improving living in scotland



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HOUSING MINISTER VISITS AWARD-WINNING DEVELOPMENT SITE

Following through her commitment of last week to work closely with the house building industry to improve the supply of new homes in Scotland, Minister for Communities Margaret Curran MSP visited the award-winning* Bryant Homes development at Beechwood Grove, Livingston and the offices of Taylor Woodrow Developments, Livingston on Wednesday, 14 July 2004.

She was met by David Knight, Chairman of industry body Homes for Scotland and Regional Managing Director of Taylor Woodrow Developments (the builders of Bryant Homes). David

said:

"I am delighted that the Minister is visiting us today. The house building industry wants to play a full part in meeting the urgent need for more new homes in Scotland. Everyone is aware that there are problems in providing affordable homes and in meeting the needs of the low cost ownership market but these cannot be looked at in isolation from the mainstream new build

market.

The Minister has emphasised to me that she is keen to know more about how the industry operates and the obstacles that it faces in the planning and building of new homes. I welcome this open approach and the industry, for its part, is happy to be engaged in full dialogue with the

Minister and her officials."

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Photo caption: Minister for Communities Margaret Curran MSP with David Knight, Chairman of house building industry body Homes for Scotland on site at Beechwood Grove, a Bryant Homes private housing development in Livingston.

For further information or more images, please contact Jennifer Kennedy, Policy and Information Officer on: 0131 243 2595 or email: <u>j.kennedy@homesforscotland.com</u>

Notes to editors:

*NHBC Pride in the Job Award (awarded to Taylor Woodrow's Andy Gillespie as manager of one of the top 30 sites in Scotland).

Homes for Scotland (www.homesforscotland.com) is the representative membership body for the home building and residential development industry in Scotland. Its member companies provide over 90% all new homes in Scotland. The largest user of the planning system in Scotland, the industry also contributes more than £3.5 billion to the economy and employs more than 110,000 people.