

Mid Devon District Council is responsible as landlords for providing and maintaining TV aerial systems in a range of accommodation. This consists of communal systems in sheltered housing schemes, together with general purpose accommodation comprising blocks of flats served by communal aerials. Following a survey of this accommodation MDDC decided to provide IRS (integrated systems which allow tenants to choose which digital platform they want to use such as satellite, cable or Freeview). They completed their programme for either replacing or upgrading their systems in time for digital switchover in the region on 6 May 2009.

Digital UK's Assistant Regional Manager in the South West worked with Helen Carty to provide advice and training sessions for MDDC support staff. She also made presentations at meetings of each of their area tenant groups and regularly wrote articles for tenants' newsletters.

As a result of the collaboration with Digital UK, MDDC successfully gained the "Homes Set for Digital" accreditation award set up by Digital UK to encourage social housing providers to meet the challenge of switchover.

Helen Carty says:

"It is really helpful to work with Digital UK's staff in your region. They will provide you with all the information you need, useful advice and practical support such as training for your staff and tenants."

Councillor Ray Stanley, Housing Portfolio Holder says:

"We have worked hard to make sure that all our homes are ready for the digital switchover and that our tenants can choose which digital platform they want to use such as satellite, cable or Freeview".