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Ambitious Charity Unveils Progress of Innovative New Housing

THE CONSTRUCTION of six pioneering homes set to transform the lives of those with disabilities is well underway in Dundee.

Designed and created by Blackwood, one of Scotland's leading housing and care providers, the hugely innovative houses will set a new standard of accessibility by combining technology, modern construction and engagement to meet customers' changing needs.

Since it built its first home in Dundee in 1972, Blackwood has endeavored to be a pioneer in accessible housing. Today, the Blackwood vision is to be able to offer beautiful, accessible and affordable homes.

The development comes as part of Blackwood's five year Business Plan and is set to be completed by May 2017. Along with its newest office in Tayside, the care provider's main focus is to grow its Care at Home business using its own branded smart technology to help those with disabilities live their lives to the full.

Fanchea Kelly, Chief Executive at Blackwood, said: "We always strive to be at the forefront of the latest innovations and technologies, and building these accessible and affordable homes in Dundee will allow us to continue to improve and enhance the lives of those we work with.

"We're delighted to see the progress that is being made on site. The development is well underway and it's fantastic to see it already starting to take shape exactly as we had envisioned it.

"People are at the heart of what we do, and it's only with the dedication of our own team that we can deliver value and quality to our customers – so having the opportunity to create these beautiful homes to further help those living with disabilities is particularly exciting for us.

"We very much pride ourselves on being at the forefront of the housing and care sector, but to remain there it's vital that we continue to grow and develop in order to listen to the ever evolving needs of our service-users and help shape our future."

Since it was launched 40 years ago, Blackwood has built an impressive reputation for its expertise in adapting properties to let people with disabilities, sensory impairments and age-related conditions to live as independently as possible.

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Established by Dr Margaret Blackwood in 1972, Blackwood now has 450 staff and manages 1600 properties across Scotland and full details of its services are at www.blackwoodgroup.org.uk.

Blackwood is a registered charity, with its headquarters in Edinburgh, though it operates in 29 of Scotland's 32 local authority areas, making it one of the country's most widely dispersed care and housing experts.

Its new five year business strategy has seen it set aside £13.9m for housing investment, £2.3m for staffing needs and also funded an extra £1.2m into its care provision. It also has plans to ensure affordable rents for all service users while increasing tenant satisfaction in line with the Scottish Social Housing Charter.

Issued on behalf of Blackwood by Holyrood PR. Further information on 0131 561 2244 or info@holyroodpr.co.uk