



Contact: Paula Littleboy
Title: PA & Corporate Marketing Officer
Tele: 01924 831009 **E-mail:** p.littleboy@chevinha.co.uk
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Press Release

Kids try out new skills at Fun Day organised by Chevin

Chevin Housing Association Ltd and Fundamental organised an afternoon of activities and fun on Thursday 25th October 2007 at Havercroft Sports Centre for youngsters aged between 8-16 who live in Chevin's properties.

The purpose of the day was to encourage the youngsters to experience some skills, join in some fun activities and find out what they think about where they live including their home, activities in the community and the environment.

The fun commenced at 12.30pm and the kids had the opportunity to get involved in a wide variety of fun zones:-

Music Zone	trying out the mixing decks
Craft Zone	building the perfect neighbourhood, writing poems etc
Crystal Maze	collecting tokens to win prizes
Health Zone	making healthy wraps and smoothies
Skills Zone	hands on experience of plastering, joinery and tiling
Puzzle Zone	wordsearch, jigsaws and teambuilding exercises
Big Brother Diary	a video diary of what they think about their home and neighbourhood

Staff from Chevin Housing Association Ltd and Fundamental were on hand throughout the day taking part in the activities and team leading, with around 30 children joining in the fun.

Steve Close, Group Chief Executive of Chevin Housing Group presented the prizes at the end of the day and thanked everyone for attending and said *"It was a really well planned day full of learning activities and fun. It was great to see so many youngsters enjoying the day and getting something out of it. It also helps us in our future plans to get their views on their estates and homes and what we can do to improve them. We will certainly hold similar events in the future"*.

Photographed trying out plastering under the watchful eye of Geoff Foster (Maintenance Officer) of Chevin Housing Group are Daniel and Adam Clark

Note to editors

Fundamental

Fundamental is a Wakefield based charity which provide targeted activities, learning programmes, support and accreditation for young people within the Wakefield District

Chevin Housing Group

The Chevin Housing Group was formed in 2001 following the merger of a number of associations who had been in operation from as far back as 1974. The current group consists of Chevin Housing Association Ltd and Harewood Housing Society Ltd. Chevin, the parent company owns, manages and maintains the Group's rented homes and Harewood manages and maintains the Group's leasehold properties and also provides a management service to private sector leaseholders.

The vision for the Chevin Group is, 'building a better future for people and communities'. In order to achieve this we are involved in a diverse range of activities. These include; managing and maintaining rented and leasehold homes, the development of new and refurbished homes (including rented, leasehold and sale options) and regeneration services, working in partnership with local people to enable them to play a part in the future of their neighbourhoods.

The Group operates across Yorkshire and the Humber and North Nottinghamshire, with around 6,000 rented homes in management. We also manage a further 1650 leasehold homes which include 750 private sector flats.

The Group's reinvestment programme is around £6m per annum and the Development Programme is producing around 250 new homes each year. In 2004 the Group formed the Synergy partnership which is a regional based development partnership of associations with Chevin Housing Group as the lead partner for delivery. Synergy Housing Solutions Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Chevin provides a development service to the Synergy partners.

An inspection carried out by the Audit Commission in 2006 determined that Chevin provides a good 2 star service with promising prospects for improvement. The report commented that, 'Chevin is a customer focussed organisation, which develops services based on customer feedback'.

The Group employs around 200 staff headed by the Group Chief Executive, Steve Close.