



This monthly update lets you know what is happening at a strategic (planning) level that may affect you in the future.

If you want to find out more about any of the items, or if you have any concerns or suggestions that you would like fed into this process, please contact:-

**YOW on 01902 771163**



## Getting support for large external funding applications

Some external funders, such as the Big Lottery, are now asking the Local Authority to identify the nature & level of support that would be available to groups which are applying for their funding. Previously, they only asked for a statement about whether or not an application was endorsed by the Local Authority. The CYPSP is drawing up guidelines for how this will be done.

The key points to bear in mind for any group thinking of applying for **significant** external funding are

- (a) **Contact someone in the CYPSP early on to let them know you are applying**
- (b) Does it meet the needs of children, young people and their families as set out in the city's Children & Young People's plan?
- (c) Does any development of facilities fits in with the Youth Facilities Strategy (see below)?
- (d) The CYPSP will inform you of what kind of support (financial or other) will be on offer from the city council and/or its partners

As mentioned above, each Local Authority is now required by the DCSF to develop a Youth Facilities Strategy to plan what is needed and where. So if the application is for new buildings or facilities it also needs to fit in with this. Wolverhampton is about to start developing its Youth Facilities Strategy. Multi-agency workshops will take place from Jan—June 2010. More information about these will be circulated as soon as it becomes available.

## Integrated working / Common Assessment Framework

Integrated Working practices include the use of the Common Assessment Framework, the role of the Lead Professional, and Team Around the Child meetings and have been in use in Wolverhampton since April 2008. So far, the Common Assessment Framework has been used to assess and meet the needs of 155 children / young people in Wolverhampton. This represents 0.3% of the total child population in the city. Only 17 of these CAFs have been closed: in most cases, this was because the needs of the child / young person involved escalated to a point where other action was necessary (such as safeguarding / child protection procedures).

It is still too early to get any useful information about the outcomes for children and young people which result from using the CAF process.

So far 66 CAFs have been raised by schools, and 23 by Children's Centres. A total of five voluntary/ community youth organisations

have been involved in initiating a CAF.

YOW is in the process of finding out what voluntary and community youth groups have learned from initiating or otherwise being involved in a CAF process. If you / your organisation has had experience of a CAF in any way, please get in touch with Steve on 01902 771163 or [steve@yow.org.uk](mailto:steve@yow.org.uk). In particular we would like to know what, if any, difference it made to the child, young person and/or their family

One of the interesting points raised from looking at how CAFs have been used, is that while more individuals have been initiated a CAF process, this has not lead to anyone going on to initiate more CAFs. Where someone has done more than one CAF it has generally been for a sibling in the same family also requiring support.



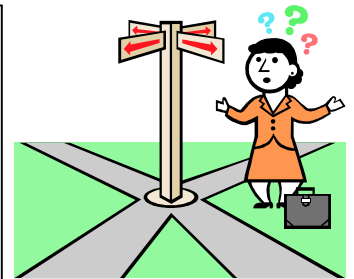
**To find out more contact Ersuline Whittle on 01902 558090**



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## Child Poverty Challenge Group

This group was set up in January 2009 to monitor the progress made in reducing child poverty, and to develop a consistent, co-ordinated approach to tackling child poverty in the city. A draft strategy has been produced focusing on the following building blocks:

- education, health & family
- housing & neighbourhoods
- employment & adult skills
- financial support for families

This has been endorsed by the Children & Young People’s Strategic Partnership and will now be referred to other relevant partnerships and finally to the cabinet and Local Strategic Partnership for full Council endorsement.

**To find out more about the Child Poverty Challenge Group call Julia Spencer (Early Years) on 01902 555941 or Paul Cave at the Wolverhampton Partnership on 01902 556104**

**In brief** **Voluntary and Community Sector praised:** The “One Children’s Workforce” Team praised the engagement of voluntary and community sector youth groups and the support from YOW in all stages of the development of the One Children’s Workforce whilst reporting to the Strategy and Development Board on the results of a recent consultation.

**Connexions** Following on from an article in last month’s Strategic Update, we can tell you that the final submissions from the three organisations that made it through to the last round were made on 9th October. We will know by the end of November, which organisation has been selected to deliver the Connexions Service in Wolverhampton over the next 5 years.

## Voluntary Sector Representation



Following the request for new voluntary and community sector representatives for the Strategy and Development Board we now have 6! This is to make sure that as far as possible we have our full quota of four reps at every Board meeting. The two new members of the VCS Rep team are Tim Wakefield (project manager of Dovecotes Arts Centre) and Maxine Wragg (Manager at Wolverhampton Relate). If you have anything you want to raise at a strategic level you can contact Stephen Dodd at YOW on 01902 771163 or any of the reps below:-

### Current reps are:-

Raj Bansal (Trinity Training) 01902 712402, Sally Perks (YMCA) 01902 371586, Nicola Salt (YWCA) 01902 357070, Tim Wakefield (Dovecotes Arts Centre) 01902 552288, Mahmood Khan (TLC College) 01902 714433, Maxine Wragg (Relate Wolverhampton) 01902 428447

**To find out more about anything mentioned in the YOW Strategic Update or about how you can get your views, comments of concerns voiced at a strategic level then contact Stephen at YOW on 01902 771163 or email: [steve@yow.org.uk](mailto:steve@yow.org.uk)**