



The Gateshead Housing Company

Working with Gateshead Council

Press release

Date: 22 July 2010

Sheriffs clean up town centre estate

Residents of a central Gateshead housing estate have joined forces with The Gateshead Housing Company to help clean up their neighbourhood.

The Sheriff Hill 'community clean up' was part of efforts to make estates even better on top of improvements already made to thousands of homes.

Skips across the estate helped over 250 residents to get rid of tonnes of household and garden waste in the latest clean up organised by the company.

Richard Finlow, housing manager for the estate said: "The clean up day helped to remove tonnes of rubbish from homes and gardens and we were delighted that people of all ages on the estate took part.

"We hope to organise more clean ups across the centre of Gateshead over the coming months to help give residents a real sense of neighbourhood pride."

Advice on recycling, policing, local community projects, Gateshead Council services and housing was also on offer to residents taking part.

The clean up day was organised by The Gateshead Housing Company, Gateshead Council, Northumbria Police and Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service.

Residents wanting to find out more about future clean up days should contact their housing office at Gateshead Civic Centre on 0191 433 2730.

The clean up was part of a week-long programme of almost 70 events being held by the housing company across the borough.

'Opportunity knocks again' gave 21,000 households the opportunity to 'get involved' and make local housing services better in the future.

Notes to Editors

Photograph attached: Left to right, Brett Routledge of The Gateshead Housing Company, local residents Peter Dibden, Nicola Dibden, 12-year-old Chantelle Rickerby, Mandy Dibden and Richard Finlow, also of the housing company take part in the clean up.

The housing company's clean ups are also part of The Big Tidy Up campaign – for more information on the campaign, visit www.thebigtidyup.org

The Gateshead Housing Company manages over 21,000 homes in the North East of England.

We aim to provide excellent and efficient services working in partnership with residents and the wider local community to create homes and neighbourhoods that meet the aspirations of the people of Gateshead.

In February 2009, the Audit Commission said that the services provided by us are 'excellent' and that we have 'excellent prospects for improvement'.

On a scale from zero to three stars, the Audit Commission inspection team gave us the top 'excellent' three star rating.

This was because we have a strong commitment to customer care, we manage estates well and we are bringing thousands of homes up to and then beyond the Government's Decent Homes standard.

For more information on The Gateshead Housing Company log onto www.gatesheadhousing.co.uk

For more information please call Ian Clarkin on 0191 433 5382, 0782 583 3603 or email ianclarkin@gatesheadhousing.co.uk