

## Media Release

### **The Lord Mayor attends ribbon-cutting ceremony at local brain injury centre ‘lift launch’**

4 July 2022

Headway Birmingham & Solihull was delighted to welcome the new Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Councillor Maureen Cornish JP, at a ‘lift launch’ event at its Wylde Green brain injury hub earlier today (Monday 4 July).

The hub, known as Sutton House, opened in September 2019, complementing the charity’s original brain injury centre in Moseley (Headway House in the grounds of Moseley Hall Hospital) and its second centre and Head Office in the south of the city (Leighton House in Rednal). This latest centre will ensure the local brain injury charity has the extra capacity needed for the future and can expand the range of service it offers to those with brain injury, as well as reaching people in the north of Birmingham.

Plans to install the lift at Sutton House were delayed when the new centre was forced to close its doors temporarily during COVID, but the work got underway at the start of the year and was completed last month, with RJ Lift Services supplying and fitting the Cibes platform lift and PRNS Building Services completing the associated building work.

The installation of the lift was only possible with support from the owners, Relynk Ltd, and those who contributed so generously to its funding. This included several local trusts as well as charity Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust who kindly awarded a grant of £10,000 towards this vital project.

David Chater, Chair of the Trustees at Headway Birmingham & Solihull, thanked everyone who supported the installation of the lift, saying: “My sincere thanks also go to The Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Councillor Maureen Cornish JP, who attended our ‘lift launch’ event and performed the honours at a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of the project. We really appreciate her taking time out of her busy schedule to support us in this way.”

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He confirmed that The Lord Mayor of Birmingham's Charity had also awarded a grant to help Headway reach their fundraising target for the lift installation.

He added: "The installation of the lift really is a milestone occasion for us, as the lift will link the two floors of the centre, transforming how we use the space available. It will also make the building fully disability compliant, an important factor when so many of our clients have mobility issues linked to their brain injuries."

The Sutton House centre is located along Birmingham Road in Wylde Green, Sutton Coldfield, in premises formerly used by a bank, and this high street location is not only helping boost the local economy, but is also raising greater awareness of brain injury and Headway's local services.

With the installation of the lift complete, the charity intends to use the second floor of the centre to extend the range of specialist brain injury services offered, including a new therapy suite.

For more information on Headway Birmingham & Solihull & its local brain injury services, visit [www.headway-bs.org.uk](http://www.headway-bs.org.uk), email [enquiries@headway-bs.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@headway-bs.org.uk) or call **0121 457 7541**.

## Ends

### Photo Captions:

Photo 1: *The Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Cllr Maureen Cornish JP, with Headway's Chair, David Chater, at the 'lift launch' ceremony*

Photo 2: *The Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Cllr Maureen Cornish JP, chats with clients Chris Hawker & Theresa Barnes at Headway's Sutton House brain injury hub*

Photo 3: *The new lift, prior to the ribbon cutting ceremony!*

Photo 4: *The Lord Mayor cuts the ribbon to mark the completion of the new lift!*

### For more information

Contact Julie Wedgbury in the Fundraising department at Headway Birmingham & Solihull at [julie.wedgbury@headway-bs.org.uk](mailto:julie.wedgbury@headway-bs.org.uk) or 0121 457 7541.

### About Headway Birmingham & Solihull

Headway Birmingham & Solihull is a registered charity helping to improve the lives of those affected by brain injury in the local area. Its aim is to promote greater understanding of all aspects of brain injury and provide information, support and services to the person with the acquired brain injury as well as their family and carers. For full information, visit [www.headway-bs.org.uk](http://www.headway-bs.org.uk).