

Housing 2013: conference success reinforces VPS' commitment to social housing

Submitted by: Perfectly Picked

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- Record number of visitors to VPS stand
- Largest UK-dedicated team focused on preparing empty homes for re-letting
- VPS opens six more 'clear and clean' service centres this year

VPS (<http://www.vspecialists.co.uk>), the largest vacant property specialist in the UK and Europe, have welcomed record visitors to their stand at the Chartered Institute of Housing's (<http://www.cihhousing.com>) conference in Manchester this week. This follows their announcement that they have opened up six more service centres (<http://www.sourcewire.com/news/78311/housing-2013-vps-it-s-all-about-delivery->) across the UK, to further increase the reach for their 'clear and clean' services for the social housing sector.

"We are committed to supporting local authorities and housing associations to meet the challenging new landscapes they face in social housing this year. It's not just by providing an extensive reach across Scotland, England, Wales and Ireland, where we now have over 30 service centres, but also by delivering a fully integrated range of services backed by our largest ever UK-dedicated team." says Anthony Owen, VPS' Director for Public Sector and Social Housing.

"As well as our 'clear and clean' operations, which can include specialist deep cleans, needle sweeps and the safe removal of hazardous and combustible materials when required, we also provide excellent security and monitoring solutions for both vacant properties and construction or development sites, together with maintenance options for the surrounding environment" Anthony added. "We specialise in taking care of empty properties, looking after these assets and ultimately helping ensure they are re-let or developed as soon as possible. Our focus is on delivering the best specialist vacant property services that can be provided."

VPS Marketing Manager Natasha Estrin says 'This year we not only had record numbers visit us on our stand, but we were using the opportunity to find out what customers thought of some new products and services. For example, we showed them some decals designed to fit over steel screens and an empty property look more attractive. The response has been great!'

"CIH Housing 2013 has demonstrated that bringing housing stakeholders together in one place can really help develop the exchange of ideas and promote best practice. It is such a useful meeting point for thought leaders, innovators and customers." Ms Estrin added.

Last year VPS helped to clean, clear, maintain and prepare almost 20,000 homes in the public and social housing sectors. During the CIH Housing week, over 400 homes prepared by VPS will have welcomed new tenants.

Visitors to the VPS stand F32, can win £100 of Amazon vouchers. Special codes, from emails sent out in

advance or from the cards available at the stand, can be entered into the stand's VPS LockBox, a new solution to the problem of key management, providing a safe and secure way of allowing property access to authorised individuals. Two winners have so far found the lucky codes, and a third is expected today.

VPS secure more than 90,000 properties and employ over 1500 staff in 100 locations across the UK, the US and mainland Europe. Their core services for vacant properties range from risk assessment, clearing, cleaning and maintenance, through to security, monitoring and preparation for re-letting or sale. These services protect properties against unauthorised access and a variety of hazards such as arson, theft and squatting.

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