

**Annex A**

# **Youth Service Plan**

**April 2008- March 2009**

## Wirral Youth Service

### Introduction

Wirral Youth Service provides opportunities, which are open to all Wirral young people. The Service's age range is 13-19 years. Youth work helps young people learn about themselves, others and society, through informal educational activities which combine fun, challenge and learning.

The Youth Service in Wirral works with many young people in a variety of different settings, these include:

- Youth clubs
- Street work projects
- "Kontaktabuses"
- "Wirral Youth Theatre" and Youth Arts
- "Response" – Advice, support, advocacy and information service and Substance Misuse Service
- International exchanges
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award
- Outdoor activities
- Projects in schools

The Service is flexible and able to respond to the needs of young people and offers opportunities that are both universal and targeted. Youth work on Wirral is delivered through joint working between the Local Authority, voluntary organisations and other agencies.

Youth workers work with young people in many different localities in Wirral. Having a variety of youth clubs and street work projects allows youth workers to work with young people in their neighbourhoods, meet their specific needs and respond to issues that are important to them.

Much of the work of the Youth Service takes place in one of sixteen open access youth clubs located across the Borough from Wallasey to Eastham and Birkenhead to West Kirby. Streetwork teams of youth workers make contact with young people who do not access the service elsewhere, build relationships with them and in negotiation with the young people, develop programmes which address their specific needs. This work is delivered on the streets, through project work and on mobile Kontaktabuses.

### **Response**

Response is a Borough wide Youth Service provision, providing counselling, support, advocacy and information for young people. Many of these young people have complex needs requiring intensive support from the service including homelessness, abuse, poor health and poverty.

The agency also has a team of specialist workers providing support to young people who have drug and alcohol problems. The team work with those individuals in a variety of settings including outreach street work and one to one work. The team also deliver educational programmes within schools and other youth settings on the risk, consequence and health implications of substance misuse. Partnership work plays an important role in targeting vulnerable, hard to reach groups of young people. Service level agreements and regular joint working ensures the needs of young people are met.

### ***International Work***

Each year the Youth Service runs a comprehensive programme of International Youth Exchanges. Young people from Wirral take part in a number of international opportunities including, Hong Kong and Italy, Germany and the Azores.

### ***Duke of Edinburgh's Award***

The Youth Service is the Licensed Operating Authority for the whole of Wirral. Awards can be gained through a variety of approved operating units and access organisations made up of a combination of youth centres, schools, an open award centre and a selection of voluntary groups.

The Award is available to all young people aged between 14 and 19 with the emphasis being the development of young people's leisure time. By taking part in the Award, participants are able to increase their own self confidence and self esteem, make new relationships and develop fresh skills.

### ***Wirral Youth Theatre/Youth Arts***

Wirral Youth Theatre operates across the Borough to enable young people to access a wide range of performing arts related activities. Art forms such as drama, dance, music, technical theatre and new media are used to help young people to develop personally and socially as well as developing theatre and media related skills.

### **Participation Activities**

The Youth and Play Service leads on the co-ordination of participation activities for young people, these include Youth Fora, Youth Opportunity Fund/Youth Capital Fund Grant Panel, United Kingdom Youth Parliament elections, the Youth Parliament and the Executive Youth Board. Young people are encouraged to take part in these opportunities and as a means of engaging with more young people, opportunities are advertised at organised events and young people can register their interest. This approach in 2007-08 identified over 150 young people who expressed an interest in further involvement. From this group of young people the Youth Grant Panel and the Executive Youth Board have been recruited. In the course of this next year we will be actively promoting these opportunities to more young people.

### **Wirral Youth Service Plan 2008-2009**

The Youth Service plan contributes to the 2008-2011 Wirral Children and Young People's Plan in each of the five Every Child Matters Outcome areas, showing how targets link to the identified priority areas. In addition, the first section of the Service Plan lists several over-arching strategic management outcome areas important for the future development of the Service within the Wirral Children & Young People's Department. As in the previous plan, work areas are linked to the Every Child Matters outcome areas. Contributions to the service or department strategies are indicated.

## Wirral Youth Service Development Plan 2008-09.

### Overall aims of the Service 08-09

**Outcome Areas: Being Healthy, Staying Safe, Enjoy and Achieve, Make a Positive Contribution and Social and Economic Well-being.**

Priority.	Youth Service contribution.	How we will deliver.	How we will be judged.
<p>Respond to the needs of young people, enabling them to develop social and emotional skills and resilience.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The provision of a high quality modernised Youth Service that meets the challenges of <i>Aiming High</i> and <i>The Children's Plan, 2007</i>.</li> <li>• The Youth Service values young people and aims to ensure that not only do young people have a sense of self worth but are valued by the wider community.</li> <li>• Youth work practice will include the delivery of a universal service, and in addition, targeted work and specialised work.</li> <li>• Youth Service will ensure that Young people are included in the design of the service.</li> <li>• Youth work takes place in the unique context of a voluntary association with Young People.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through needs analysis and intelligence on the social condition of young people, provide a service linked to the four CYPD districts, which takes account of young people's local needs.</li> <li>• A curriculum document which is both developmental and identifies targeted support.</li> <li>• Provide structured activities which promote positive outcomes enabling young people to develop a strong sense of personal identity.</li> <li>• Implementation plans for the Charter of Participation prepared for each unit.</li> <li>• Through staff development, to ensure knowledge of what is required in the delivery of a modernised, quality service and skills developed to ensure the delivery of that service.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each Unit will produce a localised Youth Offer for young people by 30-09-08.</li> <li>• Youth Service is able to identify its contribution to National and local prevention strategies. Eg Teenage Pregnancy and Alcohol/ Substance Misuse.</li> <li>• Targets identified for each unit regarding young people's participation in Positive Activities.</li> <li>• Contact/Reach 25% of the 13 to19 Youth Population <b>7,500</b>.</li> <li>• Implementation Plans will be completed by 31-12-08. Each unit will report on the evidence of young people's involvement in decision making 31-03-09.</li> <li>• Each Unit will have targets for Recorded and Accredited Outcomes 30-0908.</li> </ul>

**Outcome Area: Being Healthy.**

Priority	Youth Service contribution	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
Reduction in the harmful consequences of risk taking behaviour.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevant implementation of C&amp;YP's Substance misuse plan.</li> <li>• Relevant implementation of Teenage Pregnancy Strategic Action Plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth units offer curriculum opportunities which focus on reducing risk taking behaviour, namely, sex and relationships and alcohol and substance misuse education.</li> <li>• Planned and targeted work to enable young people to examine risk-taking behaviour.</li> <li>• Frontline staff give good quality information.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each unit to deliver a min of 4 targeted structured workshops/events per year addressing substance misuse.</li> <li>• 20 staff trained in substance &amp; alcohol misuse issues.</li> <li>• Each unit to deliver a min of 4 targeted structured workshops/events per year addressing issues of SRE.</li> <li>• 20 staff trained in SRE issues.</li> <li>• Each unit to produce a case study illustrating their work.</li> </ul>
Inequalities in the health of children and young people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All units to form Implementation Groups to establish Health Promoting Youth Settings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All units to achieve Health Promoting Youth Setting status.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All units to obtain Bronze Award and/or be working towards a higher award 31-03-09</li> </ul>
Young people have access to support, information and advice services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As part of needs analysis, young people consulted as to the services they require.</li> <li>• Develop provision and enabling young people to access sexual health &amp; relationship services.</li> <li>• Undertake commissioned work.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with partners i.e. Connexions, Teenage Pregnancy and the DAAT to identify and provide appropriate workshops and interventions.</li> <li>• Integrated partnership work to deliver targeted services.</li> <li>• Commissioning to bring about a comprehensive range of services by targeting specific areas of service need.</li> <li>• School clinics.</li> <li>• Fulfil contract obligations of commissioning bodies.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of young people involved in targeted interventions.</li> <li>• Number of integrated programmes/interventions.</li> <li>• Numbers of young people accessing services.</li> <li>• Youth Service input at school clinics.</li> <li>• Meet service specifications.</li> </ul>

**Outcome Area: Staying Safe.**

<b>Priority</b>	<b>Youth Service contribution</b>	<b>How we will deliver</b>	<b>How we will be judged</b>
<p>Reduce young people's involvement in incidence of anti-social, risk taking and harmful behaviour.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targeted services for young people at risk of offending.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Service level Agreement between Community Safety and Youth &amp; Play Service will clarify protocols for collaborative working.</li> <li>• Regular meetings between Youth Service and Community safety to identify target areas and appropriate responses.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of young people involved in targeted interventions.</li> <li>• Case studies demonstrating responses to young people's needs in targeted areas.</li> </ul>
<p>More children are safe at home, at school and in the community, including reducing road traffic accidents and bullying.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of programmes to improve safety and resilience in young people.</li> <li>• Development of anti bullying strategies.</li> <li>• Adherence to the lone working &amp; Appropriate Professional Behaviour Policies.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structured programmes which promote resilience in young people.</li> <li>• To ensure an ethos whereby young people are aware of the importance of their safety, not only to themselves, but to the community.</li> <li>• Play an appropriate role in CCM.</li> <li>• Anti bullying guidance in youth settings and staff trained to deal with issues of bullying.</li> <li>• Promoting risk assessment approaches by youth workers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case studies of young people's safety being incorporated into environmental improvements.</li> <li>• Increased awareness leading to challenges to and avoidance of bullying.</li> <li>• Observation of policies &amp; guidance.</li> <li>• An anti bullying statement is written by Deputy Head of Service Field Support by 30-11-08.</li> </ul>

**Outcome area: Enjoy and Achieve.**

<b>Priority</b>	<b>Youth Service contribution</b>	<b>How we will deliver</b>	<b>How we will be judged</b>
Close the attainment gap where poverty affects achievement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide a range of opportunities that develops young people's skills and raises their aspirations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A curriculum designed to address the needs of the specific young people.</li> <li>Each unit will have a delivery plan for the Youth Work Curriculum Offer.</li> <li>Opportunities for young people to achieve recorded and accredited outcomes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each unit will publish the curriculum targets.</li> <li>Number of Recorded outcomes achieved.</li> <li>Number of Accredited outcomes achieved.</li> </ul>
Wirral young people are informed and aware of the opportunities available to engage in positive activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth &amp; Play Service will co-ordinate activities that support and contribute to the development of a website for publicising positive activities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using information from the Youth Conference and Parliament and extended schools we will establish a focus group of young people to design appropriate methods and mediums to communicate relevant information.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Website established.</li> <li>Number of hits on site.</li> </ul>

**Outcome area: Make a Positive Contribution.**

<b>Priority</b>	<b>Youth Service contribution</b>	<b>How we will deliver</b>	<b>How we will be judged</b>
Young people are actively engaged in the community & democratic decision-making process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All units will involve young people in the design &amp; delivery of the provision available in their unit/ project.</li> <li>Units to identify how they will support young people to take part in decision making activities such as Youth Forums, Youth Voice Conference, Youth Parliament and the Executive Youth Board.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide learning opportunities for young people to actively participate in the decision making process at unit/project / area level.</li> <li>Youth workers share good practice and peer mentor.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each unit will report on their situation by February 09 and draw up an action plan to address areas for development.</li> <li>Case studies.</li> </ul>



Involvement of young people in decision making/governance over service provision and actively involved in commissioning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through YOF/YCF Grant Panel, Youth Forums, Youth Parliament, Youth Voice Conference and the Executive Youth Board young people will be actively engaged in determining the nature of youth provision in Wirral and priorities for commissioning in line with <i>Aiming High for Young People</i>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth Service will support young people on Grant Panels and their attendance at Youth &amp; Play service Advisory Committee and other relevant bodies.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By 2010-2011 young people will have direct influence over 5% of spending on their services (by 2018 this will rise to 25%).</li> </ul>
To make young people aware of the benefits of volunteering.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through links with Wirral CVS and the Youth Federation identify a range of volunteering opportunities for young people and promote these to young people.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sign post and support young people to become involved in appropriate volunteering.</li> <li>With partners and through extended schools, advertise volunteering opportunities for young people.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Numbers of young people accessing volunteering opportunities.</li> </ul>

**Outcome area: Social and Economic Well being.**

<b>Priority</b>	<b>Youth Service contribution</b>	<b>How we will deliver</b>	<b>How we will be judged</b>
Promote a greater sense of community cohesion and intergenerational understanding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young People's and Older People's Parliaments develop structures for co-working to enhance community cohesion.</li> <li>An action plan identifying activities to realise improved intergenerational understanding and reduce the negative perception of young people.</li> <li>Promote the valuing of young people.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publicise the positive outcomes from joint working.</li> <li>Youth work Curriculum to include intergenerational events.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved public perception as reported in surveys .</li> <li>Evidence of young people's involvement in intergenerational activities.</li> </ul>

<p>To engage vulnerable young people in range of Youth Service provision as part of IYSS/TYS.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning for targeted support for vulnerable and harder-to-reach young people will build on extended schools networks and IYSS.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Referrals from schools and other agencies for young people who require additional support.</li> <li>• Pathways for referral established between schools and key IYSS delivery partners.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of referrals.</li> <li>• Number of IYSS/TYS interventions.</li> </ul>
<p>Reduce numbers of 16-18 vulnerable young people NEET in line with LAA targets and PSA 2010 trajectory.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programmes to develop personal and social skills and in some cases practical skills, of young people, so as to increase their self-confidence and self-esteem, raising their aspirations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structured developmental activities and projects.</li> <li>• IYSS.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribution to NEET reduction.</li> </ul>