

## Student Landlord Accreditation Awards – scheme helps Place Group UK Scoop ‘Best Student Landlord’ Award

For the second year running, Place Group UK has been awarded “Best Landlord of the Year for Student Housing” at the LLAS Conference and Awards held in Marble Arch, London. The company attributed their ongoing success in this sector to the support provided by leading student accommodation website, accommodationforstudents.com (AFS) and their AFS/UNIPOL Code of Practice.

Like the LLAS (London Landlord Accreditation Scheme), which was founded to raise standards and recognise good practice in the private rented sector, the AFS/UNIPOL works specifically with student landlords.

Being a member of the AFS/UNIPOL voluntary code, which includes a stringent set of criteria for both properties and property management, enabled Place Group to demonstrate to the LLAS judges the ways in which they create positive experiences for student tenants by ensuring all their properties are of the highest quality and well maintained.

Rob Hunter, Managing Director of Place Group UK commented: “We work hard to deliver a quality service to students and we’re thrilled to have been recognised for our contribution to this sector. However, we wouldn’t have a student housing division if it was not for AFS, and we certainly wouldn’t have won the award twice in a row without the work we did with them to meet the conditions of the AFS/UNIPOL code.”

In support of all landlord accreditation endeavours, AFS sponsored the LLAS Awards. Managing Director, Simon Thompson, attended to present Place Group with their accolade, adding “Many landlords, similar to Place Group UK, like the certainty that a fixed frame of reference gives them in terms of contractual issues, repair timescales, deposit arrangements etc.

Being able to say to tenants ‘we’re operating in accordance with National Code standards’ is helpful in following good practice, which minimises problems and complaints. Coupled with their existing high service levels, Place Group has successfully executed this which is why their communication and customer service is unrivalled and what makes them deserving winners.”

In 2013, a further 502 student properties were submitted for full accreditation to the AFS/UNIPOL Code, bringing today’s total in excess of 3500 accredited properties with a further 250 currently going through the verification process.

“The AFS/UNIPOL Code is rapidly gaining support throughout the industry and students are beginning to request to see only accredited properties. Place UKs success at the LLAS Awards is further testament to the importance and benefit of raising standards” concluded Thompson.

[www.placegroupuk.co.uk](http://www.placegroupuk.co.uk)

[www.accommodationforstudents.com](http://www.accommodationforstudents.com)

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