

**EMBARGOED UNTIL Mon 10th October 2016 08:00 hrs**

### **Ordinary People Extra Ordinary Lives Exhibition arrives at the Palace of Westminster**

Later today a group of tenants and residents from across England will be attending the formal opening of the 'Ordinary People: Extraordinary Lives' photography exhibition at the Palace of Westminster.

Hosted by Lady Victoria Borwick, the National Federation of ALMOs (NFA) exhibition celebrates the lives of tenants and residents living within social housing. Each person featured within the exhibition makes a really positive and meaningful contribution within their neighbourhoods and communities, and each has an extraordinary story to share.

Challenging the unpleasant and sensationalist stereotyping of social housing tenants portrayed by some media in recent years the NFA launched its portrait photography competition to tell our tenants stories. The exhibition, initially sponsored by Resource, shows that even in what may seem like the most ordinary of streets, in the most unassuming of houses, the most inspirational of stories can be found.

Sue Roberts MBE, NFA Tenant Board Member added:

*'We are absolutely delighted to be invited to exhibit our photographs at the Palace of Westminster and share our stories. We know we are not going to be able to change perceptions overnight but we are making a start. Tenants are good, decent people, with hopes and aspirations for themselves and their families. Sharing these stories through photography is the inspiration for this exhibition.'*

At the opening event tenants Peter Nugent from Brent Housing Partnership, and Alvine Dongmu-Noumey, Wolverhampton Homes, will be sharing their stories with MPs and Peers. Each of the tenants attending will also have the opportunity to chat to their own constituency MP about their experiences of living within social housing.

The exhibition will open Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016 and will remain on show at the Palace of Westminster until Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

**END**

**Notes:**

Ordinary People Extra Ordinary Lives: The exhibition brochure can be downloaded here:  
<http://www.almos.org.uk/include/getDoc.php?did=7467&fid=8694>

Tenants from the following ALMOs will be attending the launch event:

- Berneslai Homes
- Brent Housing Partnership
- East Kent Housing
- Lewisham Homes
- Six Town Housing
- South Essex Homes
- Stockport Homes
- Wigan and Leigh Homes

**NFA -The National Federation of ALMOs** [www.almos.org.uk](http://www.almos.org.uk)

There are 37 ALMOs (arm's length management organisations) across England managing 501,885 council homes across 40 local authorities.

**CONTACT**

NFA:

Email: [Joanne.Kent-Smith@almos.org.uk](mailto:Joanne.Kent-Smith@almos.org.uk)

Communications and Relationship Manager

Tel: 02476851729 or 079444458294

@NFA\_ALMOs