



PRESS RELEASE

9th January 2013

**NEWS RELEASE: ISSUED ON BEHALF OF GMB UNION AND ROSEBERRY CARE GROUP
EMPLOYER AND UNION EXPRESS DELIGHT AT SIGNING A JOINT AGREEMENT**

The North East's biggest general trade union has today reacted to the news that negotiations leading to the signing of a national recognition agreement and memorandum of understanding have been completed.

The GMB Union has been in discussions with Roseberry Care, which owns 19 Care Centres nationally, to seek recognition for representation and bargaining purposes. An agreement has now been signed giving recognition to the GMB in Roseberry.

Roseberry and the GMB have both committed themselves to joint working on a range of issues that cover terms and conditions, training, as well as important matters relating to campaigning and funding within the social care sector.

Speaking after the signing ceremony Billy Coates, Senior Organiser, GMB Northern Region said: "Roseberry Care have a significant presence in the North East and other Regions in providing social care to young, elderly and vulnerable people. It is clear to the GMB, that Roseberry Care have a strong commitment to high quality care for residents and their families as well as trying to employ excellence in terms and conditions for their workforce.

"We are delighted to be working with Roseberry Care to help develop matters on a number of fronts. The sector is under tremendous pressure from budgetary and fee constraints and a lack of a national consensus as to the way forward. We want to play our part in helping that process and build that consensus."

Ron McNamara Chief Executive of Roseberry, said: "Our priority is to deliver an extremely high standard of care to our service users. We can only achieve that by having a well-trained, happy and effective staff group. We are confident that this partnership agreement with the GMB will benefit both the service users, and our staff who we regard as our biggest asset. We look forward to working closely with our GMB colleagues to achieve this.

-ENDS-

CONTACTS

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For Roseberry: Ron McNamara – Chief Executive – 07721745020, Maureen Henderson HR Manager 07889362324

NOTES TO EDITORS

Please see attached photograph of the signing ceremony. From left to right Billy Coates Senior Organiser GMB Northern Region; Ron McNamara Chief Executive of Roseberry.

