

# PRESS RELEASE

Immediate release

10<sup>th</sup> August 2009

## TV fame for neighbours and New Charter

### Pictures available

Interest in a new observational documentary series on BBC1 has catapulted some New Charter staff into the media spotlight.

In the run up to the first programme (shown last week), tenancy enforcement officer Alan Kibble appeared live on BBC Breakfast Time, and was interviewed by presenters Kate Silverton and Charlie Stayt.

Meanwhile, neighbourhood management officer Sarah Chilton's photograph splashed across TV guides and the internet as she was shown using an incentive programme to address challenging behaviour from one family. Local and national media interviewed both staff.

The "Neighbourhood Watched" programme continues tomorrow (Tuesday) with more of the work of housing officers from New Charter (Ashton-under-Lyne), Community Gateway (Preston) and Housing Pendle.

This week, Alan is called out to deal with an undesirable neighbour, while Sarah helps two housebound elderly sisters to step into the outside world.

"It's quite weird to see your own picture so often, especially as it's not one of my best!" said Sarah. "I've also been amused by some of the previews and reviews of the first episode. Many expressed sympathy for the job we do, but actually I love working at New Charter. I think the rest of the series will show some of the lovely tenants who give you real job satisfaction."

Independent production company Raw Television filmed the series between June and November last year.

The programme is broadcast on BBC1 on Tuesdays at 10.35pm.



## Notes for editors

1. New Charter formed in 1999 as the new landlords to own and manage homes transferred from Tameside council in Greater Manchester. With a turnover of £70million a year, New Charter is one of the north west's largest registered providers of social housing, and is regulated by the Tenant Services Authority, a Government watchdog. By incorporating Gedling Homes in Nottinghamshire, the Group owns 18,600 homes. It was named in the Sunday Times best 100 companies to work for in 2009.
2. **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.

### Contact:

David Rigby - New Charter 0161 331 2130

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

**Ends**



**business for neighbourhoods**