

# PRESS RELEASE

10 January 2007

## Healthy start to New Year



Picture opportunities at 1 Wellington Parade, Dukinfield SK16 4LE between 1pm and 3.30pm on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2007

Residents in Dukinfield can resolve to regenerate their community as a new service opens this weekend.

The new Neighbourhood Centre is at Wellington Parade, Dukinfield in the heart of Central Estate. It was created by New Charter to provide an easy venue for residents to take part in regeneration activities as wide ranging as local training courses, community meetings, coffee mornings, young people's activities through the 'Dreamscheme' and access local surgeries such as debt and welfare advice, anti-social behaviour surgeries and Age Concern surgeries. And its an ideal place for tenants to meet our Neighbourhood Management staff.

Local Councillor Jackie Lane will join Tony Powell, New Charter's Director of Tenancy Services to open the centre on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January at 1pm.

Tameside Dukinfield Children's Centre's will be a key partner. The neighbourhood unit will be a venue used for the local development of Dukinfield Children's Centre's Services. They will be able to provide information and deliver activities for the under 5's and their families in collaboration with the community. A Health room is also available for Drop In baby Clinic and Antenatal and Postnatal advice.



Tony Powell said: “We have an early emphasis on services for youngsters, but I hope all residents will see this building as a true community resource. We and Tameside Council have concentrated some of our resources to help the physical and social regeneration of this part of Dukinfield. We are launching with many services running from here, but we invite other agencies with a focus on this community to talk to us about using the building themselves.”

## 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 £48million 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 over 15,000 homes.
2. A Children’s Centre brings together quality services for young children and their families in a neighbourhood. Services are of a high standard, consistent across areas and well coordinated. The Centres provide easy access to local services for children which include:
  - good quality integrated childcare and early education
  - Child and family health services
  - Family support
  - Support to local childminders
  - Good quality advice and information on local services
  - Support for parents with education, training and employment.As well as local service, the Centres provide swift response and access to more centralised specialist services.
3. **iN business for neighbourhoods** is a long-term project highlighting housing associations’ performance. As social businesses, housing associations do not make profit. They offer homes for rent and sale at prices local people can afford. Housing associations provide more than homes - they help create places where people want to live. Wherever you see the **iN business for neighbourhoods** sign, something great is happening in the area. Housing Associations who display this logo are committed to their customers, the neighbourhoods they work in and strive for excellence in everything they do.

### CONTACTS:

**Paula Thomas or David Rigby - New Charter 0161 331 2000**

[www.newcharter.co.uk](http://www.newcharter.co.uk)

**ENDS**