

For Release

22 February 2011

### **Warmer healthier homes for families at Avenues**

Families on the Avenues estate in Brownhills, part of the WATMOS Community Homes Group, have significantly reduced their heating bills by undertaking thermal efficiency measures in their homes.

In partnership with Burrows Home Comfort, external wall insulation and new 'A' rated boiler central heating systems have been installed in over 120 properties.



“These measures not only improve the thermal efficiency of the properties; which will reduce heating bills, carbon footprint and help the environment, they have also created warmer, brighter and healthier homes for residents to live and raise their children” stated Darrius Burrows, from Burrows Home Comfort.

£62,162 of funding from Solutions 4 Energy CERT funding grant (Carbon Emissions Reduction Target) has helped deliver this project to the Avenues estate, where residents will reap many benefits not only lower energy bills. Families will experience an improvement in their living conditions and comfort as the improved insulation levels lead to a reduction in heat loss in the winter and will reduce overheating of their homes in the summer. The improvements will eliminate internal condensation on walls as well as problems of damp and mould growth. Homes will have an extended building life, estimated at up to 30 years and residents will see an improvement in the appearance of their homes immediately due to the decorative finishes that have been used.

Estate manager, Joan Hawes said; “Tenants are really happy with the work being done on their houses and are reporting drastic reductions in their gas bills; so as well as the houses looking really smart, they are environmentally friendly and cost effective. This has been a real success story!”

The programme is due to complete in April 2011.