



**News Release**

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## **MORRIS AND SPOTTISWOOD SECURES £13M SOCIAL HOUSING WIN**

Morris and Spottiswood, the leading provider of new build, refurbishment and maintenance services to the social housing sector, which has its regional head office in Warrington, has strengthened its credentials with a significant £13 million contract win from North Lanarkshire Council.

The deal involves kitchen renewals and rewiring to around 600 homes a year over the next five years.

Chris Saxton, Warrington-based managing director of Morris and Spottiswood's fit out division, said the fact that Morris and Spottiswood uses its own in-house tradesmen, including plumbers and electricians is key to the quality and speed of service it can deliver for social housing refurbishment and repairs.

"I think it's very important that our trades are in-house, because a big part of this contract will be electrical rewires to the kitchen and to the rest of the house where required," he explained. "By using our own in-house mechanical and electrical department, it means we're controlling the standards and we're controlling the products. You've not got this scenario where subcontractors don't turn up and the job doesn't get done. At the end of the day it's down to us."

Morris and Spottiswood's Warrington office is at Daten Park, Leacroft Road, Birchwood, Warrington.

North Lanarkshire Council is Morris and Spottiswood's second largest client in the social housing sector, where all council and housing association homes must meet decent homes standards. A decent home is defined as being warm, weatherproof and having modern facilities.

Morris and Spottiswood has already upgraded about 6,000 former council houses for Glasgow Housing Association with roofing, roughcast, doors and windows and last year won a contract from North Ayrshire Council to renew the roofing and render on about 40 council homes.

Chris Saxton said that successful delivery of good planning, experience and effective management skills is allowing the company to minimise disruption for tenants and maximise value for the client for example, by upgrading a block of four flats in less than a month, a positive reduction on the original six-week programme period. This includes applying scaffolding, re-roofing, insulated render systems, new satellite TV systems, oversills, guttering, downpipes and associated plumbing.

"Obviously as an organisation we're delighted to have had this award," Chris Saxton said of the North Lanarkshire contract. "It's something we've been working hard to achieve over the last 12 to 24 months and to have had this success really is another feather in our cap. It is an integral part of our strategic aim of building our business in the social housing sector."

Morris and Spottiswood employs 600 staff and has annual sales of around £130 million.

### **Ends**

**Photo:** Chris Saxton, managing director of fit out at Morris and Spottiswood.

***Editor's note:*** *Morris and Spottiswood is a leading provider of fit out and maintenance services to the retail, banking, commercial, education and healthcare sectors across North West England and Scotland. Established in 1925, the company is Britain's third largest shopfitter. Morris and Spottiswood is also a leading regional provider of new build, fit out, refurbishment and maintenance services to the social housing sector. The company has a growing portfolio of social housing projects arising from partnering agreements with local housing organisations throughout Scotland.*

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