

Education and Lifelong Learning Committee

Date: 17 July 2003

Title: Extending Entitlement: Report on Recent Developments

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Assembly Government's approach to the provision of support and services to all young people aged 11-25 is set out in two documents:

- Extending Entitlement ; supporting young people in Wales (the first "made-in-Wales" policy to receive unanimous cross-party approval by the first Assembly in November 2000) and
- Directions and Guidance on Extending Entitlement (July 2002) which came into force on 1st September 2002.

Both documents are available on the intranet and the National Assembly for Wales's website.

1.2 The Assembly Government's approach to providing services and support to young people can be characterised under a number of key themes:

- working through partnership at both national and local levels with a broad range of planning and delivery partners;
- involving young people in the decisions which affect their lives;
- the concept of a universal basic entitlement for every young person – set out at Annex 1 to this report;
- the recognition that different young people will require different levels of support at different points in their lives to access the basic entitlement;
- providing a mixed menu of provision which gives every young person opportunity and choice

1.3 This approach differs significantly from elsewhere in the UK and is regarded within Europe as being at the forefront of good practice. It has been broadly welcomed by young people and those who work with them.

1.4 This report attempts to give members of the committee an overview of progress to date across a number of fronts together with details of the way the Assembly Government intends to move forward over the next few years.

2. YOUNG PEOPLE'S PARTNERSHIPS (YPPs)

Structures and partnership working

2.1 Multi-agency YPPs are the main delivery mechanism at local level for the agenda. Some eg Torfaen, Vale of Glamorgan, Pembrokeshire have now been running for 12 months or longer. Others eg Caerphilly held their first meeting earlier this year. Some made an enthusiastic start but have

experienced a few obstacles that have hampered the establishment and development of their partnership – eg. Blaenau Gwent.– and need to take a more strategic direction towards meeting the needs of their young people

2.2 Most have a well-balanced membership in numerical terms between local authority, other statutory organisations and the voluntary sector.

2.3 Most YPPs have appointed a local authority official or elected member as chair; in the few exceptions eg Cardiff where the chair is from Careers Wales, and Merthyr Tydfil, Gwynedd, Carmarthen, with a voluntary sector chair the YPP's emerging role as a truly multi-agency body is apparent.

2.4 Across Wales, there are varying degrees of experience in partnership working generally. Local practices and relationships built up over the years in some areas eg Denbighshire, Neath/Port Talbot, Torfaen and Ynys Mon have translated readily across to the YPP whereas in others eg Ceredigion, Monmouthshire, Flintshire, Bridgend, Merthyr, Newport, Blaenau Gwent the YPP is breaking new ground in terms of collaboration and effective partnership.

2.5 The role of the YPP is essentially to co-ordinate planning and provision of services for all 11-25 year olds across all partners and agencies in the statutory and voluntary sector. It is not intended that it should remove the autonomy from individual organisations, rather to develop shared vision, improve collaboration, identify gaps in provision and remove duplication.

Links with other planning processes and the Children & Young People's Framework Planning Partnership

2.6 After struggling to interpret the various planning requirements in a way that also has consistency with local arrangements, it is encouraging to note that without exception, local authorities have now established systems which should provide an appropriate transition between work on "Extending Entitlement" and that for younger children (0-10 years old) under the umbrella of the Framework Planning Partnership, although "Early Entitlement" partnerships for the younger age group are of course still under development. In many cases these arrangements inform and are informed by work undertaken on Community Plans, Health and Wellbeing Strategies, Community First Partnerships and other local joint planning mechanisms.

Involving young people in the partnership's work

2.7 The guidance deliberately avoids prescription about whether young people should attend meetings of the YPP; in order to reduce the likelihood of "tokenism". The meetings tend to be quite formal and young people might find them intimidating, boring, and there is also the danger that only the most articulate young people might be invited to attend.

2.8 YPPs are however required to ensure that young people are actively involved in all of the work areas the YPP addresses and that the YPP has

regard to their views. There have been a variety of responses to this; in Swansea, Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff there are well-established Youth Forums which work in parallel with the YPP. Pembrokeshire has recently involved young people's representatives in the YPP itself with positive outcomes. Gwynedd also has two young people on its YPP and has met in different parts of the Authority area to facilitate the involvement of young people. Neath Port Talbot has representatives from the Youth Forum who attend YPP meetings— one of whom also sits on Funky Dragon (the Young People's Assembly for Wales). Both Flintshire and Bridgend use their youth forum workers to contribute to the work of the YPP. As arrangements for participation such as Youth Forums develop at local level, we expect YPPs to ensure that young people have genuine involvement in decisions.

2.9 The Assembly Government is keen to ensure that the broadest possible range of young people have an opportunity to contribute, including those in special circumstances or who are otherwise "hard to reach" for example, ethnic minorities, care-leavers, young people with special needs, young asylum seekers, young travellers, young carers, gay and lesbian young people, etc. Good practice has been identified in Denbighshire (Young Parents' Project), in Bridgend (young homeless people), in Torfaen (Garnsychan regeneration project).

"Dreaming the Dream"

2.10 All YPPs have been encouraged to develop a shared vision for the future for young people, based on the universal entitlement. Some, for example, Ceredigion have made a positive attempt; Bridgend held a 'Having a Say Day' which has contributed to the work of the YPP, Denbighshire and Caerphilly have both held "blue skies" days. For others this remains work to be undertaken, or further developed as the YPP becomes better established and its communications with young people improve.

Audit of Provision, Need and Resources

2.11 All YPPs are required to work with young people to develop and maintain an audit of existing provision across the statutory and voluntary sectors, as well as an audit of need. Whilst YPPs have without exception made an initial attempt to undertake at least an audit of provision, it is generally accepted that more work will be necessary to keep it up to date, to add new provision as this is developed and to gain a better understanding of young people's needs which are currently unmet.

2.12 YPPs are also required to audit the financial, human and capital resources available and to take steps to ensure their use is maximised to achieve the YPP's objectives. In general, this latter work has yet to be undertaken.

Five year strategy (Sept 2002 – March 2008) and first delivery plan (Sept 2002 – March 2004)

2.13 YPPs were required to have both a strategic plan and an initial delivery plan in place by the end of October 2002. For many, the need to meet the deadline led to the production of plans which were incomplete or did not reach the quality standard the YPP or the Assembly Government would have wished. Caerphilly's plan has yet to be received-; it is expected by the end of June 2003. All YPPs are required to review their strategies annually and update where necessary and we anticipate that this exercise will produce significant improvements in the quality of the next plans.

Progress in delivering the universal entitlement to young people across Wales

2.14 All YPPs have contributed information for inclusion in this report, with the exception of Blaenau Gwent and Denbighshire. These YPPs are also making progress but for administrative reasons were unable to provide information. Further details of the progress made by the 20 YPPs who submitted returns are available from the Youth Policy Team should members of the Committee wish to peruse them. (Contact point: Dan Balkwill (email : daniel.balkwill@wales.gsi.gov.uk, tel 029 2082 1475). Examples of progress against each of the entitlements are attached at Annex 2.

3. PARTICIPATION, INFORMATION AND ADVICE

3.1 The issue of participation of young people more generally in determining the shape of the services and support they receive is an essential element of YPP activity. Young people's participation in the form of Funky Dragon, local Youth Forums, schools' councils and service user groups more generally will be the subject of a future report to this Committee, as will the subject of information and advice for young people.

4. FINANCIAL ISSUES

4.1 The Assembly Government has sent a clear message from the outset that two of the first key tasks for each YPP are to review existing funding arrangements against the agreed YPP priorities and ensure that available resources are targeted appropriately, and to work collaboratively to identify new funding sources. The Directions and Guidance set out an expectation that organisations which bid for funding to work with young people will demonstrate how their proposal fits the priorities of the YPP for the area in question, and that funding bodies will take this evidence into account in their allocations. The 2002/03 New Opportunities Fund bidding round illustrated how these arrangements can be used to good effect.

4.2 The Assembly Government made available via special grant in 2001/02, 2002/03 and 2003/04 a sum of £60k, £80k and £80k respectively to support the establishment of YPPs and Children and Young People's Framework Partnerships, and the participation of young people. Most areas

have used the funding to appoint Framework and/or YPP co-ordinators and/or participation support workers. Although this is the final year of the special grant funding, the new co-ordinators have in general made an impact at local level and preliminary indications are that most if not all local authorities will continue to support this area of work via revenue funding in future.

4.3 During the 3-year period 2001/02 to the present financial year, the Assembly Government provided RSG uplift to the tune of £1.75m, £3.75m and £4.75m respectively to support development of the statutory and voluntary youth service (which had been under sustained pressure/retrenchment for many years previously) in response to the “new burdens” faced as a result of implementing “Extending Entitlement”. Indications are that this funding has been used largely to recruit youth workers in the statutory sector.

4.4 In 2002/03 the former Youth Access Initiative funding was subsumed into the Cymorth Fund administered by the Assembly Government’s Children and Families Division. Cymorth criteria continue to provide opportunities for local agencies and partnerships to submit bids for targeted support for young people who are in need, and the need for training, mentoring and information for vulnerable young people is recognised as a specific theme. Cymorth funds allocated to partnerships will increase from approximately £40 million in the current year to £51 million in 2005/06, with approximately one third of this funding to be used for young people aged 11-25. Bids for services for 11-25 year olds will not be agreed unless they demonstrate that they comply with YPP priorities.

4.5 In 2003/04, the Welsh Assembly Government responded to concerns expressed by the voluntary sector about its lack of capacity to participate effectively in YPPs by making available a one-off special grant of £20k per YPP area to support voluntary sector involvement. This grant has been broadly welcomed. At the time of writing this report, 19 YPPs have submitted proposals for using the grant – in most cases towards the cost of funding a worker to co-ordinate communication between the YPP and local voluntary organisations working with young people. Of the 19 submitted, 13 have been approved and 6 require additional information.

4.6 There are questions which will need to be addressed in respect of future funding for “Extending Entitlement” implementation. As an Assembly Government flagship project, there is widespread expectation that additional resources will be made available by the Assembly Government at local level to support implementation and assist YPPs in meeting newly-identified priorities in terms of a network of youth support services to meet the 10 universal basic entitlements for young people.. The availability of other funding sources such as Communities First, New Opportunities Fund and Objective 1 in many areas may make it possible for some YPPs to maximise the benefit of relatively small amounts of additional funding by drawing down match funding.

4.7 Bids are planned for the forthcoming budget planning round in terms of RSG uplift to support local delivery of YPP objectives. The need for a

sustainable mechanism of supporting the voluntary sector to contribute effectively to YPPs will require consideration in future..

5. JOINING UP THE NATIONAL AGENDA

5.1 There is work to be done at national level internally within the Assembly Government and with national partner organisations to refocus our agendas on young people and their needs instead of the more traditional service- / provider-based approach.

5.1 Within the Assembly Government, a Cabinet Sub-Committee for Children and Young People co-ordinates initiatives, supported by a Children and Young People's Policy Co-ordination Group which brings together officials from all relevant policy areas. This arrangement is showing signs of improving cohesion in our requirements from key local partners across a broad range of services.

5.2 The All Wales Young People's Organisations group (AWYPO) is an umbrella network for the major statutory and voluntary organisations which work with young people, and officials which since it was established 18 months ago by the Youth Policy Team has contributed to improvements in co-ordination of activity and information-sharing.

6. DRIVING THE AGENDA FORWARD

Second YPP delivery plan (April 2004- March 2005)

6.1 The Assembly Government's expectations in terms of YPP activity during 2004/05 have recently been notified to local authorities & YPP chairs. They are attached for information at Annex 3 to this report. In essence, YPPs will be required to:

- drive forward work already begun in the first year
- take steps to improve extent of participation of young people in the activities of the YPP and partner agencies
- develop and implement protocols for sharing information between partner agencies
- develop and implement protocols for keeping in touch with those young people (currently 10-12% of cohort) who are not in education training or employment with a view to reducing the numbers
- take action on a multi-agency basis to address at least one identified need of young people in each of the areas of **sexual health and transport**

7. EVALUATING EXTENDING ENTITLEMENT

7.1 Extending Entitlement is an ambitious, long-term project, which aims to improve the life, and life chances of every young person in Wales. As such it is not an initiative which is easy to evaluate in any quantitative sense. However, the Assembly Government has commissioned some work on

possible future approaches to evaluation of the project, which concentrate on its impact.

7.2 The initial evaluation is being undertaken by Interactive Feedback – a company supported by Swansea University. It began in March 2003 and the contract will run until February 2004.

7.3 The evaluation will develop a proposed methodology for measuring the impact of the project on young people – in terms of their lives, their attitudes and their ability to access the services and support to which they are entitled as set out in Annex 1.

7.4 There are 4 main elements to the initial evaluation:

- a literature review to identify good practice in evaluating this type of project in the UK, Europe and further afield
- a review of other indicators currently available in relation to young people in the age range in Wales, including consideration of extent to which they might usefully inform the evaluation (eg educational achievement, teenage pregnancies, labour market participation, earnings levels etc)
- development of a methodological framework for recommendation to the Welsh Assembly Government to use for evaluating the project in the longer
- establishment of a baseline of young people's attitudes and access across Wales against which progress might be measured over time – possibly including a longitudinal survey.

Jane Davidson AM
Minister for Education & Lifelong Learning

Contact point:
Suzanne Chisholm, Youth Policy Team
Tel : 029 2082 6056
Email : suzanne.chisholm@wales.gsi.gov.uk

**BASIC UNIVERSAL ENTITLEMENT FOR EVERY YOUNG PERSON AGED
11-25 IN WALES**

Every young person in Wales has a basic entitlement to:

- education, training and work experience – tailored to their needs;
- basic skills which open doors to a full life and promote social inclusion;
- a wide and varied range of opportunities to participate in volunteering and active citizenship;
- high quality, responsive, and accessible services and facilities ;
- independent, specialist careers advice and guidance and student support and counselling services;
- personal support and advice –where and when needed and in appropriate formats –with clear ground rules on confidentiality;
- advice on health, housing benefits and other issues provided in accessible and welcoming settings;
- recreational and social opportunities in a safe and accessible environment;
- sporting, artistic, musical and outdoor experiences to develop talents, broaden horizons and promote rounded perspectives including both national and international contexts;
- the right to be consulted, to participate in decision-making, and to be heard, on all matters which concern them or have an impact on their lives

in an environment where there is :

- a positive focus on achievement overall and what young people have to contribute;
- a focus on building young people’s capacity to become independent, make choices, and participate in the democratic process; and
- celebration of young people’s successes.

EXAMPLES OF PROGRESS MADE TO DATE BY YPPs ACROSS WALES IN DELIVERING THE 10 ENTITLEMENTS TO YOUNG PEOPLE

Background

This annex attempts to give members of the committee a flavour of how Young People's Partnerships (YPPs) are beginning to impact on provision of services and support for young people across Wales, set against the Assembly Government's basic universal entitlement. It has been compiled from information supplied by YPP coordinators, for whose assistance the Youth Policy Team is grateful. Much more information was supplied than can be used in the report. Members need to be aware that a number of "health warnings" must be applied to the information, such as:

- YPPs are still in the early days of operation; their activities in many cases have been focused on auditing of provision and planning and therefore in delivery terms much remains to be achieved;
- some services described have been running since before the YPP was set up - the report attempts to describe how the YPP is improving or refocussing these services
- the report has attempted to concentrate mainly on services which are largely of a multi-agency nature, new, innovative and/or directly resulting from YPP activity
- there may be some inaccuracies due to shortage of time for verifying and checking. Further details if required of activities in any of the 22 YPP areas across Wales are available from the relevant YPP co-ordinator.

1. Education, training and work experience - tailored to their needs

- The YPP recognises the contribution it has to play in the development of the, '14 – 19 Learning Pathways' agenda, and both current and future planning reflects this (**Cardiff**)
- Young people are now able to access a range of projects which provide more options for first steps to re-engagement, or for 'alternative curriculum' choices. Pathways for progression are identified and young people are referred to appropriate provision that meets their needs as identified at a specific point along their learning continuum. (**Carmarthenshire**)
- An innovative approach at Cardigan Secondary school which puts the 'pupil/child' in the centre has led to a complete restructuring of the school with the aim of tailoring education (and its attendant support functions) to the need of the pupil. At present this approach is being extended out to the feeder Primary schools a process which has been enhanced by a grant from WAG. Tregaron Secondary school is currently embarking on the same process. (**Ceredigion**)
- Young Leaders' Programme - supported by YPP uses NOF funding to identify young people at risk of disaffection who show leadership qualities or potential. Tailored, flexible, enabling, targeted, OCN-accredited award, bringing together several service providers. Young people central to recruitment process (**Flintshire**)

- Llwyddo'n Lleol partnership accountable jointly to the Local Economic Partnership and the YPP. Awareness raising, training and enterprise activities to encourage young people to stay in the area. (**Gwynedd**)
- The Learning link project managed by Business in the Community and funded by Cymorth helps to get young people to find out more about work and training opportunities by bringing in employers into Secondary Schools. (**Gwynedd**)
- First Steps project - health visitor funded under Cymorth enabling school age mothers to complete their education and receive advice and support (**Merthyr Tydfil**)
- Youth Service Flexible Curriculum, supported by YPP and funded from Cymorth provides a combination of work experience, education and training for 30 young people, 5 days a week. As a result of being a member of YPP, Neath Port Talbot College have reported an improved sharing of information, particularly with schools and Careers Wales West (**Neath Port Talbot**)
- Positive Future and Challenging Activities programmes making a difference to young people in danger of exclusion by promoting one-to-one mentoring and group activity on school sites (**Newport**)
- Headteacher involvement in YPP has improved communication between schools and other agencies to the benefit of young people particularly those with attendance issues (**Newport**)
- Network of support services for disaffected/ disengaged young people including school and community based educational & health support projects (**Pembrokeshire**)
- Professional Development Support Network for people who work with young people being set up (**Pembrokeshire**)
- "Chance" programme funded by YPP bid to NOF with multi-agency steering group provided broad range of activities and programmes for disengaged 14-19 year olds (**Powys**)
- Youth Bank established by Youth Council enables young people to apply for small grants to fund projects (**Rhondda Cynon Taf**)
- Summit Scheme provides young people with opportunities to develop life skills via Pacific Institute programmes, Food Hygiene courses etc (**Rhondda Cynon Taf**)
- Coach education courses run by Council Culture and Recreation Department targeted at young people in various sports (**Swansea**)
- Progress towards objective that all 14-19 year olds have opportunities to participate in activities promoting business awareness and enterprise (**Torfaen**)
- Piloting literacy/numeracy comprehension testing to ensure all literature has appropriate reading age for intended audience (**Torfaen**)

- Local authority Youth Service has produced curriculum document based on 10 entitlements with active involvement of YPP partners (**Vale of Glamorgan**)
- Work with traveller young people around youth achievement award. Establishment of compact groups in schools for young people who do not operate well in larger groups and establishment of a centre designed specifically to promote alternative educational qualifications. (**Wrexham**)
- The Compass Project, Tenancy Support Service provides an assessment of need for each young person it comes into contact with. This then formulates a support plan which includes encouraging young people to achieve whether this is in education (formal or informal), training or employment which meets their needs. (**Wrexham**)

2. Basic Skills which open doors to a full life and promote social inclusion

- Môn shared apprenticeship scheme established (designed to increase the number of apprenticeships within the engineering sector). Gold plated apprenticeships schemes developing (artisan trades) (**Anglesey**)
- Feasibility study has taken place to consider whether a skills training centre for individuals aged between 16 and 24 would be effective. (**Anglesey**)
- Youth Focus and the Youth Service give access to Basic Skills provision as part of their programmes, including targeted access for young mothers (The Way Forward), a Young Carers project, the Looked After Children Education (LACED) project. (**Bridgend**)
- Voluntary sector group called the Bridge Mentoring Scheme, which concentrates on literacy and numeracy. (**Bridgend**)
- Youth Work Support is offered to young people in communities and in schools and colleges. Basic Skills support will take place within specialist projects such as Youth Access (**Caerphilly**)
- Whilst a number of projects funded through Cymorth and Extending Entitlement have basic skills as integral to their programmes, there is little 'systematic work', outside of school provision, being delivered which addresses this entitlement. The YPP together with CCET have identified this, through audit, as an area for development. (**Cardiff**)
- Young people can access support in basic skills development through participation in a variety of projects. A number of Youth workers have been trained within the Basic Skills Agency's quality framework to deliver Basic Skills training to 'clients'. This work is supported by a mobile unit, comprising of two basic skills tutors, who go to where the young people are and work with them in locations they are comfortable with. (**Carmarthenshire**)
- A good deal of work in this area is being undertaken with parents and children together. For the older group Coleg Ceredigion and Ceredigion Training are the main providers of Basic Skills training (**Ceredigion**)
- Within the Young People's Partnership, various service providers have been identified as offering basic skills programmes. Examples include the Youth

Access Initiative, Youth Gateway, Youth Choices, Compact Plus and Flintshire Youth and Community Service. The YPP brought representatives of these service providers together to produce the successful application to NOF under the 'Activities for Young People' Programme. (**Flintshire**)

- The Youth Service has a number of School Youth workers (1 funded through Cymorth) that help support and assist disaffected young people. The workers help provide the young people with opportunities to develop their basic skills and importantly life skills. These skills help the young people to be better equipped with school life reducing problems that can lead to exclusion. (**Gwynedd**)
- Nacro 'Youth Choices' a project funded by Cymorth also provides opportunities for 16-25 yr olds to develop basic skills such as literacy, numeracy and IT Skills. (**Gwynedd**)
- Oasis Youth Project provides youth support services including information, advice and support around basic skills. The LACES and Secondary Educational Support programmes provide focussed educational support to assist the development of basic skills where necessary. Barnardo's undertake Parent Support through Sure Start, providing structured parenting groups for mothers and fathers, these include basic skills groups that have had a high take up. The YOP provides young people with access to a wide variety of basic skills opportunities. (**Merthyr Tydfil**)
- Following extensive consultation with a wide network of partners in Monmouthshire a sub group of all the partnerships in the Children and Young People's Framework has been established in order to address the Basic and Life Skills needs of children and young people across the 0 –25 age range. Terms of reference have been identified and the group is due to meet for the first time in July 2003. (**Monmouthshire**)
- Basic skills are a key component of the Youth Service flexible curriculum provision. There are new key skills and basic skills strategic groups linked to both YPP and CCET. (**Neath Port Talbot**)
- The Nightrider project has run several basic skills courses and is now involving other partners such as Careers and health staff to widen the scope of the programme. They are providing mentoring services to young people. (**Newport**)
- Youth centres have developed ICT for learning activities through the availability of Success-maker and similar software packages that address basic skills needs. (**Pembrokeshire**)
- Where possible the YPP has tried to ensure that as many schemes as possible include recognised accreditation as part of the package, including ROA's, OCN's, NVQ's, Profile of Achievement, First Aid Certificate, Skills Awards, etc. (**Powys**)
- Careers advisers (including Youth Gateway) have recently had basic skills awareness training. Advisers liaise with basic skills providers on behalf of clients to identify the most appropriate. Careers Wales Gwent (CWG) endorses young people to enable them to access ELWa funded training (Skill build) including basic skills training where relevant. (**Torfaen**)

- Mentor support scheme for individuals in literacy/numeracy and computing support groups. Management of anger programmes. (**Torfaen**)
 - The Youth Service extended their provision as a result of needs identified through the Young People's Partnership to provide an alternative curriculum for young people in danger of being excluded from school. This provision has provided 20 places since last September where these young people are receiving full time education and working towards recognised qualifications. (**Vale of Glamorgan**)
 - Proposal to involve Barnardo's volunteers as approved Basic Skills workers. (**Wrexham**)
- 3. A wide and varied range of opportunities to participate in volunteering and active citizenship**
- Increased/new uptake of opportunities provided by voluntary sector organisations such as Prince's Trust Cymru, Duke of Edinburgh Scheme (**many areas across Wales including Ynys Mon, Newport, Flintshire, Merthyr Tydfil, RCT, Powys, Torfaen, Vale of Glamorgan, Cardiff**)
 - Peer group support established by the NSPCC with Holyhead Secondary School. (**Anglesey**)
 - Planning to combine "local democracy" issues for young people within Children's Week. (**Anglesey**)
 - The Youth Works project in Wildmill, Bridgend, is developing a range of community based activities to improve the local environment, involving local young people directly in environmental schemes, and also in video and similar arts projects which examine and illustrate local issues. One current programme, for instance, involves the group in making a film about why street furniture gets vandalised. The project is part funded by Adshel, the bus stop company. (**Bridgend**)
 - Youth Focus includes amongst its 25 projects opportunities for involvement in environmental schemes, in arts and music projects which explore local issues and propose solutions to the issues raised. (**Bridgend**)
 - A number of projects funded by Cymorth are aimed at fostering citizenship. Young Parents Intensive Support Service – organised by Barnardos which aims to assist young parents to become socially responsible citizens; Restart Cardiff run by Safer Cardiff which is a partnership venture, involving organisations in developing and implementing strategies to prevent criminality through early interventions in the family, school and community. (**Cardiff**)
 - A number of the projects supported through the YPP provide opportunities for young people to participate in community action groups, which have created a range of projects that enhance communities and help to improve the image of young people as perceived by the older generation. (**Carmarthenshire**)
 - The Youth Service have housed a project in which a Voluntary Agency worker has been located within the Youth Service to promote volunteering amongst young people. (**Ceredigion**)

- The audit of provision commissioned by the YPP will provide a co-ordinated schedule of services across all sectors for Young People 11-25yrs. The information gained from this audit will be made available in a variety of formats so that young people will know about the wide range of opportunities, which exist within the county. The YPP is currently working in conjunction with the Library service and the Children's Information Service to ensure that the audit will be accessible and updated annually. (**Flintshire**)
- The Play Development Officer, job centre, Sure Start, Homestart and the YPP have been in discussions to try to target young mothers into taking part as leaders in the summer play schemes. (**Flintshire**)
- The Education Inclusion Programme encourages young people to develop their understanding of citizenship through the involvement of outside agencies, e.g. The Merthyr Tydfil Police Youth Liaison team, FPA Cymru and Youth Gateway. The Cynon and Merthyr Groundwork Trust support understanding of environmental issues. (**Merthyr Tydfil**)
- Members of the Youth Council meet the Cabinet on a quarterly basis. (**Neath Port Talbot**)
- Young people are being supported to take part in community activities such as Communities First Partnerships and being consulted on areas such as transport and crime reduction. (**Newport**)
- There are currently seventeen youth forums in Pembrokeshire representing geographic areas of the county and also specific groups – looked after young people, disabled young people and young carers. These forums send representatives to the Pembrokeshire Youth Assembly, to Funky Dragon and to the YPP meetings. The Youth Service is taking a strong role in supporting the youth forums and their links with other youth groups, both voluntary and statutory. (**Pembrokeshire**)
- The Youth Service mounts volunteer projects on a regular basis which are designed to enhance the quality of life in local communities. There is a concern within the YPP that this is an area of work that needs to be expanded and as the national office for student volunteering is based in the county it is hoped to co-operate with this organisation to extend opportunities. (**Powys**)
- Taff Ely Youth Forum has held a Sexual Health Workshop, and Rhondda Youth Forum have held a charity fundraising event with the Fire Service. (**Rhondda Cynon Taf**)
- The Volunteers in Parks Scheme encourages young people actively to take a positive role in the development of their local parks through things like event management, conservation and administration, consultation and design. (**Swansea**)
- Swansea Youth Forum has involved young people in organising festivals, conferences, strong participation in local democracy week, the "Hear by Right" process which has also run roadshows, and the development of a Youth Charter whereby a range of organisations including the Local Authority will be assessed for their openness and responsiveness to young people issues. (**Swansea**)

- Volunteering opportunities available via current partnership with Community Services Volunteers. (**Torfaen**)
- Engagement of young people in recruitment and selection of staff. (**Torfaen**)
- A wide range of Community activities including painting benches in Glyn Ceiriog, litter picks, concerts and visits to residential homes for the elderly etc (**Wrexham**)
- Volunteer programmes for young people, people with special needs, and young offenders are run at Wrexham Country Parks – more than 2,500 volunteer days in 2002/03. (**Wrexham**)

4. High quality responsive and accessible services and facilities

- Project Lydia (North West Wales NHS Trust) is a youth project aimed at empowering and enabling young people to make informed judgements regarding their health, behaviour and sexuality. The aims of the project are to ensure that young people have information regarding their own health; to empower young people to make informed decisions; to ensure young people who may not normally access services have equal opportunities; to involve young people in planning services. Its services have been extended within secondary schools on the Island. (**Anglesey**)
- Young people made a presentation on the need for an indoor Skatepark, (and a very convincing case). As a result, a campaigning group (“Think Sk8”) was set up, supported by statutory and voluntary sector youth workers. At the instigation of the Leader of the Council and the Director of Education, Leisure and Community Services, a Partnership/Think Sk8 working group has made considerable progress, identifying a site and a plan of action, and is commissioning a study by consultants which will allow funding applications to be made. In the meantime, the indoor Bowling Green at the Leisure Centre will again be converted to a summer “Ramptastic” skatepark. (**Bridgend**)
- Statutory Youth Service developed teams of youth workers to work with schools/ colleges and communities in supporting their young people. To facilitate this work, additional resources and equipment have been provided on a strategic basis. The work is ongoing, however, and audits and reviews of current provision is a feature of the strategic development. (**Carmarthenshire**).
- Increased number of young people aged 11-25 accessing youth work support across Cardiff. Specifically through;
 - Extended opening times in all youth centre provision
 - Increased access to youth work provision; specifically weekends and school holidays.
 - Appointment of a Detached Youth Work Coordinator
 - The development of 7 neighbourhood detached teams to support young people not engaged through existing services and specifically targeted in the southern arc of Cardiff
 - Targeted detached teams in Adamsdown, Ely and Caerau, Grangetown, Llanrumney, Trowbridge, Gabalfa and Splott;
 - In addition a large number of ‘innovative’ projects have been supported in response to identified need. Examples of practice include; Support of a

mobile youth work provision in Ely and Caerau; Library-Youth work project in Ely Library. (**Cardiff**)

- Integrated centres and the development of services within this system for play and recreation. (**Conwy**)
- The YPP co-ordinator is working across various agencies to develop an inclusive approach to consulting with young people; the outcomes of this work will serve to inform the development of services, which better meet the needs of young people. (**Flintshire**)
- The partnership has employed a full time researcher who will be responsible for providing the development process with up to date information, thus providing organisations and sectors with the opportunity to ensure that the services are having a positive impact and can be modified to meet the ever-changing needs. (**Flintshire**)
- The 'Clywed' project, which is partly funded by Cymorth, helps to assess providers of service to ensure that they are of quality, and accessible. The project uses a mixture of young people and adults to assess services by asking providers if they meet a number of criteria. The providers are then given the opportunity to address issues and if they do meet a required standard are rewarded by being able display the 'Clywed' project logo. Importantly not only do young people benefit from influencing services they also receive training to undertake assessments. In 2003-2004 they anticipate that they will have assessed 15 service providers. (**Gwynedd**)
- The Youth Access Initiative provides a Mobile Outreach Youth bus operating 4 evenings a week. Outreach workers undertake lunchtime visits to Secondary and Merthyr College on a fortnightly basis. In addition to facilities at a central office base Drop in Centres operate at Bedlinog and Trelewis. (**Merthyr Tydfil**)
- An Information service operates networking in schools with Canllaw Online and there are a wide range of videos, leaflets and posters available to young people on a range of issues. (**Merthyr Tydfil**)
- In response to a recent audit of youth provision, hours of opening have been extended for youth facilities during holiday periods. (**Neath Port Talbot**)
- The use of common basic assessments will mean that young people are referred to appropriate services more quickly. (**Newport**)
- Young people from the Youth Assembly sit on each of our Mission Possible sub groups that are looking at the 10 entitlements and seeking to develop priority objectives that relate to each. Research carried out by the YPP yielded several recommendations for improvement of services that the YPP are currently addressing notably improved accessibility for disabled young people. (**Pembrokeshire**)
- For young people in outlying areas, the YPP has ensured that Mobile Information Services and the Outreach Youth Work Programme deliver a high quality responsive initial service but also operate an effective sign posting system and provide support when accessing extended services. (**Powys**)

- Workers to develop Welsh medium Youth Work provision within secondary schools and the Youth Service. (**Rhondda Cynon Taf**)
- In response to requests from young people themselves, a youth information strategy was agreed by City and County of Swansea and the Youth Information Centre 'Infonation' was opened in 2002. It is very widely used. (**Swansea**)
- A group of young care leavers was commissioned to re-write the Social Services children's complaints leaflet and to produce an information pack for children coming into care. (**Swansea**)
- The development of Careers Wales Online (with pilots starting in 2003-04) will provide a range of careers information, advice and career planning services on line for all ages. Clients can contact advisers by mobile phones (and e-mail) - especially important for Youth Gateway clients being 'mentored'. (**Torfaen**)
- Young Persons Clinic that is open various days and times (including Saturdays) - intended to be YP friendly and have been agreed with YP. (**Torfaen**)
- Young people wanted a base in the area where they could obtain information, training, recreation and personal development. Area 41 an exciting new youth provision situated in 41 Holton Road was developed with this evidence in mind. (**Vale of Glamorgan**)
- The Young People's Partnership, linking with the Children's Information Service, is producing a comprehensive Directory of Services in response to a priority identified through consultation to provide accurate and accessible information to young people. A questionnaire has been circulated widely to gather relevant information. The information will be available in both hard copy and computer formats in a variety of venues including Youth Centres, libraries, schools and other public buildings. Information about all services for young people including where, when and the cost of the service, as well as availability of services, qualifications of staff and inclusion of young people with special needs will be easily accessed. (**Vale of Glamorgan**)
- Info-shop moved to more accessible location and highlighted by Estyn as a model of good practice. (**Wrexham**)
- Response substance misuse team established working in schools and youth clubs on peer education substance misuse issues. Also drop in facility and needle exchange and a variety of support services for post and pre detox substance users. (**Wrexham**)

5. Independent, specialist career advice and guidance and student support and counselling services

- Careers Wales West representative member of Carmarthenshire Young People's Partnership. 100% of young people participating in YPP initiatives offered the opportunity to discuss career plans with qualified Guidance practitioner (Careers or Personal Adviser) from Careers Wales West. During individual interviews participants have the opportunity to agree/draw up a Personal Career Plan. (**Carmarthenshire**)

- There is recognition in the priorities developed by the YPP that, whilst careers advice is well networked in Cardiff, co-ordinated and extended systems of guidance and support for young people are underdeveloped. To this end a task group has been established. **(Cardiff)**
- Careers Wales advisers arrange as far as possible to deliver services at locations where young people are receiving services from the programme providers. **(Carmarthenshire)**
- Careers Wales North East (CWNE) is a significant member of the YPP and contributes actively to the development of the YPP Plan. The advice and guidance offered by CWNE is independent tailored to the needs of individual young people. Other member organisations of the YPP which offer student support services include Youth Access Initiative, Youth Gateway, Compact Plus, Flintshire Youth and Community Service and the pastoral support services offered within high schools. **(Flintshire)**
- Mapping exercise provides a constructive partnership approach to identifying a co-ordinated approach to developing a range of information services to young people including independent, specialist careers advice and guidance and student support and counselling services and developing an action plan based on a partnership approach and locally identified solutions. Specialist organisations have had the opportunity to work through the YPP, which aids communication and support. Organisations such as Careers Wales, the Job Centre, Merthyr College, Statutory Youth Service, Oasis Youth Project which provides an information, advice and support service to young people all play an active role in the YPP and these and other key partners have had opportunities to feed into the mapping exercise and development of the action plans. **(Merthyr Tydfil)**
- The Youth Access Initiative liaises and works in partnership with careers, local college and training providers. A tracking system for Post 16 year olds is operational. The mobile provision advertises local counselling services and drop in centres and there is a referral system in place. Staff at the Youth Access Initiative work closely with the Primary Mental Health team and also offer one to one support and individual advice. **(Merthyr Tydfil)**
- The YPP's Mission Possible group with responsibility for this Entitlement has been tasked to develop a strategy that includes the following elements. The strategy will be finally agreed, following public consultation, for January 2004. Key areas of emphasis will be information, advice, vocational learning and meaningful work experience. Young People's inclusion in decision-making is a vital element in achieving success and a Youth Assembly representative sits on the group. **(Pembrokeshire)**
- Careers Wales Powys work is extended by the Mobile Advice and Information Services who provide direct face to face advice but also act as a "signposting" agency to other services. Walkways Powys is a Youth Information and Counselling Service for 14-19 year olds operating as a pilot project in Llandrindod Wells and it is the intention of the YPP to engage with this service with a view to encompassing it within the partnership and to investigate ways of expanding the service as it is proving to be very successful. **(Powys)**
- A joint Careers Service / Youth Service seminar has taken place. The Youth Service Association has been established. The partnership has provided support

for 'Eye to Eye' to develop counselling services. (**Rhondda Cynon Taf**)

- A detached youth work project has been established to support young people to access education, training and employment. (**Rhondda Cynon Taf**)
- All students 14-19 in F/T education currently receive a basic entitlement to support with impartial career planning (Information booklets, software programmes/careers information, group work sessions and individual interviews). Careers Wales Gwent, through improved partnership working, is making progress at ensuring all pupils in KS4 receive their basic entitlement plus a programme of additional support for those who need it. (**Torfaen**)
- During the last year a specialist team of advisers has been set up to deliver a programme of additional activities and support in Yr 10 and a Youth Gateway programme in Yr 11(Part ESF Funded) to pupils at risk of disengagement. (IMPACT) (**Torfaen**)
- Careers Wales and Barry College hold at least biannual sessions giving advice and guidance to the young parents attending Gladstone College. (**Vale of Glamorgan**)
- NSPCC project provides early intervention by offering direct access to counselling services for 120 young people in secondary schools. (**Wrexham**)

6. Personal support and advice – where and when needed and in appropriate formats – with clear ground rules on confidentiality

- A need identified at the first Framework Conference was for a Clinic (run by the local Trust) to be open on Saturday afternoons in the Town Centre, improving access and confidentiality. A commitment to open such a Clinic has been made, and a study to explore the details of use and need recently completed by the Trust and the Partnership's Research & Information Officer. The Youth Focus programme includes a Young Carers project, a Mediation and Advice service and a substance misuse service. (**Bridgend**)
- The youth service will support young people in this entitlement by offering impartial advice and advocacy through the Basement youth information network. Personal Youth Work support takes place for young people with disabilities, girls' groups, boys' groups, gay & lesbian work. (**Caerphilly**)
- Through the YPP, which has provided the context, confidence and authority to progress the establishment of a task group, mechanisms are being explored to coordinate existing mentoring projects. The current discussions are covering issues around quality of provision, recruitment of mentors, duplication and gaps in current provision, and training issues. Recommendations generated by the task group will inform YPP plans for the spring 2004. (Cardiff)
- Cardiff Youth Service is developing, in partnership with Canllaw Online and Leisure and Lifelong Learning services, specific outlets for access to information and advice with suitably trained staff.

Information outlets established through youth section initiatives by April 2003

15 information points

11 information zones
3 information shops (**Cardiff**)

- Youth workers continually support individuals engaged with the services. The support will vary according to the nature of the project, the needs of the individual and the circumstances. For instance, youth workers based in secondary schools or the further education college will support young people with a range of personal, family, or social issues which could involve advocating on their behalf with school / college departments or personnel, linking between the school and the family, signposting them to appropriate other agencies accompanying them to difficult interviews as requested etc. Other project workers will support young people with advice on engagement with youth access, youth gateway, new deal or other training providers as well as linking in with the careers company as in the previous chapter. (**Carmarthenshire**)
- Flintshire Youth and Community Service are developing a range of information services for young people, based on Canllaw on-line specifications. (**Flintshire**)
- The audit of need that was produced for the YPP in 2002 clearly highlighted the fact that there was a real need to improve the availability of advice and information for young people. Gwynedd Local Authority took the lead in developing a young people website. Young people helped design the content and layout of the website. Local professionals were asked to contribute information and if possible provide useful links for the site. (**Gwynedd**)
- The website, which will go live in June 2003, will provide information on a number of matters such as general health issues, mental health issues, information on youth clubs and also information on student grants. The website will also be an important tool in signposting young people to further more detailed information. (**Gwynedd**)
- Oasis Youth Project provides information, support and advice to young people in a setting that is geared towards the needs of young people and environment that they will find comfortable and welcoming. (**Merthyr Tydfil**)
- Drugaid provides a range of services from education and awareness, to working with drug users. Their remit is to promote understanding and awareness of issues related to drugs and alcohol amongst young people and those working with them. (**Merthyr Tydfil**)
- Recent research using The Dartington Model has highlighted a clear gap in counselling services for children and young people within Neath Port Talbot. The YPP will be developing a work programme using this report. (**Neath Port Talbot**)
- There is support for young tenants through the young tenants support group. This is reducing the number of tenancies which fail and also helping to reduce the nuisance factor these tenants often appear to cause to neighbours. They are learning that they have to take responsibilities seriously if they are to be trusted as tenants. (**Newport**)
- The supported housing scheme run by Barnados for vulnerable young people has been increased with extra funding from Cymorth. Young people are supported in their first tenancies and then helped to move (**Newport**)

- The YPP's Mission Possible group with responsibility for this Entitlement has been tasked to develop a strategy that includes the following elements. The strategy will be finally agreed, following public consultation, for January 2004. Key area of emphasis will be developing a 'continuum' of support services that meet the needs of young people. Young People's inclusion in decision-making is a vital element in achieving success and a Youth Assembly representative sits on the group. (**Pembrokeshire**)
 - The YPP has encompassed the Health of Young People in Powys Steering Group as a fully operational sub-group. With Health Promotion as the lead organisation this group is piloting 2 initiatives at Llanfair Caereinion and Llandrindod High. These are known as OASIS, Our Advice Shop in School. In addition the sub-group has links with employment services and supports those unemployed within the age range in need of support and advice relating to health matters through the New Deal initiative. If the OASIS pilots are successful it is intended to role this programme out across the county, bared on the High School catchment areas. (**Rhondda Cynon Taf**)
 - A feasibility study has been undertaken to explore Integrated Centres concept. The partnership has provided support for 'Eye to Eye' to develop counselling services with young people. This service enables young people to communicate effectively and become peer counsellors. (**Rhondda Cynon Taf**)
 - In Swansea College a College counsellor is available on a half time basis and offers confidential personal counselling to students. Full-time students are allocated a personal tutor. (**Swansea**)
 - The Youth Action Partnership offers a peer led approach to a range of issues such as teenage pregnancy, personal safety and anti-bullying, burglary reduction and environmental issues. (**Swansea**)
 - Support to young people and their families through problem solving groups which have resulted in 30 out of 36 potential Anti Social Behaviour Orders being dealt with to the satisfaction of partners and families before becoming an ASBO. (**Torfaen**)
 - In addition to existing work being undertaken by relevant partners, the Youth Service has extended its service in response to consultation, to provide outreach workers. These workers provide a support and advice service to young people in the Barry and Penarth areas wherever young people "hang out", e.g. street corners, town centres and parks. (**Vale of Glamorgan**)
 - Open access sexual health clinic for young people established in town centre location. (**Wrexham**)
- 7. Advice on health, housing benefits and other issues provided in accessible and welcoming settings**
- A special project based within the Housing section of the Personal Services Directorate, in a partnership with Shelter Cymru, provides individual housing option plans for any people suffering housing difficulties, including young people. It is the only such scheme in Wales. (**Bridgend**)

- Support for the Bee Healthy project in Grangetown. The project, run out of Channel View Leisure Centre, involves health visitors and youth workers providing a service that aims to make health services more informal and accessible to young people. (**Cardiff**)
- It is recognised in the YPP audit that health issues are underrepresented and in response health is included in current YPP priorities. Work is currently being undertaken to develop a health action plan, through the Young People's Health & Wellbeing Group. This group, will relate directly to the YPP. Initial draft planning includes
 - Highlighting concerns to develop partnership work around young people and sexual health
 - Audit of condom provision being undertaken in relation to young people living in disadvantaged communities and students.
 - Cross sector sexual health training needs being identified
 - New outlets for condom distribution being explored
 - Multi-agency sexual health training starting to take place
 - Further development of sexual health training required
 - Early development work commenced on Cardiff wide sexual health protocols.
 - Specific young people's community health service established in Llanrumney and Grangetown
 - Integrated sexual health work being developed in Ely, Grangetown/Butetown and St Mellons
 - Further work required to develop a Cardiff wide young people's sexual/general health service (**Cardiff**)
- Youth workers have received training in benefits issues and legislation and can support their clients in this way, others will refer to and make initial contact with specialist health related agencies as requested, e.g. substance misuse, homelessness etc. (**Carmarthenshire**)
- Young Conwy website being developed. A bus-in project is being set up. A sexual health advisor. All of which are being funded by Cymorth. (**Conwy**)
- Nacro Youth Choices a project funded by Cymorth provides opportunities for young people to receive advice on Health, benefits and other issues that are relevant. The service has an open door policy and is located within Bangor. (**Gwynedd**)
- The Task and Finish groups established by the YPP have looked at the issue of developing a co-ordinated approach to information services. A service that is accessible, independent and responsive to the needs of young people was highlighted as a priority and this is currently being taken forward on a partnership basis within the YPP. A multi agency subgroup of the YPP has been established to take this forward and is in the process of completing an Objective One application for a Young People's Information Centre. It is envisaged that the proposed centre will provide accommodation for voluntary and statutory sector youth initiatives and will build on the developments to date of projects such as the Oasis Youth Project, Youth Access Initiative, and Careers Youth Gateway etc. The proposed approach of a partnership information shop will eradicate any issues of duplication and ensure that the services maximises the funding available, thus providing a sustainable development. It is anticipated that such a

centre will be developed in partnership with young people, but will provide a range of information, advice, counselling and support services in a variety of formats in a setting that is geared to the needs of young people and in an environment that is welcoming and accessible. We will be relying on the input of young people themselves to ensure that these ambitions are met. **(Merthyr Tydfil)**

- Funding and premises have been secured for the development of a Young People Resource Centre in Port Talbot “The Hideout”. Young people will be able to access a variety of advice on numerous issues under one roof. Agencies will be encouraged to deliver outreach services from the centre where appropriate. **(Neath Port Talbot)**
- Through the YPP, Neath Port Talbot College have addressed financial issues faced by students by forging links with Jobcentre Plus to clarify benefit regulations in relation to financial assistance offered by the college. **(Neath Port Talbot)**
- The INFOSHOP continues to be a great success and is well used by young people who like to use the computers and seek support and advice on a range of topics. Outreach sites are now being developed in sites identified by young people and in schools. The Primary Mental Health Care Project runs drop in sessions at the INFOSHOP on a regular basis offering help and support to young people and are also increasing its work in schools and other settings. **(Newport)**
- The ‘willy nilly’ condom distribution scheme is proving to be very popular with young people. Youth worker and others in contact with young people have taken part in an extensive training programme to give advice and to ensure that young people know where to get their free condoms. The information shop staff, voluntary groups and young people played a key role in the development of the scheme. Free condoms are now available in a variety of places including the INFOSHOP once the young people have received the counselling and advice which is a major part of the scheme. **(Newport)**
- A Social Worker has been designated to work with young people in the Housing Advice Centre, Pontypridd. **(Rhondda Cynon Taf)**
- Cymorth funding supports the development of young people’s health clinics. **(Rhondda Cynon Taf)**
- The Citizens Advice Bureau holds advice sessions at some community centres. **(Swansea)**
- Minority and Ethnic Communities Youth Support Project established and 66 young people engaged. **(Swansea)**
- CAB advisor based in GP Surgeries **(Torfaen)**
- Sexual Health Educators providing training to professionals and others including foster carers on sexual health education/self esteem programmes. STRIDES project training Community workers to work with boys and young men on sexual health and relationship issues. Individual assessment. Secondary health assessment and support, usually all provided within young persons setting. Very strong operational multi-agency links ensure that advice is accessible. Very close

links exist with the Sexual Health Outreach Worker who regularly has input with individual students and groups. Training and support for youth and community workers to develop their skills and confidence to work with boys and young men aged 11-20 on sex and relationships. Delivering planned programmes on information and advice relating to drug education, alcohol misuse, smoking and avoiding young pregnancies. Increased independent living sessions in youth clubs – healthy eating, budgeting etc (**Torfaen**)

- Accommodation strategy for young people being developed within the County. (**Wrexham**)

8. Recreational and social opportunities in a safe and accessible environment

- As part of the review of funding arrangements, as part of the Cymorth planning, and looking forward to the review of the YPP Plan, a network of voluntary sector provision, seen as strategically important to the provision of Youth Services, is being identified. This will form the basis, with statutory provision, of an “improvement plan”, linked to formal membership of the Partnership and acceptance of the need for appropriate policies and practices. (**Bridgend**)
- A network of Community Centres, Sports Centres and youth centres will be maintained, directly and in partnership with the voluntary sector. (**Caerphilly**)
- Young people can access a range of activities promoting positive use of recreational time through engagement with the projects supported by the YPP. These include the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award , involvement with ‘drop in ‘ projects supporting music, arts and crafts, adventure activities etc. specifically targeted activity programmes – e.g. motor projects, video mixing et. In addition, a number of holiday activity projects are provided by the youth service and supported by the partnership. Links are also created with centre based youth service part time and voluntary sector provision. (**Carmarthenshire**)
- The Summer Academy of sport has been extended to all Leisure Centres in the County giving young people the opportunity to experience and participate in a range of sporting activities during the summer holidays. The county’s 6 Leisure Centres are located on the campuses of the Secondary schools. All secondary school children and most of the primary feeder schools have opportunities to use these facilities. Likewise with the privately owned swimming pools. (**Ceredigion**)
- Some of the Play grant has been used to provide recreational opportunities for young people in alternative education. (**Conwy**)
- The YPP will link in with Menter Iaith to consult Young People in Fiesta Flint, a social event for Welsh Speakers in the county. (**Flintshire**)
- The audit undertaken will provide a comprehensive guide to what is available as well as the gaps locally with regard to recreational and social opportunities for young people in Merthyr. Many of the Communities First Partnerships are undertaking local mapping exercises and it is hoped that these will feed into work being undertaken by the YPP to develop local directories of opportunities for young people. (**Merthyr Tydfil**)
- To ensure that youth services are provided safely and to a high standard the Local Authority has established and runs a Youth Services practitioners group.

This is a forum for all full time youth workers from both the voluntary and statutory sector that shares good practice and offers structured professional development and training. (**Merthyr Tydfil**)

- Young people are being consulted on the site of a skateboard park in the centre of the town and the design of the park. A project team involving leisure services, youth service and young people is now set up to work on the development. (**Newport**)
- Developing closer working relationships between all service providers and young people to ensure that the needs of young people are reflected in the YPP's objectives. Young People's inclusion in decision-making is a vital element in achieving success and a Youth Assembly representative sits on the YPP (**Pembrokeshire**)
- A number of weekend residential activities and expeditions have taken place, including the Tall Ships sailing experience. (**Rhondda Cynon Taf**)
- 900 young people took part in the Youth Awareness Day held on April 26th. 168 young people participated in climbing activity, 80 tried their hand at kayaking and twenty other activities were available. (**Rhondda Cynon Taf**)
- A proposal was developed to engage excluded young people in challenging activities. This project funded by NOF has been aimed at young care leavers, young people from ethnic minorities and young homeless people. In the last year or so more programmes for the arts, citizenship, leisure and recreation have been developed involving music, dance, hairdressing, cookery, sport, adventure activities, etc. (**Swansea**)
- Encouraging work with animals as a recreational pursuit and with a view to employment, by offering opportunities for young people to volunteer during Youth Access time and then out of hours e.g. at weekends at Greenmeadow Community farm, undertaking OCNs. (**Torfaen**)
- Increased facilities and recreational opportunities to young people in Communities First Areas, partly through mainstream budget and partly through Communities First Preparatory Funding. (**Torfaen**)
- Area 41 was officially opened on Tuesday 22nd April 2003. The Vale Youth Service, VIBE Experience - a unique voluntary organisation which carries out capacity building work with young people using the latest media technology as a method of engaging them - and Vale Youth Forum are equally active partners working together to provide young people with an array of activities in a safe, funky, futuristic environment. Inside Area 41 you will find free internet access with the ability to attain CV's and computer based learning. There is also a free pool table, playstation, sky digital and a juice bar that promotes healthy eating. The chill out area comes complete with a unique mood wall that creates a relaxed atmosphere and the excellent surround system compliments the cinematic projection facilities that can be used for viewing the latest DVD's, sky and as a tool for training. The digital music studio offers download facilities and access to music tutors. There is also a dedicated, young persons' meeting room and a wall of information that covers the ten entitlements of Extending Entitlement. Area 41 is also available to other youth organisations and agencies to use for their particular client groups. Area 41 has played a major role in youth projects even

prior to its official opening. Projects such as World Aids Day, Splash Holiday activities and International Women's week offered a variety of activities for young people ranging from drug and alcohol workshops to hair and beauty advice. A series of summer activities are now being planned in consultation with young people, for young people including football, baseball, BBQ's and beach parties. **(Vale of Glamorgan)**

- Draft plan for proposed Integrated Children's Centres being developed for Communities First areas and young people with disabilities. **(Wrexham)**
- 9. Sporting, artistic, musical and outdoor experiences to develop talents, broaden horizons and promote rounded perspectives including both national and international contexts**
- Cynllun Traws Cymru, (sponsored by Millennium Stadium Trust,) established by Youth Service. Holyhead "twinned" with Rhondda Cynon Taf County Forum. Llanerchymedd "twinned" with Llandaf, Cardiff, and focus upon extended environmental, musical and sporting opportunities. **(Anglesey)**
 - There is a good network of provision for dance, sport, arts and music around the whole Borough, involving statutory and voluntary sectors. This is well promoted through local competitions and events, giving access in their turn to wider opportunities nationally and internationally. Opportunities for challenging outdoor activities are also well provided. These include:
 - Promotion of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award through the employment of a Development Worker within the Youth Service.
 - Music and dance programmes at centres throughout the Borough, voluntary and statutory. These are demonstrated at the annual Bridgend Talent Show, held every year at Porthcawl Pavilion, at which up to 200 young people perform the music, dance and singing routines developed through the year, to an audience of invited guests, families and friends.
 - The Way Forward is a project for young mothers, mostly in their teens, who through an accredited programme of crafts, arts, parenting skills and basic skills are introduced to further education and training opportunities.
 - Annually, several hundred young people from Bridgend have the opportunity to take part in a fortnight of outdoor activities at a camp in the Symond's Yat area. **(Bridgend)**
 - The YPP has supported a successful partnership bid to NOF that targets disengaged young people through the medium of the arts. The project will come on line later this year. **(Cardiff)**
 - The Flintshire Sports Development team and the YPP are working in partnership with the Sports Council for Wales in response to Welsh Assembly Government targets around extending the participation rates by targeted groups in sporting activities. This includes open days at sports centres to encourage targeted groups to take more of an interest in sporting events, and a number of sports clubs will be available to share their expertise. We are also currently discussing the possibility of a skating/wheel based county event. Young people will be consulted at both events. **(Flintshire)**
 - Under the scheme 'get out and about' disaffected young people will have the opportunity to undertake taster sessions in outdoor activities. Following the

sessions, if they decide to become more involved they can then undertake a programme of activities that will help them gain a number of personal and social skills. The programme will also try and help the young people gain accreditation in relevant outdoor activity qualifications. It is hoped that around 165 young people will be able to benefit from the scheme in the next three years.

(Gwynedd)

- The activities at the Groundwork Trust provide outdoor education, and the young people have been supported in attending a local football tournament by the youth worker in her own time. **(Merthyr Tydfil)**
- The Activities for Young People project funded by NOF will provide a responsive and accessible funding source for activities. This bid has now been approved and is due to be launched in September 2003. It will enable young people to have access to funding for any activities they chose outside of the school environment. An access pack is currently being developed by young people to ensure that maximum use is made of this fund by as many young people as possible to undertake a broad a range of activities, including sporting, artistic, musical and outdoor experiences. **(Merthyr Tydfil)**
- With assistance from Arts for All, a dedicated community arts worker has been funded to work with 11 to 25 year olds in particular. This is a hugely successful and dynamic project. **(Neath Port Talbot)**
- A dance competition started last year is growing in popularity and is now a very popular event with young people with team and individual competitions. **(Newport)**
- The Youth Service and the Recreation and Countryside Service are integral parts of the partnerships. The Youth Service provides open access to recreational and social opportunities but also provides specific programmes within the sporting, artistic, musical and outdoor experiences, some of which are linked to national and international arenas. In addition it provides financial support and works closely with Powys YFC and the voluntary youth sector ensuring that both operate in safe and accessible environments through monitoring and registration procedures. **(Powys)**
- A Sport V Crime initiative is funded directly by the YPP from Cymorth funding and provides a programme that encourages young people to become involved in sporting activities and provides progression for their aspirations. **(Powys)**
- A NOF bid is providing funding to establish new outdoor education facilities at Glyncornel Environmental Centre. The range of outdoor education opportunities has been extended, and two new outdoor education Youth Workers have been recruited. **(Rhondda Cynon Taf)**
- RCT Youth Theatre has been established, through a partnership between RCT Youth Service, RCT Cultural Services and Spectacle Theatre. **(Rhondda Cynon Taf)**
- Park events cover such items as: Street art work shop; mural painting; African drumming; DJ Workshop; salsa/aerobics. **(Swansea)**

- In local contexts students have had the opportunity to gain skills and develop talents in the areas of sports and the arts e.g. being in productions, doing performances at Mayoral and other functions and being able to produce productions. In sports, we have given young people who have difficulties free passes (e.g. young people leaving care, in contact with YOT) to use sporting facilities with their mentors or alone. This has resulted from partnership working with Leisure, Youth and Culture and South West Area Project (**Torfaen**)
- Wide range of programme providing opportunities for young people to participate in cultural experiences – some 16,000 pupils visited facilities or participated in organised programmes at the Council museums, art centre and country parks. (**Wrexham**)

10. The right to be consulted to participate in decision-making, and to be heard, on all matters which concern them or have an impact on their lives

- Participation Facilitator appointed. Supported by sessional workers in developing Llais Ni: Youth Môn (County Youth Forum. Youth Môn now well established, also participation fun days. DANDI (Disabled and Non Disabled Information Group) meeting on a regular basis at Bodedern Secondary School. Participation Advisory Group ongoing. Managing Director approved process for feedback from relevant departments/ agencies to young people on their concerns/views/aspirations. (**Anglesey**)
- Bridgend Youth Council is well established, with a full time Participation Support Worker and a full programme of activities. These include testing out the effectiveness of services as “anonymous clients”, advising the Partnership on its programmes, liaising with groups of young people in their local settings, and linking to the wider representative structures in Wales (through Funky Dragon), the UK, and beyond (eg at the Earth Summit). They have regular training activities, including residential weekends. As advisors to the Partnership, the BYC has been instrumental in developing the programme of “Have a Say Day” consultations currently being carried out by the Partnership, supported by additional events organised through the Communities First programme. At the last “Have a Say Day” in the Ogmere Valley, over 80 young people helped to develop the priorities identified in the 2002 consultation process within their own local area. (**Bridgend**)
- The NOF project, Bridgend Superchannel is being set up with two Steering Groups, an agency Steering Group who will facilitate the practical processes, and a Young People’s Steering Group who will be responsible for the control and development of the programme’s content. This programme will also be an important vehicle for, firstly, allowing young people’s issues and concerns to be examined and aired, secondly, providing an opportunity for wider discussion, and thirdly, for allowing the Partnership, through its own programmes or through participation in young people’s broadcasts, to feed back progress and to put over the agencies’ views on the issues raised. (**Bridgend**)
- Caerphilly Youth forum will continue to develop linked to youth councils & consultation in projects/centres. Youth information will also be made available through IT (internet, CD rom etc.) and through the authorities intranet. (**Caerphilly**)

- The YPP is actively supporting the participation of young people in Cardiff. It has established a task group to drive this forward and is currently planning a series of events with young people from various representative bodies. The focus of the work will be on defining the most appropriate ways for them, and the broader constituencies of young people to engage with both the YPP and Children's Partnership. In addition the YPP is in the process of appointing a full time officer to drive participation across the partnerships. (**Cardiff**)
- A major consultation exercise has been undertaken with hard to reach young people and this is being followed up in the creation of a Youth Forum. Social Services have a system in place with their looked after young people. Schools Councils are consulted and pilot projects with Primary schools are due to take place. (**Ceredigion**)
- Consultation strategy and young people's group being developed. (**Conwy**)
- The YPP has been working closely with the Flintshire Youth Forum worker to develop a consultation and participation model. Consultation is seen to be a process that can be used in a number of arenas, either as part of another event such as Compact Plus celebration event, 'Come into Sport' event, Menter Iaith – 'Fiesta Fflint' event, or as a separate event such as the 6 monthly county- wide conferences specifically for consultation and participation. The YPP have decided to utilise and encourage the current forums, youth councils and youth groups within Flintshire to get involved on a more county wide basis. (**Flintshire**)
- It was highlighted that developments were needed to ensure that the views and opinions of young people were able to influence decision-making processes. In order to address the issue the YPP established a task and finish group in summer 2002. The task and finish group in conjunction with young people were instrumental in organising and planning a residential event, bringing together young people to discuss issues relevant to them. The event involved taking part in outdoor activities and workshops that were facilitated by young people and adults. The workshops focussed on sexual health issues, young people's rights, highlighting general issues and problems and a practical crafts session. (**Gwynedd**)
- Merthyr Tydfil YPP have made a strong effort to establish a borough wide youth forum that is representative of all young people and which has a focus on all issues that may effect them. The YPP has established the multi-agency Listening to Children Steering Group (L2C) to champion the rights of Children and Young People within Merthyr Tydfil. To ensure long-term sustainability of young peoples participation, L2C is in the process of undertaking an audit of current participation and identifying good practice. The results of the audit will provide the YPP with information that will identify the effective and non-effective participation processes, Sections of young people who have and who do not have the opportunity to participate and possible opportunities for future developments. To date the YPAG have;
 - Undertaken substantial training on the Rights of a Child
 - Provided training to all members of the L2Cs
 - Influenced and designed the New Opportunities Fund programme of Activities for Young people.
 - Delivered a presentation to the Children and Young Peoples Framework partnership's standing conference on why professionals should listen to

Children and Young People. (**Merthyr Tydfil**)

- Monmouthshire established its first Youth Council in December 2002. The Youth Council has been active in consultation with the Library Service and with Transport. The Local Health Board have invited two members of the Youth Council to join the board and discussions are underway to establish the most appropriate way to make this link. The staff team who support children and young people's involvement in Monmouthshire have been asked to consult with children and young people in one of the rural communities. This came about as a result of a letter from the Community Council to the County Council complaining of poor facilities for children and young people in the area. Before making any comment on this the County Council have requested this consultation work be carried out so that they are responding to the views of children and young people, not older members of the community. The staff team have also been working with schools in Monmouthshire on the establishment of school councils. (**Monmouthshire**)
- There has been some consultation including a day event recently but it is true to say that Newport is not as well developed as other areas in consultation. However there are focus groups for Looked After children, children with disabilities and Young Carers. Young people have been involved in interviews for staff, a practice that is being developed and used when appropriate. A group of young people attended the YPP review day recently and told us what it is like to be a young person in Newport. (**Newport**)
- There are currently seventeen youth forums in Pembrokeshire representing geographic areas of the county and also specific groups – looked after young people, disabled young people and young carers. These forums send representatives to the Pembrokeshire Youth Assembly and to Funky Dragon. The Youth Service is taking a strong role in supporting the youth forums and their links with other youth groups, both voluntary and statutory and in training of youth workers. All schools are on target to establish schools councils. INSET training has been well attended aimed at supporting teachers in establishing and maintaining councils and exploring ways of linking into Pembrokeshire Youth Assembly processes. (**Pembrokeshire**)
- Appointment of a Youth Forum Worker to work alongside the Children's Rights Officer to develop a structure that meets these requirements. All 13 High Schools in Powys have an effective school council and these in turn link to the Youth Forum. In order to address the problems created by a disparate youth population over a large geographical area the Youth Forum has developed an interactive web-site to improve communications and facilitate consultation. The launch of the YPP Draft Strategy at the beginning of the year was accompanied by a questionnaire relating to services for young people and the results of this are currently being analysed and put onto a database. (**Powys**)
- A number of consultation events have taken place, including the 'Say It' event held at Hawthorn Leisure Centre on May 17th. A range of activities was provided for young people to participate in, including rap workshops and 'Gladiator's' events. The consultation process involved utilising postcards to ask young people how their lives could be improved. All those consulted were entered into a prize draw. (**Rhondda Cynon Taf**)

- Cymorth has provided funding to employ a Trainee Children and Young People Consultation Worker. 'Interactive Feedback' is conducting a PC-based consultation exercise with young people in Brynclyenog Comprehensive and Treorchy Comprehensive School. The Youth Council have produced a video, which can be used as a tool to encourage young people to access decision makers. The Youth Bank is enabling young people to develop their own projects related to local needs. A consultation event took place with young people involved in the Tylorstown On Track project. A consultation event took place with young people with disabilities, conducted by the Viva project. Annual consultation with members of Youth Clubs is taking place in accordance with the Youth Service Charter. All secondary schools in RCT have established Schools Councils. Members of the Youth Council have represented the views of young people on local Communities First focus groups. (**Rhondda Cynon Taf**)
- Consultation is now carried out with large numbers of young people in schools on their perceptions of sport and physical activity, and after-school and community sessions are often held as a result. Consultation exercises are carried out at community buildings on the future of community developments, and these include the opinions of young people. (**Swansea**)
- The Swansea Youth Forum and its various sub-committees is now a major means of for consultation by institutions about the views of young people in Swansea. (**Swansea**).
- Various consultation model/exercises developed to ensure young people are able to influence health planning. Sexual health action plan is built upon the views of young people. (**Torfaen**)
- Youth Access (YA) students are very much party to the broader consultation and decision making currently being undertaken throughout the borough. Two YA students or 'graduates' are among the 3 YP reps on the Children and Young People Framework Partnership. They have taken part in Youth Conferences and conferences relating to specific issues e.g. the Torfaen Crime and Disorder conference and in the Big T, a bi-annual conference for the citizens of the borough (**Torfaen**)
- The VIBE offers opportunities for young people who are interested in youth work or who have been identified by staff as being peer leaders to join a Personal Development Programme. They are offered training including Equal Opportunities, team building and safe youth work practices, to enable them to become Vibe Facilitators. Young volunteers are also trained to undertake consultation with other young people. (**Vale of Glamorgan**)
- A Young People's Event has been planned as a follow up to a similar event last year, to take place on 15th July in St. Donats Castle. The agenda for the day has been prepared following discussion with young people. The day will take the format of workshops covering 6 issues – Transport, Money and Work, Leisure Time, Rights and Responsibilities, Information Services and Health and will be asking young people's views on these issues in terms of "What is right about services?" "What is wrong?" and "How do we improve?" Schools and a wide range of organisations have been asked to nominate two representative young people to attend. Members of the Partnership and the Youth Service will visit schools and organisations to inform the young people of the work of the Partnership and to support the nominated representatives to take forward

collective views. (**Vale of Glamorgan**)

- Increased resources and staffing to create local youth forums which will contribute to the local, regional and national democratic process. (**Wrexham**)
- In Wrexham we are in the process of developing a participation and involvement strategy. The strategy is an inter-agency approach and calls upon commitment from all members of the partnerships and their agencies. (**Wrexham**)

11. Positive focus on achievement, young people's contribution, participation/empowerment, celebration of success

- Promote and publish good news stories about young people via internet and local publications. (**Caerphilly**)
- Every young person engaged with the various projects supported through the YPP has an opportunity to have their achievement recognised through a variety of accredited pathways including the OCN; Youth Achievement Awards, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award etc. An annual Youth Conference has been established (this year will be the third one) where young people are actively involved in the organisation and presentation. Themes for the conferences are decided upon by the young people - last year's conference was focused on the local and global environmental issues, and the event includes input from appropriate local and national politicians and specialists. (**Carmarthenshire**)
- The YPP are also looking to give certificates for the young people that attend the 6-monthly county wide conferences, to show appreciation for their contribution and participation. (**Flintshire**)
- A number of young people were involved in establishing the young People Partnership in March 2002. A number of the same young people were involved in a conference that was held in Summer 2002. In recognition of the young people's efforts and hard work they were given the opportunity to decide on how to spend a set amount of money. The money was used to buy a set of rugby shirts that were used within the Young people conference. In order to recognise their commitment into coming on the young people residential weekend it was decided that the event would be free to all of the participants. It is also hoped that any other such events will be provided free of charge in recognition of the young people's contribution. (**Gwynedd**)
- Contacts have been made with the media to provide monthly reports in the local papers on the activities being undertaken and the achievements made by young people of Merthyr Tydfil. (**Merthyr Tydfil**)
- On April 11th 2003 Monmouthshire held a formal launch event for the Children and Young People's Framework Partnerships. This was co-hosted by the Chair of the three partnerships and by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Youth Council. Children and young people also made presentations at the event alongside other partners. (**Monmouthshire**)
- We hold an annual awards evening to celebrate the achievements of young people. Young people are involved in the organising and hosting of the evening. At the last event the achievements of 300 young people were celebrated. (**Neath**)

Port Talbot)

- Below is an extract from the Youth Assembly's report to the last YPP meeting in March 2003.

The Youth Assembly has established a pattern of meetings that are held once every three weeks. We talked about coming to an agreement that if the adults from the YPP came to our meetings they wouldn't use words we couldn't understand and when we came up to the adults level we would sit around the table as they do. We decided that for each YPP meeting we would like up to four representatives from the Youth Assembly to attend, providing they were able to have time from school/college/work etc. We held our residential at Lawrenny Youth Hostel which was a real scream. Some of us took this training back to our Youth Forums and carried out some of the activities we were taught.

(Pembrokeshire)

- A recent full partnership seminar looking at a vision for the future highlighted the need to introduce some form of countywide event that celebrates the achievement of young people in Powys on a regular or annual basis. This will be explored and determined within the partnership structure. **(Powys)**
- There have been several presentations and acknowledgement and recognition of young people with, for instance, the Youth Community Action Awards, where certificates were presented by the Lord Mayor. The Youth Steering Team Members were rewarded at the end of the year with a meal together where they were thanked for their contribution during the previous 12 months. **(Swansea)**
- Young People's involvement is accredited through the Mayor's Award which is always presented by the Mayor or his/her Deputy. **(Torfaen)**
- Partners in the Young People's Partnership, other providers of services for young people, with the Youth Service leading held a Youth Awards Evening celebrating both individual and group achievements in November 02. Local dignitaries together with approximately 150 young people who all received a certificate in recognition of their achievements attended this successful event. The presentations were interspersed with performances by young people and followed by a disco. The event was so successful that another is planned for November this year. **(Vale of Glamorgan)**.
- Increased resources and staffing to create local youth forums which will contribute to the local, regional and national democratic process. **(Wrexham)**

Junior Ranger scheme at Ty Mawr Country Park – young volunteers are given Awards to celebrate achievement at different stages. **(Wrexham)**

WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT'S REQUIREMENTS FOR YPP PROGRESS REPORTS AND 2004/05 WORK PROGRAMME DELIVERY PLANS

This paper sets out the Assembly Government's requirements and expectations. It has been drafted following informal discussions with YPP co-ordinators earlier this year and approved by the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning.

During the last 12 months a great deal of progress has been made in all areas across Wales in terms of implementing the Directions and Guidance on Extending Entitlement, establishing effective Young People's Partnerships, auditing provision and need and establishing a vision for the future. It is now time to move the agenda forward, with a renewed emphasis on **outcomes for young people** and the **involvement of young people in influencing planning and decision-making in areas which have an impact on their lives**.

Timescales

Advance notice of the Assembly Government's requirements will allow YPPs to gather evidence and work on their delivery plan in preparation for implementation in April 2004.

We will require draft progress reports on achievements September 2002-March 2004 to be submitted by December 31st 2003, and plans for the period April 2004- March 2005 to be submitted to us by 31st January 2004.

YPP Progress report

The report must be agreed by the full partnership prior to submission. The report should provide an account of YPP achievements since start-up or Sept 2002 (whichever earlier) and include a brief description of the following:

- frequency of meetings
- any changes in membership with explanations
- arrangements developed by the YPP for working with a broad range of YPs from its area, particularly those in hard-to-reach groups, together with details of the support provided for this process
- an annex recording issues raised by young people and the date on which they were raised, together with details of how the YPP responded to them, and when, and how and when young people received feedback
- steps taken by the YPP to feedback to young people on its activities during the previous year
- action taken in addressing 2002/4 local priorities: achievements (including unsuccessful initiatives); lessons learned

- quick wins
- action taken in addressing 2002/4 national priorities; achievements (including unsuccessful initiatives); lessons learned
- evidence of success / outcome measures
- action taken during the year by the YPP to update/ensure continuing relevance of audit of provision, need & resources, any new evidence which has emerged via this process and which may impact on YPP priorities
- action taken by the YPP to engage organisations in the “wider partnership”
- process adopted by the YPP for annual review of 5-year strategic plan & any amendments emerging as a result
- an assessment of the extent to which YPP priorities are reflected in the mainstream activities of each of the partner organisations insofar as they relate to young people aged 11-25.
- details of funding obtained by the YPP during the course of the year, and/or refocused by partner agencies to support agreed YPP priorities
- action taken to ensure Cymorth funding for young people in the 11-25 age group has been used to contribute to agreed YPP priorities

The progress report should be sent in draft form to YPT by 31st Dec 2003 to enable the annual national progress report to be compiled. The progress report will need to be finalised by 31 March 2004 and made available as set out in para 47 of the Guidance.

ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN 2004-05

Underpinning principles

The Assembly Government expects that as YPPs become more established, their activities will demonstrate good practice in the following areas:

- A clear thrust towards enhancing the network of provision for young people in the area, to enable all young people to access their basic universal entitlement
- Recognition of the importance of developing a shared understanding on the part of YPP partner organisations (and within the wider Partnership) of the issues which affect young people and really matter to them
- A much greater emphasis on research, evidence-based policy, monitoring, evaluation & review
- A stronger emphasis on real engagement at local level with a broad range of young people, with evidence that they have been involved in reviewing service effectiveness and reach, and that their views have been listened to and reflected in the shape of services and support as well as in the priorities identified, planned and developed by the YPP
- Clearer focusing of resources to meet identified and agreed need

- Improved value for money
- More effective arrangements for influencing the work programmes of all agencies providing services for 11-25 year olds to ensure they reflect more closely YPP priorities

Structure of delivery plan/ template

The plan will need to include the following elements :

a) Local priority areas for action during the period April 2004-March 2005

We will expect YPPs to identify at least **THREE** key local priority areas for review under this section. Local priorities may remain the same as those identified for 2002-04 or may change, subject to agreement of the YPP and YPP progress. Local priorities should address issues already identified via the audit, and will need to be highlighted as requiring action in the 5-year rolling strategy. YPPs need to ensure that their plans contribute to the delivery of all 10 entitlements for young people over time.

An outline of the proposed methodology will need to be provided including evidence eg multi-agency research into needs, young people's comments etc, an analysis of the issues, and an outline action plan with outcome indicators. We expect actions proposed to include:

- how YPs will be engaged in the work and their views taken into account
- quality assurance mechanisms
- description of proposed provision including how young people will be informed about it
- staff training including joint initiatives between organisations/services
- monitoring & review arrangements

b) National priority areas for action during the period April 2004-March 2005

i) The Welsh Assembly Government wishes YPPs to continue progressing work on the national priority areas set out for 2002-04 in Para 33 of the guidance, ie

- engaging young people in decision making
- joint multi-agency training to meet needs identified by the YPP
- steps to fill gaps in provision identified, including out-of-school activities

ii) In addition, the Assembly Government will wish to see evidence of effective participation by children and young people in the YPP's activity and

decision-making processes. YPPs will be expected to maintain a record of issues raised by young people and the date on which they were raised, together with details of how and when the YPP responded to them, including how and when young people received feedback.

iii) We will also expect to see YPPs taking specific action on a multi-agency basis to address **at least one key area of need identified** in each of the fields of **sexual health services** and **transport**.

National priorities under consideration for years 2005-6 onwards include :

- housing / homelessness
- information / advice services
- mental health services

iv) Proposals for innovative pilot schemes to address local or national priority areas may be developed by YPPs, - additional funding to support small-scale pilot initiatives in 2004-05 will form part of the YPT bid in the forthcoming budget planning round. Details and criteria will be developed if the bid is successful.

c) Information sharing arrangements

A statement about the protocols the Partnership has agreed for information-sharing between agencies and for referrals. (Annex 11 of the Guidance refers).

d) Keeping in touch arrangements

A statement about the YPP's arrangements for keeping in touch with young people (Annex 12 of Guidance refers), followed by implementation of the agreed arrangements. The Assembly Government expects that the resultant strengthening in local co-ordination of support for young people who are not in education, training or employment will lead to a reduction in the size of this group of young people. In future years, YPPs may be expected to develop local targets for further reductions and work towards implementing them.

e) Local evaluation arrangements

We wish to promote a culture where evaluation of effectiveness is considered both in relation to existing provision and built into new initiatives and pilot projects at the outset. YPPs will be expected to describe agreed evaluation arrangements where these exist, and to begin to develop them where they are not in place.

g) Good practice initiatives

We wish to continue to promote a culture of sharing good practice and therefore propose to ask each YPP to include in their plan a short description of at least one initiative they have taken which they consider to be innovative effective, together with lessons learned. With the agreement of co-ordinators, these will be shared more widely across Wales to stimulate initiative.