

# PRESS RELEASE

18<sup>th</sup> July 2006

## Judgement Day!



Picture opportunities in the 'monkey park', front of Francis Terrace, Dukinfield SK16 4NN between 4pm and 4.30pm on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2006

It's the day of reckoning for New Charter's Central neighbourhood in Dukinfield this Thursday (20th July). Months of planning and hard work are being put to the ultimate test as the North West In Bloom judges visit.

The judges will be in Tameside all day, and are expected to arrive on the estate at 3.30pm. Belinda Jeffery (Chair of In Bloom Community Group), resident Jean Botha, Matt Ling of grounds maintenance contractors Serviceteam and Laura Rynhart of New Charter will take them on a tour of the neighbourhood. The judges will meet other residents who have taken part in In Bloom. They will see some of the former "grot spots" which have been improved, visit Lyndhurst School where children's artwork will be on display, and finish at the monkey park (in front of Francis Terrace). There will then be a celebration and barbeque for all residents who have taken part, with music, children's activities and stalls.



At the end of their visit (approximately 4.30pm), the judges will be happy to speak to any media representatives attending.

Central Estate is the first area in Tameside to enter the Royal Horticultural Society's prestigious 'Britain in Bloom' competition in the 'Neighbourhood' category. The entry has been organised by the In Bloom Community Group (part of Central Residents Action Group) and is supported by New Charter Housing Trust Group.

### **NOTES FOR EDITORS**

1. New Charter formed in 1999 as the new landlords to own and manage homes transferred from Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council in Greater Manchester. With a turnover of almost £60million a year and a workforce of 800, New Charter is one of the country's largest Registered Social Landlords, and is regulated by The Housing Corporation, a Government watchdog. By incorporating Aksa Housing Association recently, the Group owns just over 15,100 homes.
2. The judges will stay for approximately 1hour 15minutes on Central.
3. Central Residents Action Group would like to thank the following for their generosity: Dukinfield District Assembly; New Charter + Tenants' Federation; Granada TV; The Village Hotel and Leisure Club; Graham Austin Hair Design; The Civic Mayor of Tameside Cllr Jackie Lane; Maynes Coaches; Sunnit Studios, Oldham; Belle Vue Greyhound Stadium; Herb and Spice Restaurant; Saks Salon; William Jon Salon; Isle of Man Department of Tourism; Greggs the Bakers; Marie Christine Salon; Wilkinsons; and Chief Inspector Roby of Greater Manchester Police (Mounted Section).
4. **iN business for neighbourhoods** is a long-term project to improve housing associations' performance, and challenge negative perceptions of the sector and its customers. The project was launched at the National Housing Federation's annual conference in 2003. To date, 80 per cent of the sector's stock – over 1.5 million homes – is managed by associations who have joined the initiative and made fresh commitments to neighbourhoods, customers and excellence.

### **CONTACTS:**

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**ENDS**



**business for neighbourhoods**