



# Press Release

Monday 2 January 2007

## Mayday Trust announces new Chief Executive

Local registered charity, Mayday Trust, is pleased to announce the appointment of Caroline Ward to the post of Chief Executive. Caroline will take up her new position on Monday 29 January 2007.

Caroline joins Mayday from the post of Head of New Business Development for the Centrex Training Centre in Ryton upon Dunsmore where she had responsibilities for Human Resources, Finance, Training and Business Support which included a major restructuring of the training organisation. Prior to that Caroline held senior posts with Alliance & Leicester and British Gas in Procurement and Contract Management.

Miss Ward was appointed from an unprecedented number of applicants. The advertisement generated 110 enquiries and 74 full applications with three rounds of interviews needed to make the final decision.

Caroline was born and bred in Coventry, where her parents still live, and was educated at Whitley Abbey Comprehensive and Coventry University where she gained her Degree in Business Administration.

Caroline said: **"I am absolutely delighted to have been appointed as Chief Executive of Mayday Trust and I am really looking forward to getting to know, and working with, Mayday's Trustees, staff and residents."**

**Mayday Trust** provides temporary supported accommodation and life-skills training for vulnerable adults. Mayday was established as a Charity in 1979 and now runs nine Projects across Warwickshire, Northamptonshire and Bedfordshire. Last year Mayday supported over 500 people to achieve greater independence.

Chris Holman, Chairman of Trustees, said: "I believe that there is every reason for confidence that Mayday will go from strength to strength. Mayday has a proud history. **Mayday has done wonderful things for a lot of people and I am sure it will continue doing wonderful things for even more people.** The future will be an exciting journey but not without its challenges. **The Board of Trustees is looking forward to working with Caroline to turn the challenges into opportunities for the benefit of all our existing and future residents, our staff, our partners and the Trust as a whole.**"

Mr Holman added: "This has not been the easiest of years for Mayday with a number of staff changes and I want to thank all the staff and Trustees for their help, support and continued commitment to Mayday and the people we are in business to help.

"Mayday will be exploring the opportunities for growth within the three counties in which we operate. In some areas Mayday helps residents with specific problems and perhaps these schemes can be replicated elsewhere. Any growth will either be within Mayday or through co-operation or partnership with other organisations. We will also review our structure and organisation with Caroline to ensure that our management and operations are fit for a larger role. But in any reorganisation the primary considerations must always be to maintain the Mayday ethos and to focus on the outcomes for our residents. If we lose sight of those two things we will no longer be Mayday."

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