

Fulfilling their Potential North West



Youth work and regional working

- Youth Matters – Things to Do and Places to Go
- Youth services and youth work offer opportunities and support.
- Partnerships need to be developed at a strategic and operational level.
- Regional approach enables brokering relationships with regional and national bodies.
- Partnerships with agencies NYA, RYWU bring expertise, local specialised knowledge and networking opportunities.





North West: Culture, Children & Young People

- Joint MLA North West, Arts Council England and North West Museums Hub
- Raising profile of culture's contribution to children's agenda
- Supporting cultural services to respond to Change for Children agenda
- Libraries responsive to needs of young people
- Demonstrates ability to deliver against local priorities & plans for young people eg LAA, Children & Young People's Plans, national policy
- Potential outcomes:
 - Opportunity to embed libraries at heart of young people's agenda
 - Knock on effect to other cultural services – good practice
 - Increase overall profile of culture delivering for young people





Fulfilling their Potential North West

- 21 Library Authorities £38K
- Regional strategic Youth Board – MLA, TRA, NWRWU, SCL, ASCEL, NYA, Time to Read
- 3 year strategy and in year 1 now
- Appointed a project manager
- Funded by Library Authorities and MLA North West
- Managed by The Reading Agency with input from steering group
- Board reports back to SCL NW
- Board set up to manage FTP NoW but moving towards a more strategic youth board with an eye on bigger picture eg. Positive activities, Book Bars, Young Voices
- Need funding for years 2 and 3 and beginning to discuss financial sustainability amongst SCL





Vision and outcomes

- Testing the FTP Improvement Framework
- Improved library services for young people at the heart
- Strengthened partnership working
- Active participation of young people in the projects and about to appoint to the Board
- Self assessment against the framework
- Staff training and project planning
- Consultation with young people
- 21 small development projects
- Clustered around 5 main outcomes of FTP report
- Sharing best practice
- Evaluation and report
- Years 2 and 3





Some examples – see project directory

- Helping to shape Library Services
 - Young People's Library Advisory Panel in Darwen. Blackburn with Darwen
- Making the Library friendly and welcoming
 - Involving young people in staff training, mystery shopping and making a DVD Lancashire
- Enjoying reading
 - Young people from libraries involved in reading based magazine/website. Wigan
- Involvement in the Community
 - Young people from libraries working on health information promotion. Warrington.
- Study, learning and skills
 - Young People's accredited peer advocacy project. Wirral



Criteria for success

- Vision and bigger picture
- whole region effort with good communication
- Share best practice on the ground
- Spend time building the partnerships
- Spend time on the self assessment and planning elements
- Small initial investment often leads to further investment
- Build evaluation in from the start
- Small scale projects but lasting shared legacy

Further information

Elizabeth Harding
Head of Unit ,
North West Regional Youth Work Unit
01925 295837
elizabeth@nwrywu.org.uk

Peter Garden
Regional Adviser
MLA North West
01925 625052
peter.garden@mianorthwest.org.uk

Nicky Parker
Head of Library and Information Services
Manchester City Council
0161 234 1902
n.parker@manchester.gov.uk

Brenda Read-Brown
FtP NoW Project Manager
The Reading Agency
01684 773120
brenda.read.brown@readingagency.org.uk

