



# PRESS RELEASE

28 March 2014

## **New Christchurch Volunteer Centre opened**

A new drop-in Volunteer Centre has been opened in Christchurch by the Mayor of Christchurch, Cllr John Lofts.

The centre has been commissioned by Dorset County Council and Christchurch Borough Council and is being provided by Volunteer Centre Dorset at Christchurch Library. It will be open every Wednesday between 10am and 12 noon.

Representatives from a range of community and voluntary sector organisations attended the launch ceremony which included presentations of certificates to volunteers who passed the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health Level 2 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work course sponsored by the Borough Council.

The Mayor congratulated the volunteers for their support in improving the health and wellbeing of the people of Christchurch and thanked Dorset County Council and Volunteer Centre Dorset for their support in making the Christchurch Centre a reality.

Hedley Harrison, Chairman of Volunteer Centre Dorset, said: "The new service will provide online support, volunteer recruitment and management and a drop-in Disclosure and Barring Service\* facility for local projects and VCSE organisations requiring such checks for their volunteers."

### **Notes to editors**

The Disclosure and Barring Service was previously known as CRB checks. They are checks carried out to ensure that anyone working with children or vulnerable adults are suitable for this work.