

Plans for expansion on track

OVER £2 million has been invested by Reside Care Homes in its second Dorset acquisition as it pursues expansion plans despite tough economic conditions.

The group, which opened its first care home in Stour Road, Christchurch last March, secured £2.35 million of funding from NatWest to purchase Southwood Lodge in Southbourne.

Cheryl Hadland, managing director of Reside Care Homes said: "We started negotiating to secure the funding six months ago.

"We probably would not have got it now with the current climate.

"The plan is to acquire a care home every year. We are keen to bring our specialist care skills and experience to as many



SECOND DORSET ACQUISITION: RBS/NatWest's Martin Cypher (front right) with Reside Care Home's Cheryl Hadland (front left), back, Alan Johnston, John Bailey and Maureen Kent at Southwood Lodge

service users as possible, and the acquisition of Southwood is a significant step towards this aspiration."

Reside Care Group now intends to upgrade the 32-room property and install a lift.

Last year the business

purchased the 20-room Stour Road home in Christchurch for £600,000 and invested a further £300,000 renovating and refurbishing it.

Established in 2006, Reside Care Group is a subsidiary of the Hadland Care Group, which

employs 350 staff and operates 10 Tops Day Nurseries across Dorset and Hampshire as well as Somerset.

Reside Care Homes provides care for people over 65 years of age as well as specialist dementia support.