



## PRESS RELEASE

### IT'S A WIN FOR ST LEGER HOMES

- Two-star rating awarded to company
- Confirms significant service improvements
- Major investment in Doncaster homes
- Access to around £300 million
- Significant boost for local economy

St Leger Homes of Doncaster has been awarded a two-star rating by the Audit Commission following their recent inspection of the company. The rating means that the Commission considers that St Leger Homes provides a good service.

The Commission also rated the company on its prospects for service improvement and they were said to be promising.

In its report the Audit Commission says St Leger Homes: “demonstrates improving service for key services. It is a high performer when compared to organisations providing similar services.”

With the company receiving a two-star rating it means that Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council (DMBC) will have access to around £300m over the coming years to invest in its housing stock.

The money is essential to enable the company to meet the Decent Homes Standard for the properties it manages for DMBC.

Martin Musgrave, chief executive of St Leger Homes said: “This is great news. It provides a tremendous opportunity for improving the homes of our customers, developing our business and delivering a significant boost for the local economy.”

“I am very pleased that the Audit Commission has recognised the progress we have made since we were created by the Council in October 2005.

“The two-star rating confirms that we have achieved significant service improvements for our customers over the last 20 months and that we are on the right track to deliver further improvement.

“This result,” said Mr Musgrave, “is a credit to everyone associated with St Leger Homes – its customers, employees, suppliers, the Council and other partners. We now have the challenge of turning our plans into reality.”

St Leger Homes manages nearly 22,000 properties for DMBC and it has been conducting external and internal surveys of properties to identify the work that is required. The first stage of the work will commence in July 2007.

The vast majority of homes will have some work carried out during the period July 2007 to March 2008.

Work will include the installation of new doors and windows; repairs to roofs and guttering; an environmental programme including fences, walls and off street parking, and a range of internal work including the fitting of new kitchens and bathrooms, central heating and rewiring.

Full details of the company’s investment plans will be published on its website - [www.stlegerhomes.co.uk](http://www.stlegerhomes.co.uk) - and further information will be sent to those customers who will have work undertaken at their homes over the next few months.

ENDS

Notes to Editors:

- For further information please contact the communications team at St Leger Homes of Doncaster on 01302 862732.
- The Audit Commission report is available on the St Leger Homes of Doncaster website.