

## Special points of interest:

- Flight of the Flamingos– Child Poverty
- The Wolverhampton Targeted Youth Support Strategy

This monthly update is intended to let you know what happens at a strategic level so that you are aware of things that may affect you in the future, or things that you may want to find out more about. If you have any concerns or suggestions that you wish to be fed into this process and discussed at a strategic level, then contact Sally Perks at YOW on 01902 771163.



**April 2008**

## Flight of the Flamingos — Child Poverty

“Flamingos characteristically take off slowly, fly high, and fly together.”

The ‘Flight of the Flamingos’ is the name of a development programme for managers working on better outcomes for children and young people across organisations, sectors and partnerships. The programme is designed to support managers to deliver change, meet targets and build capacity in partnerships locally. It is about focusing on complex issues that require a joint solution.



This approach has been adopted by the Wolverhampton Children and Young Peoples Partnership to tackle Child Poverty. Six sessions were held for work group members over a six week period, where they aimed to clarify the issues, provide evidence, influence future decision-making and provide recommendations on the most effective way to move forward, this work resulted in the creation of a vision and a number of recommendations on the best way to tackle child poverty in Wolverhampton.

The vision; ‘To significantly reduce child poverty, ensuring that basic human rights for children are met e.g., warmth, safety, food, support — to tackle the causes of child poverty and not just the symptoms. Our vision is to raise the aspirations of children and families, ensuring that no child is excluded from society.’

This vision has now been adopted by the Children and Young Peoples Partnership and they will be working towards a number of recommendations also presented by the working group aimed at tackling child poverty. For more information contact Sally at YOW on 771163.

## Targeted Youth Support Strategy

It is a Government requirement that by 31st March 2008 each Local Authority has a plan in place for how they will deliver effective youth support services to those young people who are most at risk and vulnerable. The Wolverhampton Targeted Youth Support Strategy explains the national and local context and proposes some key steps to ensure the necessary framework is in place.

The Strategy proposes five areas of focus; 1) Establishing shared targets and outcomes for young people, 2) A common approach to early intervention through the use of a self-assessment tool for young people, 3) Using established models to promote learning, 4) Young peoples involvement, 5) Synchronicity with the development of Multi Agency Support Teams (MASTS). The Strategy is accompanied with a timescale and action plan of how this will be taken forward. For more information contact Sally at YOW on 771163.

# The YOW Strategy Newsletter

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