

Special points of interest:

- ISA
- ContactPoint
- Review of the CYPSP



**Happy
Easter**

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 2009

ISA— The Vetting and Barring Scheme

Last month we told you about the new Vetting and Barring Scheme, involving the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA). This was set to come into force in October 2009, and would have a major impact on the recruitment and monitoring practices of people working or volunteering with children. The plan was that from October 2009, employers will need to check the ISA status of everyone recruited to work in a paid or voluntary capacity with children or vulnerable adults. This would determine whether or not they can be employed (or take them on as volunteers), and may affect what activities they can undertake. This month we can tell you that the national implementation of **the Vetting and Barring Scheme has been delayed**. We have no more detail as yet but have been informed that the go live date of October 09 will be put back until at least 2010. We will keep you informed.

ContactPoint

At the Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership this month we received an update on progress with ContactPoint. Just to remind you, ContactPoint is the national database which holds basic information on all children in England. ContactPoint is designed to allow children's services practitioners to quickly find out who else (which other practitioners/agencies) are involved in supporting a child.

Wolverhampton will be going live in July 2009 and from this point an estimated 1800 practitioners will receive ContactPoint training. To find out more about ContactPoint training or to ask for a member of the ContactPoint team to visit you and tell you more, please contact the team on 01902 550238.

Review of the Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership

The Strategy and Development Board agreed at its meeting in January to carry out a full review of the Children and Young Peoples Partnership on behalf of the Governance Board.

A number of activities are planned including information sessions to ensure engagement with front line staff, and a review of outcomes against agreed priorities to produce a refreshed Children and Young Peoples Plan. We will keep you informed of progress with the review and let you know the outcome ASAP.

To find out more about any of the items mentioned in the YOW Strategy Update or the process of having your views, comments or concerns voiced at a strategic level, contact Sally at YOW on; Telephone: 01902 771163 Email: sally.perks@ymca-wolverhampton.co.uk

Voluntary Sector Representation

YOW would like to recruit 2 new voluntary and community sector representatives to sit on the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Strategy and Development Board. Our current representation is as follows,

At the Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership Governance Board our representatives are;

Ann Gough –YMCA

Ian Darch— WWSC

At the Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership Strategy and Development Board our representatives are;

Pat McAullife—YWCA

Kath Farmer—The Haven

Raj Bansal—Trinity Training

Margaret Thompson—Re-entry

Due to other commitments and role changes within their own organisations two of the Voluntary Sector Representatives that sit on the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership and represent the needs of the voluntary and community sector have had to step down.

Both Kath Farmer and Pat McAullife were most valuable and active Voluntary Sector Representatives, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all their hard work, and, on behalf of the staff and members of YOW, wish them all the very best in the future.

This leaves us with 2 vacant posts. Being a voluntary sector representative involves attending two main meetings, the Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership Strategy and Development Board it-self, and a pre-meeting which gives us an opportunity to look at any papers that are going to be presented and to discuss our response. Being a voluntary sector representative is about representing the needs of the sector, not just your organisation so this is an excellent opportunity to be at the forefront of children's services development and commissioning.

If you would like to express an interest in becoming a voluntary sector representative please contact Sally at YOW on 01902 771163 or email sally.perks@ymca-wolverhampton.co.uk by Friday May 8th 2009 and you will be sent a copy of the job description for the role of a voluntary sector representative, the terms of reference for the Wolverhampton Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership Strategy and Development Board and an illustration of the structure of the board. We will then ask you to express why you want to become a voluntary sector representative and if necessary (due to high demand) go through an election process.