

# PRESS RELEASE

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## Landlord's new green home



Photographs at 300dpi available

New Charter Housing Trust Group has completed work on *Cavendish 249*, its new Headquarters in Ashton-under-Lyne, Greater Manchester.

The environmentally friendly 48,000sq ft office occupies a gateway site to AMEC's Ashton Moss development, is next to the proposed Metrolink extension from Manchester and only 600 yards away from the M60 Manchester Orbital motorway.

New Charter, a Registered Social Landlord of 15,000 residential properties was Britain's biggest transfer of housing stock from a Local Authority when homes switched from Tameside MBC four years ago. The exciting new office houses 375 staff and will support the Group's four 'one stop' shops in high street locations, as well as its building depot in Dukinfield.



**business for neighbourhoods**

A striking design featuring a curved roofline and a 25metre high central glazed atrium is only part of the impact the building makes. Cavendish 249 is passively ventilated and boasts a range of environmentally friendly features that were key to its design. Windows and lighting are computer controlled; there's a high standard of insulation; and heat and power are generated from a roof-mounted Combined Heat and Power Unit. Even the location in rainy Greater Manchester has been put to good use - rainwater is collected to help flush the toilets!

Group Chief Executive Ian Munro said, "This is largest office development in Tameside for over 20 years and we are very proud of it. We have regenerated a neglected part of the Ashton Renewal Area and brought an entirely brownfield site back into use. I am confident the move to this office will bring further improvement to the services we give to our tenants".

Work on the headquarters started at the end of January 2003 by Williams Tarr Construction Ltd. The build project of £5.4m has been delivered on budget and to a superb standard.

## **NOTES 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. 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.
2. Cavendish 249 was built largely on a site cleared of unfit terraced housing as part of the Ashton Renewal Area programme in 1999. The site was sold by Tameside MBC to New Charter who also assembled four other adjacent pieces of land in private deals.

The building includes a Board room, purpose designed IT training room, a learning centre, tenants resource room and a prayer room as well as the usual office facilities.

3. New Charter accommodated staff in 16 locations throughout Tameside until this project concluded.
4. Photographs available on request

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