

PRESS RELEASE

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Modern Apprentice of the Year announced



Photograph of Christopher with Ian Munro available

New Charter is pleased to announce the winner of its Modern Apprentice of the Year 2003 is apprentice electrician Christopher Hand.

Christopher, who lives in Glenville Way, Denton was selected from the first three years intake of apprentices taken on by the landlord. Over 40 modern apprenticeships have been offered since New Charter started business.

This is the first year of the award and reflects the commitment of both apprentices and employer to the modern apprentice ethos. New Charter was created to improve dramatically the rented housing in Tameside and spent over £50million in its first three years alone to improve people's homes. But the landlord can provide real opportunities in developing young people alongside the physical improvements.

Delighted mum and dad Janet and Stephen commented, “Christopher has always been keen on an electrical career since his days at Two Trees High School. He always had good marks in Physics and has a logical approach to problem solving. He’s really supported at New Charter and we are very proud of him.”

When not following his career, Christopher’s other interests include his car. “With all this training, I can certainly manage to change a headlamp” he joked.

Ian Munro, Group Chief Executive of New Charter presented Christopher with his award and prize at the Group Annual General Meetings on Tuesday 30th September. He said “I am personally keen to recognize excellence among our workforce and Chris’s enthusiasm and application is a shining example. Our commitment goes further than just our own opportunities. Christopher is currently working on the new electrical installation at our new headquarters building in the centre of Ashton-under-Lyne, courtesy of our contractor Williams Tarr. This provides wider experience than even we can do”.

NOTE FOR EDITORS

1. New Charter formed in 1999 as the new landlords to own and manage nearly 16,400 properties transferred from Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council in Greater Manchester. Until September 2000, it was Britain’s biggest Large-Scale Voluntary Transfer (LSVT). With a turnover of £49million 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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