

## August 2009



### To

Martyn Baggaley  
Sue Bardwell  
Roger Graham  
Andrew Brunt  
Sally Rowe  
Janene Cox  
Jim Brady  
Sue Mulroy  
Barry Halls  
Carol Jones  
Kim Jones  
Nigel Manning  
Barbara Elks  
Jan Myatt  
Sarah James  
Cheryl Sherratt  
Gill Stanford

### For onward distribution to

Children & Young People's JCU  
Colleagues within School Improvement Division  
Colleagues within North Staffordshire PCT  
Colleagues within Looked After Children  
Colleagues within Disability and Safeguarding  
Colleagues within Cultural & Library Services  
Colleagues within Integrated Services  
All Teenage Pregnancy Partnership colleagues  
Colleagues within voluntary sector  
All Connexions colleagues  
Colleagues within the Youth Service  
Colleagues within Staffordshire Police  
Colleagues within the Youth Offending Service  
Staffordshire 14-19 Partnership members  
All Staffordshire secondary schools  
Colleagues within South Staffordshire PCT  
Staffordshire Young People's Participation Network

### Progress

Moves towards an Integrated Youth Support Service (IYSS) in Staffordshire are a step closer, thanks to an agreement between the three major organisations.

Staffordshire County Council, Stoke-on-Trent City Council and Connexions Staffordshire Limited are pleased to announce an agreement in principal that, subject to legal technicalities being resolved, ownership of the Connexions company will be transferred to the County Council and City Council. Colleagues from all three services will be working hard throughout the summer to effect the necessary changes.

This will facilitate the formation of the new Integrated Youth Support Service in both the County and the City which will be the joining up of services for young people.

County Councillor and Deputy Leader of Staffordshire County Council, Ian Parry said, "This is excellent news for the young people of Staffordshire. Joining what are already excellent services together will enable us to ensure efficient and effective access to services for all our young people."

The project to maximise the benefits for the community and the tax payer will also mean that Connexions' services for adults will form part of Staffordshire's broader job creation operation. Cabinet Member for Economy, Skills and Enterprise Mike Lawrence said this was a real opportunity to build on the good work Connexions has done.

"Connexions is a key link in the drive to get people the skills they need to get back into work. Our economic regeneration team have always had a close working relationship with Connexions, and now a seamless join will mean we will be able to integrate the service even more closely into our broader programme of support, innovation and strategic investment in Staffordshire's future," he said.

Councillor Ian Mitchell, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People at Stoke-on-Trent City Council said, "The integration of services makes sense for young people in the City. This new development will ensure services are joined up and focus on the broad range of young people's needs. We will manage the transition to these new arrangements carefully to make sure that we maintain the high quality of provision that our young people currently receive and deserve for the future."

### For more information contact:

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