

Press Release



October 4, 2010

Photo opportunity – Tuesday 5th October 4.30pm at Dukinfield Methodist Church

Young people from Central Estate, Dukinfield have been working hard over the summer months to help to turn an overgrown church garden into a colourful children's garden.

Youngsters offered to help the Dukinfield Methodist Church to design and build a new garden to brighten up their area and help the community. They have called it; The Methodist Dream Garden.

Volunteers from the church worked alongside young people to construct the garden. The young people are from the New Charter Dreamscheme project, which rewards young people for taking part in community work.

The garden was funded by Dukinfield Methodist church and New Charter Housing. Veolia Environmental services kindly donated bark to make a colourful carpet in the garden.

Reverend Kim Ratcliffe said: "When we looked around our estate and saw how it had changed over the past few years with the effort from the people in the community, our garden began to look quite sad.

"We were delighted when the children from the Dream Scheme said they would come up with a plan that would brighten our garden up. They involved us in the planning and step by step they began to put their plan into action.

"Each week they came with enthusiasm and very soon it began to take shape. It has been a joy for us all to work together and instead of the sad garden that we had the children made it brighter and a joy to look at."

ENDS

Notes to 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 and a workforce of 880, New Charter is one of the region's largest registered providers of social housing, and is regulated by the Tenant Services Authority, a Government watchdog. The Group owns 18,600 homes. It was named at 6th place in The Sunday Times 100 best companies to work for in 2010.

4. **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.

For More information contact Bob Clowrey at New Charter

robert.clowrey@newcharter.co.uk

Or telephone

0161 331 2270

ENDS