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## Checktrade.com members dig deep with charity fundraising

*Almost £2,500 raised during annual Checktrade.com ball*

Thanks to the generous contributions of fellow members, esteemed **Checktrade.com** decorator Wayne de Wet has donated a whopping **£1,200** to **Cancer Research UK**, with the same amount presented to the **Checktrade Charity Foundation**. This supports a range of aid organisations benefitting children, the homeless and the terminally ill.

Norfolk based Wayne has been instrumental to this Checktrade.com fundraising, which culminated in a vast raffle during the company's annual ball for the second year running. Offering a host of prizes from trade essentials to personalised gifts from Checktrade.com Ambassador Linda Barker, the raffle highlights the big-hearted nature of the company's members, raising **almost £2.5k**. Agreeing to split the funds raised, Wayne and Kevin Byrne, CEO of Checktrade.com each chose a cause close to their hearts to benefit: Cancer Research UK and the Checktrade Charity Foundation.

Kevin is positive: "It is fantastic to see so many of our Checktrade.com members getting behind Cancer Research UK and the Checktrade Charity Foundation. Wayne's fundraising efforts are a testament to him and his commitment to both causes."

Wayne presented the funds to Cancer Research UK earlier this month, accompanied by a Checktrade.com representative and MP Brandon Lewis. Wayne has vowed to continue his charity support, adding a fundraising section to his new business website.

Kevin is also increasing his already broad fundraising efforts, pledging to run 12 marathons in 12 months. Funds will go towards completely rebuilding the changing room facilities of a local school for children with mental disabilities.

He continues: "There are so many people out there who are disadvantaged through no fault of their own. I am in a position where I can make a real difference to the lives of the pupils at Redwood Park School and, along with Checktrade.com members who are kindly donating their time and specialist skills to this rebuild, that is what I intend to do."

### **Notes to editors:**

So far this year 55% of all customer feedback forms have been independently spot checked and verified to make sure the ratings are genuine.

### **Checktrade.com:**

Checktrade helps combat the UK's rogue trader problem by continuously vetting and monitoring local tradespeople such as builders, plumbers and electricians as well as service providers. The idea was born in 1998 after a tornado hit the small West Sussex town of Selsey. Traders poured in from across the country. Unfortunately, some ripped off the inhabitants of the town. Local businessman, Kevin Byrne, realised there was nowhere

to check out the traders' credentials and the company that became Checkatrade was formed.

Since then, Checkatrade has grown to employ **100 staff** with a turnover in excess of **£7m**. It has over **10,000** genuine trade members, growing by an average of **250** new members every month. Over the past 12 months, Checkatrade-certified tradesmen carried out a combined total of **£1.2b** worth of work, with complaints at just **one in 215**, compared to the national average of one in four.

**Linda Barker**, one of the UK's best-known interior designers and famous for shows such as ***60 Minute Makeover*** and the BBC's ***Changing Rooms*** recently teamed up with Checkatrade.com. She said: "Checkatrade.com is by far the best service I've found to help keep the good guys in business and keep the cowboys out. The website is updated constantly and allows everyone to share recommendations and warnings."

For more information visit [www.checkatrade.com](http://www.checkatrade.com)