDWARDS CARE HOMES ADDS A SECOND HOME WITH HSBC SUPPORT

John Edwards Care Homes, founded by two care experts with over 20 years' experience in the sector, has opened its second Wiltshire home after securing funding from HSBC's Wiltshire Commercial team.

Dawn Johnson and Tracey Edwards have opened the Bows home in Trowbridge to care for adults with severe learning difficulties. The new property complements the home they launched in Swindon in 2011, named Buttons, which cares for children and young adults.

The pair founded the business in 2011 after care for children and young adults with severe learning disabilities and life-limiting illnesses was reduced in the Swindon and Wiltshire area. They had previously worked for Wiltshire Council, managing a care home for the authority, and have worked together for over 20 years.

Bows, which currently has two residents and employs seven members of staff, consists of five permanent beds and cares for people in the 18-65 age group. Dawn and Tracey launched the home one year ahead of plan to offer the residents of the Buttons home, which also boasts five beds and has 15 members of staff, care once they reach adulthood.

The pair secured a £231,000 funding package from HSBC to purchase the Bows home, whilst the bank also helped fund the original Buttons property acquisition. HSBC Commercial Manager Mark Bird has worked with Dawn and Tracey on both purchases and has supported the company since its inception.

John Edwards Care Homes Co-founder Dawn Johnson said: "Tracey and I have worked in this field together for a number of years and we have always shared the same values and passion for top quality care. It was important for us to be able to

offer whole of life care for our residents and that is why we strived to open the second home. Our Buttons home has been rated as Outstanding by Ofsted, which is the highest ranking, whilst our Bows home also met with all of the regulation for the Care Quality Commission to Register the home prior to opening in February.”

She added: “We have talked about launching our own business for a number of years but saw the opportunity when the number of beds started being cut in the county. Our aim is to not have a child from Wiltshire having to leave the county to receive care and HSBC’s support has been vital. Mark recognised the passion we have and worked with us to arrange funding to support the business.”

Paul Maddison, HSBC Wiltshire Area Commercial Director, added: “Dawn and Tracey are providing an important and valued service to the community, offering permanent homes to children with severe learning difficulties, but also temporary care to enable families to have a short break from the pressures and strains of providing care at home. We are genuinely delighted to have been able to support this company’s growth.”

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