



# The Gateshead Housing Company

## Working with Gateshead Council

8 February 2013

### **Housing company asks: "Do you know your tweets from your tags?"**

The Gateshead Housing Company is hosting a course on the powers of social media.

'Social media made simple' is free to Gateshead residents who want to know more about the impact Facebook, Twitter and other sites can have, and about maintaining their online privacy.

The session will be held between 10am and 4pm next Tuesday (12 February) at the company's Team Valley headquarters.

Helen Watson, Involvement and Diversity Officer, thinks this is a great opportunity for customers to get tips on setting up an online account.

She said: "The way people communicate has been revolutionized through social media, with the likes of Facebook and Twitter being used to contact friends, find out the latest news and follow larger organisations.

However, many people are still unsure about using social media and perhaps lack the confidence to 'give it a go'.

"Hopefully, our free course will show the benefits of social media in everyday life, how to make sure you are secure online and generally highlight what all the fuss is about!

"So call us on 0191 433 5357 or e-mail [involve@gatesheadhousing.co.uk](mailto:involve@gatesheadhousing.co.uk) to find out more."

Help to access courses, including transport and lunch, can be provided.

'Social media made simple' is one of many Moving Forward training courses provided by the housing company, which offer local residents the opportunity to learn new skills and meet new people in an informal environment.

Details of other courses are available at [www.gatesheadhousing.co.uk/movingforward201213](http://www.gatesheadhousing.co.uk/movingforward201213)

### **Notes to Editors**

Please call Jill Ancrum on 0191 433 5386 or email [jillancrum@gatesheadhousing.co.uk](mailto:jillancrum@gatesheadhousing.co.uk) for more information.

Our registered company name is 'The Gateshead Housing Company'. Please use in full on first usage and then 'the housing company' or 'the company' thereafter.

The Gateshead Housing Company manages more than 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 brought thousands of homes up to and then beyond the Government's Decent Homes standard.

Regularly updated information about The Gateshead Housing Company can be found at [www.gatesheadhousing.co.uk](http://www.gatesheadhousing.co.uk), [www.facebook.com/gatesheadhousingcompany](https://www.facebook.com/gatesheadhousingcompany), and [www.twitter.com/gatesheadhc](https://www.twitter.com/gatesheadhc)