



For immediate release

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SHAPPS SUPPORT FOR AN EXCHANGE-READY HIP WELCOMED

Ashley King, Managing Director of Simply HIP, comments on Shadow Housing Minister, Grant Shapps' support for exchange-ready packs:

"Grant Shapps' comments in support of exchange-ready packs are a welcome step in the right direction and shows he sees the value in providing homebuyers with upfront information.

"Although Home Information Packs may not be the perfect solution to a slow and inefficient home buying process, they have been a vital component in instigating change in the industry and have paved the way for the exchange-ready pack. We have been offering this enhanced HIP for over six months now and have seen some very positive results, with the time taken from offer accepted to exchange now averaging 25 days compared to 80 days* without an exchange ready pack.

"In Shapps' own constituency the exchange-ready pack is being welcomed by consumers and agents alike. Last week, one vendor in Welwyn Hatfield saw the usual lengthy conveyancing time slashed to 24 days, thanks to an exchange-ready pack being in place. I am pleased Grant Shapps supports estate agents working with Exchange-Ready Packs to improve the home buying process."

*Government figures published in 2007

ENDS

Simply HIP comment is in response to an interview in The Negotiator, 8th May 2009:

<http://www.negotiator-magazine.co.uk/article/shapps-casts-doubt-on-agency-licensing-615>

Notes to Editors

Simply HIP is widely recognised as one of the leading HIP providers in England & Wales and is the sister company of Simply Conveyancing (formed in 2000 to offer independent estate agents a comprehensive conveyancing and search service as a forerunner to HIPs). The company has worked with a wide variety of clients including Your Move, Friends Provident,

Halifax, Bank of Scotland, Intelligent Finance, Birmingham Midshires and hundreds of independent agents across the UK.

For further information, contact:

Claire Hendry The Wriglesworth Consultancy	020 7427 1407 c.hendry@wriglesworth.com
Louise Marshall The Wriglesworth Consultancy	020 7427 1422 l.marshall@wriglesworth.com