

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report informs the committee of developments in the Youth and Play Service since the last meeting. The Committee is asked to note the report.

1. Staff Movements

- 1.1 Lyn Robinson is retiring on 9 January. Lyn has worked in the admin section for twenty years and I wish her well on her retirement. Ian McCabe and Colette Miller have been appointed as temporary part time Transition Workers. They are employed until March 2008 to support the implementation of the Charter of Participation.

Area Team reports

2. Wallasey Team

- 2.1 St Mary's Youth Club continues with its Duke of Edinburgh Award activities. The young volunteers have organised a Christmas party for the special needs night. Young people in this unit are actively involved in the running of the club and the special needs session. 73 young people did a Wirral Way walk to raise money for equipment. There is peer education with Gold members teaching and supporting silver members through the work.
- 2.2 Leasowe Youth Club is now using the youth house and outreach to deliver its service. Young women have been involved in a barge trip and used the time to look at images of young women in the media. Two young people have completed a canoeing trip in Scotland and received awards for completion. A student has been at the unit and delivered work on HIV awareness. As part of awareness raising the young people took part in a sexual health session. The unit is involved in an intergenerational Christmas event for the community.
- 2.3 The Seacombe Project, formally known as the Allendale is now providing outreach in Seacombe. The project has a youth club on a Wednesday night running from the YMCA, this includes a DJ'ing session. The dj'ing has been a project with a group of young males. As a result of the training, members of the group have secured some employment as DJ's. Thursday is a dance session at Guinea Gap baths and outreach. Currently the young people are also involved in a project to go to residential homes and meet residents while putting up Christmas decorations and trees.
- 2.4 Moreton Youth Club are involved in a project with the local British Legion. The members of Moreton are hosting a pool night and in the future are hoping to do HeartStart sessions with both groups. The unit have had workshops on the following; sexual health, alcohol and drugs and anti-bullying. A group have started a smoking cessation project and elections for members committee were completed. A theme this month on ECM seems to be safety. The unit have done fund raising for Claire House and firework safety. The area is currently under a Section 30, however, a whole new set of members are attending the unit and numbers are steadily increasing. Moreton and Leasowe have both hosted placement students for Liverpool John Moores University

3. Birkenhead and Bebington Area Team

- 3.1 The autumn has brought expected increases in attendances and all units report a busy season. A number of staffing issues have made the maintenance some club programmes difficult. The unit

most affected is Beaconsfield, which has had to be closed for a number of weeks, and some of the young people have attended Viking Youth Club. Wirral wide campaigns during the run up to Halloween and Bonfire night have proved to be most successful. There were no reports of major disturbances at youth centres as has been the case in previous years.

- 3.2 Charing Cross Neighbourhood Youth Centre continues to attract increasing numbers of young people to its special needs provision. The range of activities on offer provides diverse opportunities for young people with differing abilities. There are growing links with the wider community and many young people are becoming involved in community initiatives. A recent successful piece of group work has been the Water safety project, the local coastguard visiting the youth club with a visit to the Coastguard station, as part of the programme.
- 3.3 Shaftesbury Youth Club has had a very busy autumn season. One of the regular outdoor residential events was held in Keswick in the Lake District when 13 young people took part in a number of outdoor activities. The sporting programme continues to be very busy and the management of a number of the young football teams have passed to young volunteers. The recent part time appointment of a young volunteer co-ordinator from within the Club membership has enabled significant developments. There will soon be a Level 1 FA coaching course that will equip a group of the new volunteers to deliver a variety of sporting activities to their peers. Already the volunteer scheme has proved its worth with coffee bar profits being doubled.
- 3.4 Peer education is strongly highlighted at Viking Youth Club where group of young volunteers run a weekly dance class for their younger friends. Funding from external sources by the Viking Trustees has allowed the centre to be open every weekday evening from now until June 08. The weekly MC night has proved particularly attractive to a large group of young men who have performed on behalf of the Club at the recent Tranmere Winter festival when all the community came together in Victoria Park. The annual World Aids day football tournament was a great success.
- 3.5 A members committee in Bromborough youth club, has recently been formed and they are working hard to help with the smooth running of the Club. Members have attended Youth Opportunity Fund meetings and have prepared bids for funding. A pantomime trip, sexual health questionnaire and a variety of craft workshops have been part of the planned activities.

4. Deeside Area Team

- 4.1 Over the half term week staff from Fender Youth Club worked in partnership with the police and Bean Bag (an environmental Charity) to deliver the Operation Wishing Well Project for Young people. The project transformed old wooden pallets (donated from the police) in to Wishing Well planters which were planted up and given to people living in the community. In partnership with Bean Bag, The Bank Youth Project and the Police 2 gardens, Hoole Road Memorial Gardens, have been designed and installed by young people to remember the young people who have recently died on the estate.
- 4.2 Four young people from the 'Motivate Programme' attended the annual meeting of the Town's Women's Guild. The focus of the day was 'Looking to the Future' and a number of speakers attended the day including The Mayor, Steve Maddox, Friends of the Earth, Wirral Grammar for Girls and Boys. Fender Young People did a 15 minute presentation and power point display of their experiences of the 'Motivate Programme' so far and their fears and expectations for their forth coming expeditions.
- 4.3 Seven young people are doing the "V" award and are volunteering in our Junior club, and these hours also count towards the Motivate project. We are looking to put some of these young people on Senior Member Training.
- 4.4 Pensby Youth Club, held a Halloween Disco, this was funded by the Police. The event was a success with a large number of YP attending. Staff and the Community Support Officer organised a Christmas party. A Members Committee has been formed this will enable young people to

represent their peers at Youth Forums, JMC etc. There is going to be a training residential in the new year to look at the roles and responsibilities of young people within the committee.

- 4.5. The Community Support Officer's visit Greasby Youth Club on a regular basis playing football with the young people. One of the CSO's is qualified to coach the A1 award to young people. They have been playing regularly in Pensby School on the new Astro Turf. The Pavilion is now open and is currently being refitted with resources that were lost in the fire. In the New Year group work will be able to take place in the Pavilion with young people. The Club is currently looking at gathering evidence to put forward for the Health Promoting Youth Club's Award.

West Kirby Youth Club

- 4.6 Staff from West Kirby Youth Club and the Deeside Young People's Project (DYPP) have been using the youth club to work with a group of 20+ young people with the aim of fundraising for a Skate Park. The young people have started to stay at the Club and also attend on other nights. On Thursday Nights, young people bring their own instruments to play or use instruments owned by the Club, this night has been getting very popular, some young people have formed a band.

5. Wirral Youth Service Outreach Team

- 5.1. The Wirral Youth Service Outreach Team (WYSOT) has continued work with young people in public places, on the streets and in parks, making new contacts and developing work with existing contacts, working to the Every Child Matters agenda. The individual neighbourhood projects that make up the WYSOT deliver a broad and varied curriculum that addresses both the needs of the young people and local and national priorities. Underpinning this work is the personal and social development of young people. The local knowledge of the neighbourhood based outreach workers enables them to gather intelligence and monitor trends, such as the displacement of young people as a result of police activity. This information is used by WYSOT to develop working practice and the service to young people.
- 5.2 On a very positive note, the young people with whom Deeside Young People's Project worked with on the redevelopment of Newton Park have been invited to do a presentation of their project at the Positive Outcomes for Young People Conference in London on 28th February 2008. Their presentation is cited as a case study which exemplifies engaging hard to reach groups, gaining the support of the community for a youth led Youth Community Fund project and improving multi-agency relationships to deliver positive outcomes for young people.
- 5.3. Wallasey Young People's Project has been undertaking outreach work in Liscard, New Brighton, Seacombe, Poulton and Wallasey Village and in Central, Quarry and Earlstone Parks. The Kontakta Bus provided a venue for sexual health, alcohol and drug misuse awareness workshops in Central Park. The group from Earlstone Park were involved in the Youth Parliament evening debates about the Youth Promise. A small group attended a black history lecture at John Moores University to promote black culture and pre slave trade history. Work was undertaken with the police to support the Halloween discos at Mosslands, Oldershaw and St Mary's schools.
- 5.4. Through their involvement with South Wirral Young People's Project, the skateboarders from Eastham attended the Regenda Youth Voice Conference and there, they entered a Dragon's Den competition with their 'Clean up Eastham Skatepark' project. The group won £500, which has boosted their confidence and enhanced their fund raising efforts. The street group from New Ferry, who were awarded Youth Opportunity Fund money to develop a drugs and alcohol awareness board game, are making good progress and have undertaken a 4 week accredited course, NCFE Level 1 Substance Misuse Studies, and have interviewed for and appointed a facilitator to work with them on the creation of the board game. A healthy eating cookery course is being run as part of South Wirral's Young People's Project's health promotion work. Young people drawn from throughout South Wirral enjoyed the Mischief Night Youth Service/ Police bowling event.

- 5.5. The Noctorum Young People's Project has undertaken streetwork on the Noctorum Estate, Townfield Lane, Ford Hill and the Arno. Young people from these locations now participate in a weekly boxercise session at Grange Rd West Sports Centre and Friday night football sessions at Ridgeway High School. Young women were successful in a Youth Opportunity Fund (YOF) bid, which involves them in making clothes for themselves using items bought at charity shops. As part of this project, the group made a very enjoyable visit to the Clothes Show in Birmingham.
- 5.6. Through their work with young people in Birkenhead Park on a Friday night when the nights were lighter, a group of 12 young women who call themselves the Cheetahs have been attending groupwork activities at the North End Young People's Project base on a Tuesday night. They had a traditional Halloween party; sent 20 shoeboxes to Eastern Europe; and worked with staff from Response on a three week sexual health, drugs and alcohol misuse awareness course. The Cheetahs no longer spend Friday nights in Birkenhead Park.
- 5.7. A group from the Connaught Estate are involved in a health promotion programme. This group has been successful in obtaining YOF money for an activity programme for themselves and for other young people engaged with NEYPP. Recently they went bowling, had a meal at a restaurant as part of their Christmas celebrations and are looking forward to a weekend at Oaklands.
- 5.8. The young people from Beechwood and Ballantyne Estates continue to enjoy their weekly football and dance sessions that the Fender Youth Action Project has arranged at Beechwood Recreation Centre. A members' committee is being formed and one of their roles will be to represent the views of other Fender Youth Action Project young people at Youth Forum meetings. To mark the 2008 Year of Culture, the young people are planning to look at different aspects of local culture and as part of this they will be visiting a theatre for the first time to see a performance of Blood Brothers at the Liverpool Empire.
- 5.9. The Deeside Young People's Project (DYPP) is working with 25 skaters, bladders and BMX riders and is supporting them in their fundraising bids for a skatepark in West Kirby. West Kirby Youth Club provided a venue for the group to have their planning meetings and the young people now attend the youth club at other times. DYPP has developed an activity programme with the young people from the Prenton Dell Estate as a means of developing working relationships and extending the opportunities available to these youngsters. On the Overchurch Estate, DYPP is working in partnership with the residents association, supporting the residents in their efforts to engage their youngsters in positive activities. Workshops to address drug and alcohol misuse are being planned to raise young people's awareness of the consequences of risk taking behaviour. This is also an issue with some young people in the Newton area and Response specialist workers have been brought in to run awareness raising sessions for the young people.
- 5.10 Birkenhead Youth Action Project has been undertaking streetwork with particular emphasis on the Bedford Rd area, the Woodlands, Peel Avenue, Victoria Fields and around Victoria and Mersey Parks, working in partnership with the police, residents groups, housing associations and the voluntary sector. The Youth Resource Shop is used by a number of groups including those undertaking a Certificate in Community Action and arrangements have been made for the Young Carers to have access as a means of supporting work with this group of young people.

Curriculum Development Services

6. Duke of Edinburgh Award

- 6.1 The Award Open Award centre has now moved premises from Gorse Lane to Solar Campus. Under an agreement with the Wirral Alternative School Programme we are now able to utilise classrooms and storage facilities within the site. Enrolment numbers at the Award Centre continue to increase. Currently they stand at Bronze Award, 102 and Silver/Gold 120.

- 6.2 We continue to support and deliver the Award within schools, voluntary organisations and independent groups. This last group in particular is currently on the increase as many young people find it difficult to access the Award in their own educational establishment. A recent presentation ceremony with the Mayor of Wirral saw over 200 young people from the Borough receiving Awards at all levels. This year 43 young people have been invited to London to receive Gold Awards from HRH Prince Philip. There will be some publicity produced following the next visit to the Palace by young people from Wirral receiving their gold award.
- 6.3 In the New Year we hope to diversify our delivery of the scheme by training adults from other Wirral based organisations in the principles and advantages of the Award. This will begin with a pilot scheme involving Merseyside's Police Community Safety Officers. By liaising with other partners we also hope young people will be involved in:

- First aid training
- Canal boat restoration
- Fire victim support
- French polishing

7. Participation Developments

- 7.1 Four young people attended a Focus Group on Waste Collection/Streetscene on Monday 3rd December with four representatives from Technical Services Department. (Inclement weather affected the expected numbers of attendees). Issues discussed included:
- the grey bin recycling scheme – how this is to begin in schools and the potential for it to be extended to youth clubs
 - litter
 - graffiti
- Feedback to young people will be given in the New Year with the intention being that these focus groups continue on a regular basis.
- 7.2 The 2008 UKYP elections are currently being planned. All Secondary schools, Youth Service units, Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector and Connexions have received information on how young people can nominate themselves to stand. Soundbyte recording sessions at the Learning Lighthouse (Wallasey School) will take place in late January and early February, with electronic voting from 8th February to 12 noon on 28th February. An election announcement event will take place on Thursday 28th February 12pm – 3pm at Wallasey Town Hall.
- 7.3 Extraordinary Youth Forum meetings were held in November for young people to allocate the Area Youth Forum Awards. These decisions will be ratified in the New Year by Elected Members. The next round of Forum meetings will take place in January.
- 7.4 Following a second round of applications to the Youth Opportunity and Youth Capital Funds, there is still a final allocation to be made (Youth Opportunity Fund - £27,000 Youth Capital Fund - £31,000). The Grant Panel agreed at their last meeting to commissioning this money for projects which will address some of the most important issues for young people in Wirral, namely:
- Reducing teenage pregnancy
 - Substance and alcohol misuse
 - Homelessness
 - Young people's access to transport
 - Music projects for young people
- The deadline for expressions of interest is Monday 14th January 2008, with a presentation to the grant panel about their project on the evening of Thursday 24th January 2008.
- 7.5 Two new workers have been appointed as Transition Workers for 15 hours a week from November 07 to March 08. These posts are funded by Children's Fund and On Track and the main focus of the work is to support the adoption and implementation of Wirral's Charter of

Participation with 8–13 year olds. This may include facilitating group work, meeting staff, meeting school governors or supporting the delivery of work. Contact has already been made with all schools to ascertain the current status of the Charter and this will be completed with play units as well.

8. Special Needs/International Work

- 8.1 Ivy Farm Bunk House continues to be well booked with a variety of youth groups including Brownies/Guides/Clubs etc. Recent work has included the renovation and painting of the outside of the building and the refurbishment and decoration of the common room. The Friends of Ivy Farm, usually the current Hong Kong Exchange Group, are now looking to 'tidy up' the entrance areas and ground floor meeting room. The Farm also offers facilities to other youth groups such as the UKYP, the various grant panels and youth forums and senior members besides also being used for various training groups.
- 8.2 This year we have three projects as part of our International Programme. A short study visit for staff with participants from Germany and Sweden, a multi-national youth exchange visit to the Azores and a reciprocal youth exchange with Hong Kong.
- 8.3 The worker continues to oversee the development of work with young people with Special Needs. A full programme of events was organised for the Christmas period. Both Belvidere and Callister Youth Clubs have recently been monitored as part of the Service's Quality Assurance procedures and both have and been graded as 'good'.
- 8.4 The next Senior Member training Course is due to start in January and will run for 10 weeks including a residential at Ivy Farm Bunkhouse.

9. Wirral Youth Theatre

- 9.1 WYT is currently facilitating a pan Merseyside project with over fifty young people from seven schools for young people with a range of disabilities. A series of drama, dance and music workshops are being facilitated by WYT workers and peer educators (some of whom are disabled young people) in Wirral, Sefton and Halton schools exploring themes such as:
- what makes their learning enjoyable and positive
 - what the blocks are to their learning and progression
 - how and if they are able to get their views across
 - how involved they are in decisions about their education
 - what are their dreams and aspirations
 - what concerns they have about transition from school
- 9.2 All the young people involved will come together at a conference in February '08 held at Aintree Racecourse to share their work and put their views across in a safe and creative format. A DVD is being made of the process which will ensure that recommendations made by young people can be promoted to a wider audience.
- 9.3 Developments in Peer Education and training have continued with thirteen young people having just completed their BTEC in peer education with us and this qualification has helped some to go onto further education courses as a result of gaining a qualification that they would not otherwise have achieved. Others are putting their learning into practice and working on the VOICE OF THE LEARNER project. WYT is currently looking at extending opportunities for accredited courses for young people and is planning to run a Dance Leadership course, MOCF accredited courses and music entry level courses in partnership with Liverpool Community College. Young people from last BTEC cohort who have formed an issue based theatre group called 'First Class Theatre Company' are now starting to write a play based on the consultation carried out with youth groups across Wirral which was funded by YOF. This piece will tour youth clubs, community centres and schools in the Spring and Summer.

- 9.4 Building on the regional successful partnership work with Youth Dance England, plans are in place for young dancers from Wirral to be involved in regional and national events such as Liverpool Capital of Culture Parade, Merseyside Dance Initiative's 'Leap Festival'. The dance team are delivering curriculum based dance for Sports Development in several schools at present and this is used as an excellent training mechanism for peer educators to work alongside workers gain facilitation skills.
- 9.5 The Sound Steps Project, which is externally funded by the National Charity Youth Music Foundation, continues to offer a range of opportunities to budding young musicians and event organisers like weekly band skill workshops, vocal workshops and recording projects. Work with young men from Kilgarth School has now developed into band rehearsal and workshops which a group of five young men attend in their own time as extra curricular sessions. The internal WYT training scheme is now up and running and we have appointed two young people to train as music development workers who are now working in several projects and receiving regular supervision and training with the Sound Steps manager. We are also working with Pacific Road on a 'young promoters' project which will give young people the skills in organising and promoting music events and gigs.
- 9.6 Work has now started on the FACES project which will be WYT's contribution to Liverpool Capital of Culture events. With the support of the full-time Youth Drama Support worker, young people are applying to the Young Roots Heritage Lottery Fund for a grant to create a large scale production to be staged at Pacific Road Arts Centre in July 08. The FACES project will be an inclusive multi-agency project working in partnership with secondary schools, (including schools for young people with disabilities) and community groups from across Wirral. Young people will be supported to gather information about the cultural heritage of Wirral and the project will aim to celebrate cultural diversity and celebrate the cultural heritage of Wirral through various arts mediums.
- 9.7 A starting point for the piece will be how young people's family history is interwoven into the rich diversity of the area. How young peoples families arrived in the region, which areas they worked in and what legacy if any they have left in the area. The project will also look at some of the famous people who were either born in the region or invested in its local heritage. This may include characters like Lord Leverhulme and his model for Port Sunlight and feature events like Laurel and Hardy appearing at one of Birkenhead's local theatres and the first scout movement meeting being held in Birkenhead. FACES will be an opportunity for the young people of the area to recognise and celebrate their regional, national and international historical identity and heritage.
- 9.8 The Drama team are also working in Riverside Centre, Livingstone Day Centre and Cavendish Youth Club providing a range of cross-age range projects until the end of March as part of the Community Links Project and funded via SRB6. WYT now receives regular commissions for drama pieces devised with and performed by young people and most recently these have included the following two pieces for Wirral PCT and Brook the 'reducing risk taking behaviour' strategy -
- 'GIRLS NIGHT OUT' - a training DVD package for young people and professionals which will be launched in February 08 and rolled out in sixth forms and colleges as part of work around drugs awareness and sexual health.
 - 'WASTED' - WYT regularly provides themed drama inputs into conferences and this piece on alcohol misuse will now be integrated into Wirral Met College as part of their reducing risk taking behaviour strategy and will also be rolled out into schools.

10. Response

- 10.1 During the period September to November staff delivered a total of 910 support, advice and counselling sessions at Response.

- 10.2 218 Young people have accessed the Housing Advice Service during this quarter with a total of 407 contacts. Of the 218, 139 were young people already known to the Agency and 79 were new individuals. Approximately 46% were seeking one off pieces of information but of the remainder; 21 were accommodated; 16 are staying between family and friends; 71 are still receiving ongoing support; and 9 returned home after cooling down period.
- 10.3 In supporting the preventative work on homelessness, staff have delivered 39 workshops to 517 young people in the Borough's secondary schools. The external funding for this project expires in Dec 07, however it is identified as an action point in the Draft Housing Strategy to secure continuation funding for the work until 2010. Until continuation funding is secured we will commit to as many of these sessions as we can free up staff resources to deliver.
- 10.4 Response received 12 months of Supporting People funding to deliver housing support and advice to young people aged 20-25 years old with complex needs around homelessness. The programme is well received by professional partners and clients. Of the 38 referred since July, 11 have been accommodated with our support/intervention, 5 have either returned to the family home to await suitable accommodation or as a permanent solution, 1 has been imprisoned, 2 have managed to keep hold of their tenancies following appropriate benefits being put in place, 13 have not engaged with the service and the remaining 6 are awaiting outcomes. 20 are currently in service. All the young people accommodated have maintained their accommodation to date.
- 10.5 Following representations from Response and other key partners, the Homelessness Strategy has now identified the need for joint protocols for a number of vulnerable groups. The CYPD group looking at these issues decided that this task sits more appropriately within the remit of the Homelessness Strategy and Response staff will contribute to this task.
- 10.6 The counselling service at Response continues to be well attended and popular with young people. Over the past three months there have been 86 new referrals, a total of 54 young people were given appointments, and these young people attended on 150 occasions. The mediation service although limited is used by those young people who wish to improve relationships with a partner or family member. Mediation sessions if successful could prevent some young people becoming homeless due to family conflict. The drop-in service, which operates on Wednesday afternoons, is becoming more widely used as information regarding the availability becomes more widely publicised.
- 10.7 The Outreach team have continued to deliver drug and alcohol workshops in schools and colleges, which have been well received and enjoyed by the young people. We have also delivered a successful "Bite Size" event with our partners, Wirral Brook Advisory. We are currently engaging with targeted groups of young people, 4 to 5 nights a week, in a variety of areas. We engage, build relationships, deliver education on drugs, alcohol and associated risk taking behaviour, and where appropriate refer into Service(s) for further support.
- 10.8 The team took part in the 'Imagine' project In September. The group of 8 young people, 5 male and 3 female, experienced a fantastic learning experience by canoeing across the Caledonian Canal in Scotland. The young people involved, described it as a life changing experience. We now have a group of young adults who since the trip ended have continued to meet regularly and have been part of a number of further outcomes, which include all of them now being in education, employment or training.

11. Training and Staff Development

- 11.1 The minimum qualification for Youth Support Workers, the NVQ Level 2 in Youth Work, is now being delivered through Wirral Metropolitan's College Centre of Vocational Excellence. This will enable mainstream Further and Vocational Education funding to support the course, and Youth Service will buy places as an employer. This stabilises and reduces costs, and the College will be buying in the necessary teaching and assessment expertise from Youth Service. The candidates will have student status and have access to additional services such as basic skills support which is not readily available in-house. The pilot for 12 candidates is now underway, which if successful,

will lead to a larger scale programme later in 2008. A key factor for success is line manager support.

The College is better positioned to deal with the increasing demand for this award from individuals and organisations in both the voluntary sector and from outside the Borough.

- 11.2 The current in-house NVQ programme progresses with several candidates have completing more units to near completion.
- 11.3 More assessors have gained their A1 Award and other two members of staff are working towards their V1 Internal Verifiers Award. Such occupationally qualified assessors are in great demand, and Youth Service often receives calls seeking such. Staff across the service continue to attend Departmental training courses covering Recruitment and Selection, Child Concern and related skills.
- 11.4 There is a growth of "Children, Youth and Adolescent" qualifications resulting in increased requests from Liverpool John Moores and other universities in the North West for placements. At the moment these are being restricted to primarily John Moores as there is no the capacity to accept more.
- 11.5 Youth Work qualifications across all levels are being included in the Departmental Workforce list of training opportunities.

IT Issues

- 11.6 Recent corporate changes have not been wholly beneficial to Youth Service. The hours for access for users on the Metropolitan Network were restricted to Monday-Friday office hours, but this has now been resolved for staff whose working week is evenings and weekends. The cessation of Education Webmail has impacted badly on the voluntary sector and peripatetic staff, but this should be resolved by the purchase and use of "key-fobs"
- 11.7 The development of a database which will include Youth Service is on the departmental agenda. The recent proposed new National Indicators should not have to great an impact on the current Youth Service PIs, and this departmental should also provide access for designated staff to connect to the "Contact Point", as the Children's Index is now known. These developments will have, as yet undetermined, cost implications for replacement equipment, new software and staff training.