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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Women's charity Eaves welcomes Suffolk trial verdict

"I am delighted that the Jury in Ipswich Crown Court has found Steve Wright guilty of the murder of five women, and that he is facing a possible life sentence.

"People need to understand the truth behind prostitution: that it is not about men who need sex buying it from women who have chosen the profession as a career, and who are happy to be providing a valuable service, but about men who already have partners buying sex from the poorest and most dispossessed women, as a form of control and violence.

"We live in a world in which the claim of a journalist that the deaths of five 'prostitutes' is 'no great loss' raised barely a murmur of protest, and in which a major London attraction considered asking 'real life' prostitutes to act out being murdered by Jack the Ripper in a show for tourists.

"Today's verdict shows me that there is hope in the fight against violence against women and that there are people out there who understand the real issues and believe that women are entitled to respect, safety and protection.

"I look forward to tomorrow's sentencing."

Denise Marshall OBE
Eaves chief executive

– NOTES TO EDITORS –

Eaves provides high quality women-only supported housing in London for women experiencing domestic violence (through Eaves Women's Aid) and for women who have been trafficked into prostitution (through the POPPY Project). It also runs a research department called the Lilith Project, which works to support the violence against women sector through research, education and training. Visit www.eaves4women.co.uk to find out more.

For further information about Eaves or to request an interview, please contact Eaves communications officer Anna Bowden on 020 7840 7126 or at anna.bowden@eaveshousing.co.uk.