



## PRESS RELEASE

October 2009

### Hampshire Credit Union to open a satellite branch in the Rushmoor area

First Wessex is delighted to announce that the Hampshire Credit Union is to open a new satellite branch in the Rushmoor area on 12<sup>th</sup> October.

The Credit Union will offer safe and ethical banking on a non-for-profit basis. They are set up for people living or working in Hampshire and are financial co-operatives owned and controlled by their members.

They have an obligation to lend responsibly, only providing loans that are likely to improve the member's situation and helping them keep control of their finances. Some of the services offered are Savings schemes including: Christmas Club and Junior Savers, Child Trust fund, Affordable loans, ISA's and Current Accounts.

Savers and Borrowers will soon be able to take advantage of a new Credit union, that will be based at the Princes Gardens Aldershot; initially every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 12.30pm-4.30pm for three weeks and thereafter every Thursday 12.30-4.30pm.

First Wessex with the support of Rushmoor Borough Council are the driving force behind the Hampshire Credit Union providing their services to the people of Rushmoor and Nicky Barham manager of their Bordon office is helping to implement the Satellite branch in Rushmoor and looking forward to bringing their services to the local community.

Matt Smith, Community Regeneration Manager for First Wessex said ' The introduction of the Credit Union will hopefully appeal to a wide range of people. From those who need loans and have struggled to get them, from high street lenders to people who want a good return on their savings. The Credit Union offers a number of different accounts to suit a variety of needs. One of the main aims of this new service is to discourage people from borrowing money from door step lenders and paying huge interest rates'.

For more details please contact 01420 488977 or [www.hampshirecreditunion.co.uk](http://www.hampshirecreditunion.co.uk)

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## Notes to editors

For more information please contact:

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First Wessex Housing Group manages around 17,000 affordable homes primarily in Hampshire and with some activity in Surrey.

The group comprises Atlantic Housing Limited, First Atlantic Housing, Pavilion Housing Association, Portsmouth Housing Association, Fernhill Care Limited and Wessex Property Limited.