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**News Release from**

Stockport Homes

1 St. Peter's Square

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**Ordinary People Extra Ordinary Lives**

Later today a group of tenants and residents from across England will be attending the formal opening of the '*Ordinarily People: Extraordinary Lives*' photography exhibition at the Palace of Westminster – representing Stockport are John and Lillian Goldstraw of Woodley.

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.

John and Lillian were chosen to represent Stockport Homes, for their dedication and commitment to generate community spirit. The couple following a recent house move wanted to meet the neighbours and feel part of the community, organised and hosted a garden party to meet everyone.

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.'*

Verity Calderbank, Marketing and Communications Manager at Stockport Homes said, "I have had the pleasure of meeting Lillian and John and they are inspirational – their commitment to community spirit is remarkable and the photograph truly captures their spirit."

**ENDS**

### **Photo – Lillian and John Goldstraw at their garden party**

#### **Notes for Editor:**

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.

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.

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