



PRESS RELEASE – JANUARY 2010

Community Meals a lifeline in arctic conditions

The Meals on Wheels service is a lifeline that not only provides a hot meal each day, but is a safeguard and sometimes a lifeline to vulnerable people. With over a fifth of 65-year olds and over having contact less than once a week with their friends and family, this daily human contact is invaluable.

Delivery is made either by local authority staff, via a voluntary organisation or by a contractor who between them serve in excess of 22 million meals per year.

This service continues 365 days a year and is offered during all weathers. As we all know the past twelve months have seen real weather extremes including gales, floods and snowstorms.

Despite the current cold snap across the country this critical service continues to deliver meals to customers, with drivers often struggling on icy side roads in temperatures of well below zero.

Staff and Volunteers have also covered the whole of the Christmas period delivering Christmas cheer along with their Christmas dinners to the most vulnerable members of society across the UK.

Derek Johnson the National Chair of the NACC (National Association of Care Catering) said today that the staff and volunteers who deliver the 'meals on wheels' are truly unsung heroes. They ensure people receive a meal no matter what the weather throws at them, and maybe the only contact that person has during the day, again highlighting the importance of this critical daily service.

Notes to editors:

For further information please contact: Derek Johnson NACC Chair on 0113 247 8577 or via email at info@thenacc.co.uk