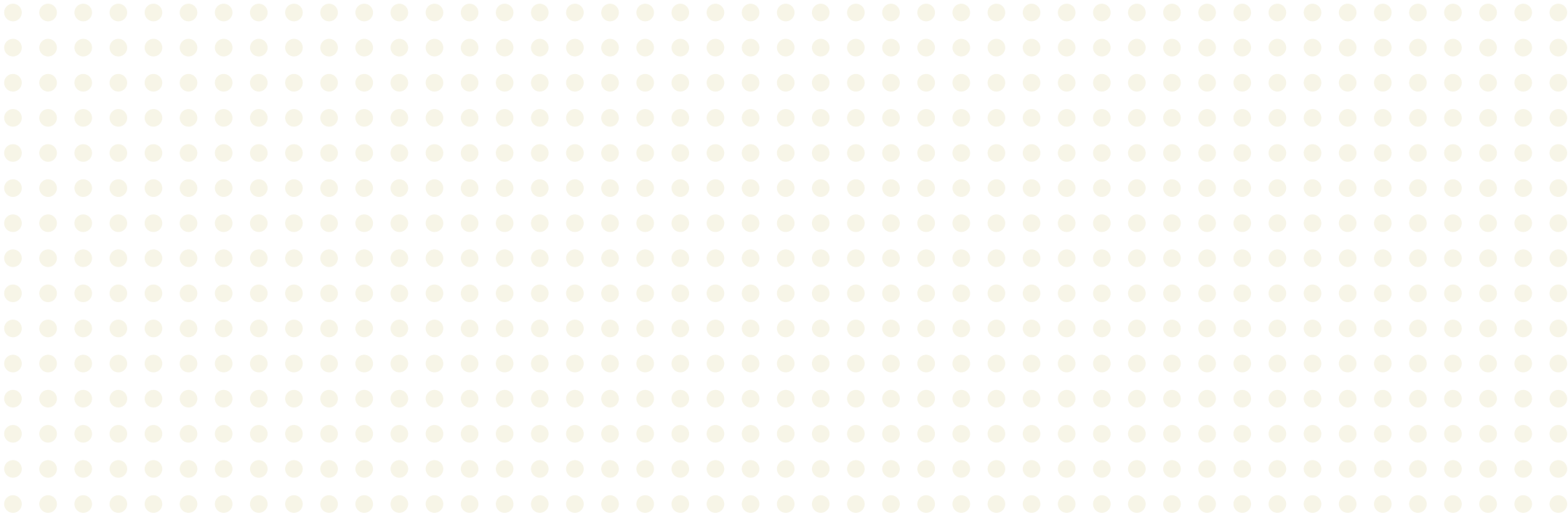


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# Fulfilling their Potential

FtP NoW Project Directory – 1.0  
12.04.07





Transforming public library services for  
young people across the North West

# Fulfilling their Potential North West Project Directory

April 2007

Since May 2006, 21 library services across the North West have been working to transform their provision to young people as part of the *Fulfilling their Potential* North West (FtP NoW) project. The *Fulfilling their Potential* Improvement Framework has been used as a key tool to support the transformation process. Training events which build staff skills and confidence to involve young people have helped library staff to develop new ideas and approaches.

From January 2007, new ideas and approaches are being put into practice through small scale, innovative projects.

**The aim of the projects is to:**

- \_ Further the main *Fulfilling their Potential* outcomes for young people.
- \_ Give library staff the opportunity to use and develop their enhanced skills and confidence with young people.
- \_ Develop partnerships with Youth Services and other partners working locally to meet the needs of young people.

The outcome of FtP NoW and the projects listed here will be evaluated later this year.

**FtP NoW is managed by The Reading Agency with input from a Strategic Board, comprising:**

- \_ The National Youth Agency
- \_ The Museums Libraries and Archives Council North West
- \_ The Association of Senior Children's and Education Librarians
- \_ The North West Regional Youth Work Unit
- \_ The Society of Chief Librarians

New FtP NoW projects for 2007/8 onwards include a youth volunteering programme and the Book Bars project. These will build on the excellent work which FtP NoW has begun and will be overseen by the North West strategic board to ensure the profile of public libraries' work with young people is maintained and strengthened over the coming years.

For more information about *Fulfilling their Potential* North West, contact Brenda Read-Brown, Project Manager, on 01684 773120 or email [brenda.read.brown@readingagency.org.uk](mailto:brenda.read.brown@readingagency.org.uk) or visit [www.readingagency.org.uk](http://www.readingagency.org.uk)

To find out more about innovative approaches to involving young people, visit TRF at [www.theirreadingfutures.org.uk](http://www.theirreadingfutures.org.uk)

## FtP NoW Projects Summary

The North West authorities have devised a range of projects, addressing between them all of the outcomes identified in the *Fulfilling their Potential* Improvement Framework.

**The outcomes are that young people:**

- \_ Feel the library is accessible, welcoming and value it as a space in the community for them.
- \_ Enjoy reading widely and feel inspired to share their reading with others.
- \_ Feel confident and able to make informed choices about their lives.
- \_ Participate in their community and in wider democratic activity.
- \_ Develop their skills and become confident and motivated learners.

Library service	Lead contact/ contact details	Project summary
Blackburn-with-Darwen	Angela Robinson angela.robinson@blackburn.gov.uk	Young people aged 14 to 19 are chilling out in a space in Darwen Library out-of-hours. As well as reading magazines and chatting, they are acting as a focus group to assist in planning new library services.
Blackpool	Mark Ramsden mark.ramsden@blackpool.gov.uk	Preparations are under way for a new young people's area at Blackpool Central Library. A music event featuring local bands will launch the new space, planned in consultation with young people.
Bolton	Subnum Hariff subnum.hariff@bolton.gov.uk	Plans for the brand new High Street Library in Bolton have been based throughout on consultations with local residents. Young people are a big part of this – they've been out buying books, and are giving advice on the design and services for their new Book Bar.
Bury	Christine Almond c.almond@bury.gov.uk	Young people in the 12-16 age group are checking out Bury Libraries' current teenage stock, and helping to decide on where it should be located. Homework is a focus, but they have many ideas about other stock, too.
Cheshire	Shan Wilkinson shan.wilkinson@cheshire.gov.uk	Members of a local youth club rarely visit the library, so staff are taking the library to them, with a selection of books, magazines, DVDs, etc. The young people are giving advice to the staff, and planning their own creative activities based on materials from the library.
Cumbria	Kathryn Flagner kathryn.flagner@cumbriacc.gov.uk	Cumbria Libraries want to publicise their services for young people, but how should they do it? Groups of young people are suggesting the best ways to reach teenagers, and competing to produce the best publicity material.
Halton	Allyson Watt Jennie Archer allyson.watt@halton-borough.gov.uk jennie.archer@halton-borough.gov.uk	Halton already has a thriving gaming club, the Daemons. But now they are also working with staff and a group from a local school to improve library services for 11-16-year-olds, starting with a monthly social evening and a website – bookingmad.co.uk.
Knowsley	Gerry Williams gerry.williams@knowsley.gov.uk	Knowsley will soon have a Book Bar. If it's going to work, it must provide what young people want. Groups of non-library users are giving Knowsley staff the lowdown, and promoting this new concept to their peers.
Lancashire	Jean Wolstenholme jean.wolstenholme@lcl.lancscc.gov.uk	Undercover work has attractions for many people, and young people are no exception. Plans are afoot for a mystery shopping in Lancashire libraries, to see what the welcome is like for teenagers. Next steps are focus group consultations with staff, and perhaps a DVD to be used for staff training.
Liverpool	John Keane john.keane@liverpool.gov.uk	Young carers need a break from their responsibilities, and they are having fun with activity sessions at Liverpool Central Library. The only price they will pay is advice to staff about the services they want and need from the libraries.
Manchester	Wendy Broadbent Jill Sharp w.broadbent@manchester.gov.uk j.sharp@manchester.gov.uk	Putting a Book Bar into Longsight Library is a major undertaking. It can't be done properly without help from 11-16-year-olds living locally; they're participating in planning both physical design and services.

Library service	Lead contact/ contact details	Project summary
Rochdale	Ray Stearn ray.stearn@rochdale.gov.uk	Safe internet usage is important, in libraries as elsewhere. Young people in Rochdale are competing to design a logo for the Libraries' Stay Safe on the Web publicity.
Salford	Pamela Manley pamela.manley@salford.gov.uk	With not one but two teenage sections to work on – Boardwalk Library, and the new LIFT building – young people aged 11-13 in Salford are taking their budget seriously. They're working with staff to choose stock, and put into practice what they have learned from <i>Changing Rooms!</i>
Sefton	Zoe Clarke zoe.clarke@leisure.sefton.gov.uk	What's the best way to run a teenage reading group? With three new teenage groups, run in varying ways and places, Sefton can evaluate different approaches. The common element is that overall direction comes from the young people themselves.
St Helens	Kathryn Boothroyd kathrynboothroyd@sthelens.gov.uk	Nowadays adults are given charters detailing the levels of service they can expect. Young people from the Moss Bank Youth Forum have been working with library staff to devise a Young People's Library Charter and the formats for publicising it.
Stockport	Paul Howarth paul.howarth@stockport.gov.uk	Stockport are engaging with groups of young people in a complete re-evaluation, revision and re-branding of the libraries' stock and services for people of their age group. And this won't stop – the plan is to continue involving young people in buying stock.
Tameside	Ruth Lomas ruth.lomas@tameside.gov.uk	If libraries don't seem welcoming to young people, nothing will attract them in. Young people in Tameside have been working with library staff to produce a staff training package, showing how things should be done; this in turn will be used to improve libraries' welcome for young people.
Trafford	Susanna Watson susanna.watson@trafford.gov.uk	Trafford young people are working as equal partners with staff in a project to provide facilities, stock and equipment (wide screens? listening posts? playstations? – it's their choice) for their age group at the new Urmston library.
Warrington	Kathryn Payne kpayne@warrington.gov.uk	Young people often have health concerns, but who listens to health information from adults? When people of your own age recommend good stuff to read, though, it's different. Warrington teenagers are selecting stock for health information book promotions that will tell young people in the area what they need to know.
Wigan	Rob Sanderson r.sanderson@wlct.org Chris Appleton chris.appleton@wlct.org	How can young people know what books are worth reading? A group of young people in Wigan will be determining stock selection for their age group, giving other young people good starting points for their reading choices.
Wirral	Sue Roe bebington.y@wirral-library.net	The best people to run consultation sessions with young people are the experts – young people themselves. A group of disaffected young people from the Wirral will soon have accredited skills in consultancy and peer advocacy, following training provided by Wirral Libraries. They will be selecting stock, too, and – who knows? – giving presentations, producing a DVD, making a Youth Opportunity Fund Bid.

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