

Press Release: March 2019

HAMPSHIRE CHARITY WINS AWARDS FOR ACCOMMODATION



Local Charity St John's Winchester has won two top accolades at the Elderly Accommodation Counsel (EAC) Awards 2019.

St Mary Magdalen almshouses in Colebrook Street and **the almshouses of St John's South**, the Broadway, have both been awarded a Bronze prize for the South East category. More than 25,000 retirement housing schemes or developments applied this year nationwide, with St John's winning two out of the 300 awards available.

The EAC Awards, now in their 8th year, celebrate the best specialist housing for older people and aim to help shape the future of housing in later life. The awards seek to engage with some 19,000 residents, staff, volunteers and members of the public who were invited to vote for their favourite scheme.

John Galvin, EAC's Chief Executive, explained the importance of the awards: "Specialist housing for older people plays an enormously significant role in helping them stay independent for longer. The security, support and great communities have a positive impact on individuals and reduce the need for NHS services."

Clive Cook, Chief Executive of St John's Winchester, said: "It's an honour to have been nominated and recognised for the second year running. The charity provides social housing (in the form of almshouse accommodation) to approximately 100 local older people, and we are proud of the quality of support and care that we give. Thank you to all who took the time to vote for us."

The EAC Awards are celebrated at The Sheridan Suite, Manchester on 21st May 2019.

Ends.

For more information please contact Kirstie Green, kirstie.green@stjohnswinchester.co.uk or Clive Cook, Chief Executive, clive.cook@stjohnswinchester.co.uk or 01962 854226.

Notes for the Editor

About St John's Winchester

St John's Winchester is one of the country's oldest charities with over nine centuries of history and years of experience supporting older people of limited means. Its almshouse community offers supported independent living in a friendly, social setting, and its specialist nursing home (Moorside) delivers expert care for people living with dementia. With a rich history, but a thoroughly modern outlook, the charity provides care and support to around 150 older people in and around Winchester who choose to make St John's their home. It also delivers wider community support to local older people through its new wellbeing initiative, St John's Hand in Hand.

About EAC

Elderly Accommodation Counsel (EAC) is a national charity that helps older people meet their current and anticipated housing and support needs. Its popular website HousingCare.org is visited each day by some 17,000 people, and profiles all retirement housing schemes and care homes in the UK.