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## ■ IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Sutton Housing Partnership Awarded Prestigious Health and Safety Management Award**

Sutton Housing Partnership has won a prestigious Sword of Honour from the British Safety Council.

In a ceremony SHP was awarded the Sword of Honour from Mike Robinson, Chief Executive of the British Safety Council, at Drapers' Hall on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

SHP was one of 64 organisations worldwide that achieved a Sword of Honour, which is awarded to companies which have demonstrated excellence in the management of health and safety risks at work.

In order to compete for the Sword of Honour, an organisation first had to achieve the maximum five stars in the British Safety Council's health and safety management audit scheme in the period August 2015 – July 2016. They then have to demonstrate to an independent panel of experts that they are excellent in their health and safety management throughout the business.

#### **Jerry Austin, Executive Director of Property at SHP, said:**

“We are delighted that we have been awarded the prestigious Sword of Honour for the fourth consecutive year. At SHP, health and safety is our number one priority and a theme that is embedded in all our activities. Our culture is founded on keeping staff and residents safe and we aim to ensure that our robust management systems are under constant review and development and that performance in key service areas is regularly audited.

The British Safety Council 5 Star audit and focus of the Sword of Honour application enables SHP to clearly identify areas where improvements are required and to demonstrate how this will be achieved.

It is our belief that with careful planning and a desire to succeed we can continue to improve the services we provide and the contribution we make to meeting the housing needs and aspirations of the residents of Sutton, staff and other stakeholders in all areas including health and safety.”

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## **Mike Robinson, Chief Executive of the British Safety Council, said:**

“On behalf of the trustees and staff of the British Safety Council, I would like to congratulate those winning organisations and their staff for their huge commitment to keeping their workplaces safe and healthy and minimising risks to the environment from their organisations’ day-to-day activities.

All of the Sword and Globe winning organisations share a commitment and resolve to achieve the highest standards of health, safety or environmental management. We are delighted that they are partners in helping achieve our vision that no one should be injured or made ill at work.”

**-Ends-**

## **Notes for Editors**

- For more information please contact Philippa Somerset on 020 8915 2364 or email [philippa.somerset@suttonhousingpartnership.org.uk](mailto:philippa.somerset@suttonhousingpartnership.org.uk)
- SHP achieved the maximum five stars in the British Safety Council’s independent Five Star health and safety management audits in the period 1 August 2015 – 31 July 2016. SHP also demonstrated to an independent adjudication panel that they had a proven track record and culture of best practice for excellence in health and safety that runs throughout the business.
- For more than half a century the British Safety Council has been a trusted guide to excellent health, safety and environmental management. They have educated millions of workers and made hundreds of thousands of workplaces safer for everyone. They do this by sharing information, supporting, advising, educating and campaigning. The British Safety Council is a membership organisation and a charity.
- The 2016 awards mark the 37th consecutive year that the British Safety Council has awarded the Sword of Honour for health and safety management excellence and the seventh year of awarding the Globe of Honour for excellence in environmental management.
- SHP is celebrating 10 years as an ALMO (Arms Length Management Organisation) and award winning housing provider. SHP delivers housing services on behalf of the London Borough of Sutton, managing nearly 8,000 tenanted and leasehold homes in Sutton providing a wide range of housing and management services for residents. This includes day to day repairs, major works projects,

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cleaning and grounds maintenance, management of sheltered housing and supporting community development.

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