

# PRESS RELEASE

15<sup>th</sup> August 2003

## JAIL FOR BREACH OF BAN



**Photo of Hargreaves available**

Wilful breach of an Anti Social Behaviour Order (ASBO) landed a female thug in jail this week.

New Charter Housing Trust Group scored its first ASBO success at Tameside Magistrates Court in May this year. Toni Leanne Hargreaves, 22, of no fixed address had made peoples' lives a misery on Crowswood estate in Carrbrook, Stalybridge. Residents experienced months of intimidation and threatening behaviour. Hargreaves was banned from the estate for three years, but was arrested in July following a resident's tip off to police.

This week, Hargreaves was convicted at Tameside Magistrates Court of breach of the ASBO and sentenced to four months in prison.

Speaking after the sentencing, Steve Hodson, Head of Neighbourhood at New Charter said “We made it clear that we, the Police and, most importantly, residents are not prepared to put up with such behaviour. Hargreaves had only just been released from a custodial sentence when the breach occurred. She is back inside to protect our neighbourhoods”.

### **Notes for Editors**

1. The Anti Social Behaviour Order (ASBO) was made at Tameside Magistrates Court on 22<sup>nd</sup> May, District Judge Brigid Knight sitting.
2. Breach of a full ASBO is a criminal offence, punishable by a custodial sentence of up to five years.
3. The Court in May ordered that the defendant Toni Leanne Hargreaves be prohibited from:
  - (i) entering the Crowswood Estate, Carrbrook, Stalybridge, this being the area outlined in red on an attached plan
  - (ii) using or engaging in abusive, insulting, offensive, threatening or intimidating language or behaviour in any public place in England & Wales
  - (iii) engaging in, or inciting or encouraging any other person to engage in, any anti-social or criminal behaviour in any public place in England & Wales
  - (iv) associating with Danny Worsley
  - (v) carrying articles in any public place in England & Wales which constitute offensive weapons pursuant to law
4. The case was unusual in that New Charter obtained the order against someone who is not a tenant.
5. Tameside Magistrates Court on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2003 found Hargreaves guilty of a breach of the Order and sentenced her to four months. She was also given four months to run concurrently for possession of an offensive weapon and two months to run concurrently for burglary.
6. New Charter formed in 1999. Until September 2000, it was Britain’s biggest Large-Scale Voluntary Transfer (LSVT). With a turnover of £49 million a year and a workforce of almost 800, New Charter is one of the twenty largest

Registered Social Landlords (RSL's), and is regulated by The Housing Corporation, a Government watchdog.

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**ENDS**