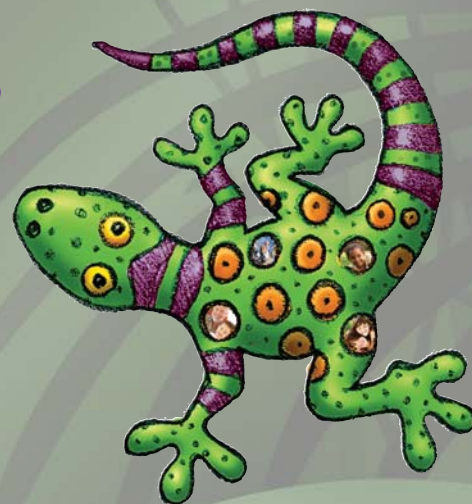


Funky Lizard



2007 - 2009
Partnership Work
in Action

Making a difference to the lives of
families, children and young
people in Tameside.

Index

- Page 3 - The story of the Funky Lizard
- Page 5 - Healthy and Happy
Safe and Sound
- Page 6 - Enjoying and Achieving
Economic Wellbeing
Making a Positive Contribution
- Page 7 - Learn Together
- Page 9 - Be Heard - Tameside Community Union
and the Representatives
- Page 10 - Future Plans for the Funky Lizard
- Page 11 - Healthy Life, Brighter Futures

Tameside's Funky Lizard celebrates its second anniversary this May 2009. This booklet tells you all about the people in the community, voluntary and faith sector who make a difference to the lives of families, children and young people. It also explains how the Funky Lizard network helps the sector celebrate what it does, how it learns together, and how it influences change for the sector and for the people it serves. Funky Lizard would never have grown to where we are today without the support of our partners and so we give special thanks to you all!

"It is fantastic to see the voluntary, community and faith sector - the third sector - coming together with partners from across Tameside and Greater Manchester. The sector is valued for its innovation and ability to reach out to the most vulnerable people of Tameside. The Funky Lizard, the work of the strategic representatives and the findings of the workforce survey all demonstrate the third sector's commitment to working in partnership to achieve the best possible outcomes possible for families, children and young people. I look forward to watching the sector as it goes from strength to strength."

*Councillor Allison Gwynne,
Cabinet Deputy,
Services for Children and Young People.*



The Story of the Funky Lizard

Tameside's Funky Lizard network is a unique network for those who provide activities and services for families, children, teenagers and young adults in Tameside. Every member belongs to a voluntary, community, faith, or not-for-profit independent organisation.

Funky Lizard celebrates the community, voluntary and faith sector's unique work in various ways and makes sure our contribution is counted in the Tameside Children and Young People's Plan. We hold events with partners and the wider community of the borough. We promote the work of the sector through newsletters and other media sources.

We learn together by meeting at various networking activities where we share our skills and think about what else we need to learn in order to help us in our work. We receive and share information about the great learning opportunities that are available to us. We attend training with other partners so we can learn about other people's roles at the same time.

We are heard at places where people make decisions that affect us and our service users. We elect representatives to **Tameside Community Union** and they take an active part in leadership and governance processes in the borough. These champions represent the sector and advocate for the people that we work with.

We undertake our own research so that we have good evidence for our point of view and this helps us to influence change. We take part in consultations, when it is appropriate, which enables our partners to find out important information which is necessary for planning. We link in with all the other networks that make up Tameside Voice.

First there was Voice – a network which was developed by Tameside 3rd Sector Coalition (T3SC) and local community champions when the third sector had no right to sit at strategic meetings where plans were made that affected the sector. Voice was part of changing this and gained seats at the Tameside Strategic Partnership. It developed new networks and linked up with existing ones including the Health and Social Care Network, Tameside's Older Peoples Action Group, Faiths United, the Crime and Disorder Reduction Network, The Black and Minority Ethnic Network and associated women's network. It became known as the network of networks. This year sees the launch of a new Voice – open to more people than ever before.

In autumn 2006, T3SC was funded by the Children and Young People's Partnership to employ a new worker to support third sector groups and organisations to participate in **Tameside's Change for Children** agenda. They employed Veronica Hyde, who has over twenty years experience in working with families, children and young people for both local authorities and the third sector. She went out into the community to ask organisations what they wanted from a new network. An end to unnecessary meetings was called for by people who went to a lot of meetings already. People asked for support with long term funding. Training was important and opportunities to learn in the evening. Respect was also an important issue, shown through the desire for recognition of unique contributions, to be valued equally, and through evidence that they were being heard.

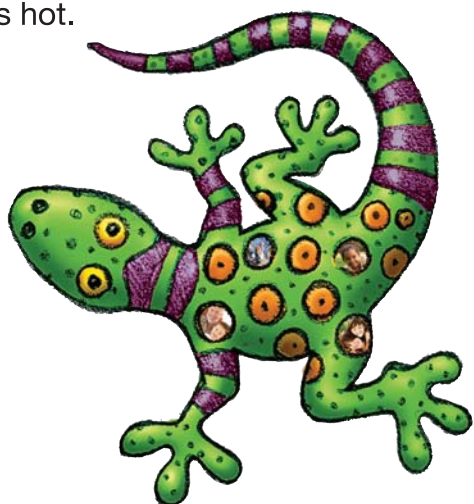
In spring 2007, we organised a great event called Rumble in the Jungle. There were stalls from the sector, workshops on the Every Child Matters outcomes, local children entertained us with their

“There is a role for government, but what works best is when we work together with those committed individuals and organisations sharing our ambitions, energy, expertise and resources to achieve real and positive change within communities.”

Hazel Blears, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government

songs and dances, we had prize draws, and inspiring speeches from leaders - both young and more mature. The networking that happened at this event meant that people started to build strong relationships. For example the Doherty Irish Dancers met the extended schools officers and this good partnership has given many children the opportunity to learn Irish Dancing.

We used the event to help us pick a name and a mascot. Children and young people chose the funky lizard as our mascot. We wanted to make sure we were in line with the rainforest imagery that the Tameside Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership adopted to demonstrate our commitment to partnership work. Lizards are diverse and they have been around for a long time - much like the voluntary, community and faith sector. They also have great survival skills for when the going gets hot.



We developed a core network of people who sit at strategic partnerships and chose Tameside Community Union (TCU) as the name for these representatives. This name identifies that they are a collective of people and organisations who want to work together to provide great outcomes for families, children and young adults. We value fairness, dignity, equality, respect and good partnership work. Our work is guided by both national and international laws.

The Funky Lizard held meetings and events out in the community, telling people about how plans are made in Tameside. We held events about the training, information and support that is available

to the sector. We got involved in play in a big way including having organised activities at Play Day for two years. We have been engaged in consultations and supported the voice of the sector at a strategic level. We have supported groups to make good decisions about their safeguarding children standards and helped them when they have had to make difficult decisions.

In spring 2008, we held From Strength To Strength where partners from across Tameside came together to think about how to build on our existing partnership work together - the list of attendees showed the strength of commitment to partnership working in the borough. We ensured that there were equitable numbers of people from across the voluntary, community, and faith sector and our wider partners. Our Lead Councillor for children's and young people's services - Alison Gwynne - gave her time to stay for the whole session and there was senior representation from the police, the fire service, the Learning Skills Council, schools, Tameside's Health Services, Connexions, and the Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council Children's Leadership Team.

This session was facilitated by Government Office Northwest and VCS Engage who brought key national drivers to the group for consideration. There were reasons to celebrate our successes but there was a great deal yet to achieve. Ensuring that everyone knew who the voluntary, community and faith sector is and celebrating great partnership stories was important to everyone. Two way communications came out as a key feature to improve upon, and ensuring that the third sector is being trained to implement new ways of working.

The Funky Lizard constantly strives to improve the service that it offers to the third sector - you can find out more about what we plan to do next on page 10.

If you have any comments at all or would like to ask any questions please don't hesitate to contact Veronica Hyde:

0161 339 4985
funkylizard@t3sc.org
www.t3sc.org/tcunetwork.htm

The Funky Lizard swells with pride at the contribution of the community, voluntary and faith sector to the lives of families, children and young people in Tameside.

The Government has made a commitment to making this country the best place to grow up in through its new children's plan - Building Brighter Futures - which builds on achieving the outcomes of Every Child Matters. Created by the Government in 2003, Every Child Matters is guidance saying that all services should measure their performance against five simple outcomes.

Each box in this section tells you what they are, and gives a flavour of the sector's contribution. There are many other fantastic projects out there!

Healthy & Happy

Barnardos and **Homestart Tameside** both support families with young children by promoting health messages, providing practical help and advice about healthy eating, budgeting, leading healthy lifestyles and also accompany mothers who need help with accessing appointments and activities such as swimming.

Branching Out continues to support young people to have a drug & alcohol free life. T3SC has the Drugs and Diversity project with a special focus on strengthening families and communities and the role of community champions.

Church members, from across Tameside, are launching a course for parents called 'Drug Proofing Your Kids', which enables parents to help their children make safe and informed choices about their lifestyles.

42nd Street was commissioned to provide a twelve month consultancy support package to develop informal support within the Young Peoples Mental Health team.

Sport, fitness and physical activity clubs feature highly amongst the voluntary sector. The new Lifecentre Outdoors project run by **Eden Hattersley** broadens people's horizons by introducing them to outdoor pursuits. This year has seen the development of a new canoeing club, in Stalybridge, which resulted from innovative partnership planning between the **Scouts** and the borough's Sports Development team.

New and exciting initiatives due to start in the coming year include a project led by **Off the Record** that will engage 1000s of vulnerable young people over the next five years. Their self esteem will be improved by their contribution to Tameside's civic life. **Brook** will start to work in Tameside, training young people to become Peer Educators who in turn then deliver sex and relationships workshops together with work on self-esteem to other young people.

Safe and Sound

Some children are in need of more support than others and unfortunately some do not remain living with their birth parents. **Adoption Matters** supports birth parents in Tameside when their children are adopted and **Action for Children** runs the Children's Rights independent visitors project. It is really important that children, who don't live with their families, have an independent ear to listen to their concerns and someone who will spend time with them when their family relationships are weak.

Victim Support continues to assist victims and witnesses of crimes in Tameside. **Tameside Women's Project** offer safe, temporary accommodation and varied support for women and their children fleeing domestic abuse. This includes work around bullying, healthy choices and relationships, personal responsibility and safety planning.

Off The Record has a new Time-2-Talk Domestic Abuse Counselling Project funded for 3 years by Comic Relief.

The project targets children and young people who have experienced domestic abuse and works in partnership with other agencies, for example, the Youth Service, to help provide a comprehensive package of support.

Tameside Kickstart continues to deliver a high impact presentation to young people called 'Too Young To Die', based upon a DVD produced by the national road safety charity BRAKE. This short term project has reached out to 1200 young people in schools all over Tameside.

NSPCC and **T3SC** represent the community and voluntary sector at the Tameside Safeguarding Children's Board. Nationally, the NSPCC will be creating tools especially for the third sector, in partnership with **Children England**, and T3SC will continue to support small community groups and organisations to have excellent safeguarding standards.

Enjoying and Achieving

Volunteer Reading Help work in schools to ensure that all children can read. TARA (the Tameside African Refugees Association) support children to settle into a new school by running a homework club.

Music Stuff enables young people to learn all sorts of things about the joys of music and to learn how to make it for others. Enjoying and achieving is not just about the number of children who come out of school with good qualifications. It is about the pleasure of learning to play an instrument, to dance, to sing, to become a DJ.

Our Kids Eyes and Tameside Action for Social Communication and Autism ensure that up to 400 families where children (of all ages) are disabled have access to fantastic activities; both projects are involved in the development of the local strategy Aiming High for Disabled Children.

Over 1200 children and young people enjoy activities and achieve badges with the Scouts (this is without the statistics for the Guides or Boy's Brigade). Groundwork's family learning project has discovered that more and more families want to learn to grow fruit and vegetables.

Making a Positive Contribution

Barnardos delivers the Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities parenting course and provide activities for older children to enable their parents to access Children Centre services.

Groundwork delivers a youth inclusion programme in four areas of Tameside to encourage young people to make positive life choices. They also work with New Charter Housing on the New Ground project which delivers activities for young people who are on the periphery of criminal behaviour.

Action For Children (Participation Project) have supported the development of school councils and undertaken consultations related to the play strategy, health mentors and the Children and Young People's plan. They have also trained and supported young people to take part in the commissioning of services.

V-Involved are recruiting young people into accredited volunteer placements and support a Youth Action Team to help with the project.

SPY (St Peter's Youth) encourage and support young people into volunteering and link into the UK Youth Parliament; one of their young people also took part in judging panels for national children and young people's awards.

Faiths United is developing a young person's interfaith group and has plans to develop community cohesion across Tameside.

Economic Wellbeing

Several projects support young people into employment, education and training. Tameside Kickstart provides an alternative curriculum for 14 - 19 year olds who may be disaffected from school in Tameside.

Tameside V-Involved project are working with Northwest Employers to ensure that employers recognise how important volunteering is in preparing young people for the workplace.

Some projects are proudly growing their own workforce and support volunteers to move into paid employment. These include The Water Adventure Centre, St Peters Youth (SPY), and Barnardos at the Hyde Children's Centre.

The sector supports people to live in decent homes and sustainable communities. Hurst Young People's Centre offer young people supported housing and enable young people to get involved in participatory projects which raise their self esteem. TARA also ensures that people who are new to Tameside are provided with the right legal and housing advice.

We have great projects that help families and communities to get around. Tameside's Volunteer Centre, who have a project called 'Miles of Smiles', support people in getting to medical appointments. Manchester Community Transport supports small groups to get around by providing support and training.

In the current economic climate it is essential that families who are struggling get the right advice. Tameside Homestart, who support families with accessing benefits and receiving special financial help have strengthened their links with Christians against Poverty – based at the Carmel Christian Centre in Denton. They provide a counselling service to those in debt.

In the coming months the network will be working with the sector so that they strengthen their work around Tameside's Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Priorities. These include promoting healthy lifestyles in order to reduce the rise in obesity and poor oral health and strengthen young people's emotional health and well being.

Supporting the vulnerable, including looked after children, is essential and it is also a priority to help those who are not doing well educationally and to support young people into education, employment and training. Teenage parents are also a vulnerable group and so it is essential to help young people make informed choices about their sexual relationships and when they choose to become parents.

The sector will look to make a difference to these priorities by strengthening their partnership work across Tameside.

Learn Together

In December 2008, the Government published the **2020 Children and Young People's Workforce Strategy**. This sets out the Government's vision that everyone who works with children and young people should be **ambitious** for every child and young person, **excellent** in their practice, **committed** to partnership and integrated working, and **respected** and valued as professionals.

Whatever role people play in families, children and young people's lives, the aim of this strategy is to ensure that they all have the skills and knowledge to do the best job they possibly can to help children and young people develop and succeed across all the outcomes which underpin **Every Child Matters**: being safe, staying healthy, enjoying and achieving, making a positive contribution and achieving economic well-being.

The strategy sets out how the Government will work with partners, and people in the workforce, to ensure that every part of the children and young people's workforce achieves this vision. To support the implementation, a National Children's Workforce Partnership will be created to drive change across the children and young people's workforce through advising on the development and delivery of national workforce policy and securing commitment to workforce reform.

Locally all areas are supported by the **Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC)**

– a national learning and development body. As well as providing great information, they provide funding for every area. The CWDC created a tool (with the help of young people, volunteers and paid workers) for all local areas to assess their workforce strategy against. In Tameside, partners already have a really good workforce strategy for children and young people's services, but the One Workforce tool brings an opportunity to review this strategy.

Little research had been undertaken on the needs of the community, voluntary and faith sector. Earlier this year the **National Association for Volunteer and Community Action (NAVCA)** supported T3SC to undertake a piece of research that was specific to the sector, whilst giving decision makers good information that fed into their One Workforce review.

T3SC made sure that this research was useful by ensuring that the survey did not repeat consultations that have been done before. It also made sure that the research complimented other work that had been done across Greater Manchester.

For the purpose of this booklet we have brought you the headlines of the survey within the One Workforce tool criteria. The full report will be available on T3SC's website in early July.



Shared Identity, Purpose and Vision

In order to explain what was meant by the phrase 'shared identity, purpose and vision' the One Workforce tool gives us the sense of what it might feel like for a child if, locally, we worked together on a shared vision:

"I am certain that everybody I deal with will understand enough about me to see what's best for me." – a child's view.

The third sector is very diverse. In our research we asked people what they did. One respondent said "you name it, we do it". Of the 102 returned surveys over 30 roles were named – from Brigade Leaders to Counsellors, Faith Leaders, Play Workers, Managers, Scout Leaders, Secretaries and Administrators, Sports Coaches, Strategic Representatives, Teachers, Team Managers and Trustees. 66% of the respondents were also volunteers, bringing further challenges to taking forward the One Workforce approach.

Common Values and Language

We asked people what they valued about working with families, children and young people. Nearly 30% valued the fact that they made a difference to the lives of the people that they worked with. The same again, enjoyed passing on their knowledge and skills while watching people make progress and grow in confidence. 17% commented that they enjoyed the fact that it was fun for all, and only 11% valued the work for the sense of personal gain it brought them; though notably, no one mentioned financial gain. These common values are simple to explain to the people that we work with and could be seen as the beginning of a jargon free conversation with those we serve.

Behaviours Focused on Positive Outcomes for Children and Young People

The research that has been undertaken nationally, and across the region, made it clear that the third sector has a good understanding of the outcomes of the Every Child Matters initiative. This research sought to discover how well partners were working together on these outcomes. This included looking into what tools and processes they were using, and whether they had the knowledge and skills to make decisions about how to best help people.

Integrated Working Practices

The survey asked which tools and processes were being used in the third sector. The majority of people who responded to the survey had access to a computer. Over 60% were regularly using the Service Information Directory and had good access to national guidance around Child Protection procedures. However, the use of various other integrated tools was more troubling. Less than 40% of people took guidance from the Tameside Children and Young People's Plan, and only 40% of respondents were familiar with the very useful Common Assessment Framework form, which should ideally be used by all.

High Quality, Appropriately Trained Workforce

Respondents were generally confident about their skills when it came to communication skills and keeping children safe. The areas where they weren't so confident about their skills and knowledge were around child development and supporting change. Hopefully, the evidence from this survey will help to ensure that practitioners, paid or unpaid, have access to more learning opportunities in these areas. The main barrier to learning was stated as being 'time' so it is essential that these subject areas are presented in bite size chunks.

Complementary Roles Focused Around Children and Young People

There were good levels of understanding around partnership work with schools and the youth service quoted as being the major partners. Learning together with other agencies will ensure that children see adults working together in a complimentary way.

Capacity to Deliver and Keep Children Safe

We believe the community, voluntary and faith sector will continue to grow in strength with the resources and skills needed to carry on their invaluable work as the breadth of response to the survey shows.

Be Heard - Tameside Community Union and the Representatives

Tameside Community Union is made up of senior members of organisations across Tameside. They are people who take on the challenge of representing a diverse sector that changes all the time!



Ian Young (Off The Record) and Sarah Petts (Tameside Homestart) represent the sector at the Tameside Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership. They have Masters Degrees in Social Work and Psychology, respectively, and have substantive experience of working in the voluntary sector. They tirelessly champion the sector - especially the value for money it presents - and advocate for the people that they work with. They both understand the impact that befriending and mentoring makes while recognising that some people are not hard to engage – they just take longer to know!

Ian will be standing down this year and the network thanks him for all of the work he has done to champion and support the sector over the last six years.

Action 4 Children have made a huge impact on the level of engagement between the strategic partnership and the voluntary sector. The manager of their participation project, Julie Lord, was seconded to the council in 2006 to make sure that the sector was represented when locality plans were made. Tina Lavender replaced her and has been a fantastic chair for the outcomes group, 'Making a Positive Contribution'. She is passionate about the quality of participation and consultations.

Alan Fish is our only true volunteer! He has been a community champion and a scout leader for many years. He represents the sector at the 'Enjoy and Achieve' outcomes group. Challenging the

jargon that is often used he helps to ensure that decision makers remember that achieving is not just about school results; it's about the sense of achievement that you can gain outside of school hours as well.

Lilian Pons from the Water Adventure Centre represents the sector at the outcomes group called Stay Healthy. She brings a wealth of knowledge around building people's self-esteem through water based activities and environmental issues – her project is based by a canal!

Our champion for young people out of education, training and employment (a priority in Tameside) is Adrian Ball, who works for Kickstart. He has ensured that the 14-19 Strategy Group takes notice of the third sector and the contribution that it can make to this agenda. T3SC currently represent the sector at the Partnership Executive, Tameside Safeguarding Children's Board, the Workforce Strategy Group and the Play Strategy Group. This is partly to do with how we are funded but also so that we can bring expertise around these areas and disseminate information as widely as possible through our newsletters and ebulletins.

The most important aspect of being a representative is that it enables the sector to build relationships with other partners. They get to know each other better at meetings and partners gain a better understanding of the roles that we play and the diversity of the sector. Ofsted inspections and the Joint Area Review both remarked that strong partnership work was developing in Tameside. We look forward to more opportunities to develop our skills in partnership work so that we can provide more services for people together.


Last year, we presented a simple two page report on our funding needs to Tameside's Children and Young People's Partnership – this work has gone from strength to strength with more funding opportunities being made available for the sector than ever before. In partnership with funding bodies, T3SC have worked on improving funding forms and members have contributed to a new code of practice for funding and commissioning in Tameside. Network members have become part of funding panels so that we are equally seen as part of the decision making process.

continued...

We are particularly grateful to Cheryl Eastwood, Jane Forrest and Pat McKelvey for the support they have given to the sector. There are still challenges for the sector but we look forward to having greater representation at the commissioning table, reviewing our simple report and making plans for the future. We particularly want to make an impact on the length of funding streams so that we can plan our services in a more co-ordinated way.

Recently the Safeguarding Board Development manager, David Barnes, joined us at the

representatives meeting. We thanked the Safeguarding Board for the support that it gives us, especially in terms of training opportunities. Lynn Jackson comes out into the community at evenings and weekends to ensure that the sector receives child protection awareness training. We get good guidance from the board and David always makes himself available to support the sector. We were able to also discuss our concerns with him - knowing that he would treat the information we gave him with respect. We are confident that he has made good plans for the coming year that take our needs into account.

<p>The Funky Lizard is part of a national network called VCS Engage. VCS Engage has been funded by the Department of Children, Schools and Families (DCFS) to strengthen the engagement of the voluntary, community and faith sector in the Every Child Matters Agenda. Julie Dugdale and Dave Packwood support networks across the northwest. They give us the space to come together and share issues/opportunities which need to be taken forward to a national level, through Government Office Northwest. They provide strategic representatives and workforce</p>	<p>leads with one to one support, as well as providing great training opportunities.</p> <p>The Funky Lizard is proud to be part of VCS Engage Northwest and thanks all of its members, but particularly those in Greater Manchester, for sharing their knowledge and skills with the Funky Lizard.</p> <p>If you want to know more about VCS Engage please go to www.vcsengage.org.uk</p> 
---	--

Future Plans for the Funky Lizard

This year will see the launch of the new **Tameside Community Youth Alliance**. This will bring together people who provide services/activities for young people (and people who want to provide services/activities for young people). It will celebrate those young people who already provide a service to other young people.

This will strengthen our partnership with the borough's youth service, led by Sue Nathan, around the Integrated Youth Offer.



Lilian from the Water Adventure Centre (on the left) and Carl Kelsall (in the middle)



The Integrated Youth Offer means that we will all **work together** to ensure that young people have places to go and positive things to do outside of school hours – particularly on the weekend.

Tameside's Community Youth Alliance will be co-chaired by two people;

Between them they have over fifty years experience of working with young people and they will bring their expertise to the group and ensure that the young people feel comfortable and can get involved. Lilian is ensuring that we have the most up to date strategic advice by attending an Enhanced Leadership course with Sue Nathan, funded by the CWDC.

The alliance will meet four times a year.

**The first meeting will be
24 June 6.30pm – 8.30pm**

If you are over twenty five years of age can you make sure that you bring at least one younger person with you – we don't want to start this alliance without the involvement of young people!

More Great News for the Future!

We are hoping to develop a new magazine 3 times a year – Tameside’s Funky Lizard – that will give you loads of useful information about working with families, children and young people. It will include briefings about new legislation and how it applies to you at a local level. As a taster we have included the latest guidance from the government about health - **Healthy Lives, Brighter Future: the strategy for children and young people's health.**

The magazine will include dates of network meetings and free training, and great stories about what projects are doing locally. It will be your magazine – so please let us know what you will find useful.

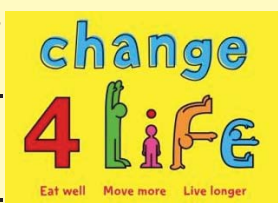
Healthy Lives, Brighter Futures

In February 2009, the strategy Healthy Lives, Brighter Future: the strategy for children and young people's health was published by Children's Secretary Ed Balls and Health Secretary Alan Johnson. It sets out for the first time what children and their families can expect from child health services in their areas from birth through to the age of 19.

Children and young people are healthier today than they have ever been. There is more support for parents, children and young people in achieving good health and wellbeing and in meeting additional health needs. The strategy celebrates what has been achieved and will build on success.

The areas that the government needed to focus on are where there were health inequalities for some people, where there are concerning trends – such as the rise in obesity – and what the public and practitioners are concerned about. This strategy commits partners across the health and children and young people’s services to achieving world-class health outcomes for all. People are to be empowered to make healthy choices for themselves through good information and support programmes that raise self esteem. Services of the highest quality are to be provided so that people have excellent experiences when using them.

Your project can get involved by becoming a partner with Change4Life - you will also all sorts of free resources to use at your project, your activities will be advertised on a national website and you can use their logo. You can find out more on www.nhs.uk/Change4Life or ring 0300 123 434 to speak to someone.



Please become a member of the funky lizard!

You will have the opportunity to influence change in all sorts of different ways – from taking part in a ten minute survey, getting involved in events or becoming a strategic representative. You will have a key point of contact at T3SC who will make sure that you get the right help and information at the right time. We will facilitate, and be involved, in fantastic events where you can showcase your work to partners across Tameside and Greater Manchester.

Record Levels of Investment in Services for Disabled Children.

Together with funding previously announced, linked to Aiming Higher for Disabled Children, there will be a further £340 million to support children with disabilities and their families - bringing the total investment in services for disabled children over the next three years to a record £770 million.

This will enable local areas to work together to support children with disabilities and their families and invest in palliative care and end of life services, short breaks, community equipment and wheelchair services. The two main organisations working with the council and health services on this are Our Kids Eyes and TASCA.

Ed Balls announced that;
“With schools, GP practices, hospitals, Sure Start Children's Centre's, the voluntary sector and government all playing their part in helping to the establish good habits in childhood, this will provide the basis for lifelong health, happiness and wellbeing for every child in the country.”

The Child Health Strategy, Healthy Lives, Brighter Future: the strategy for children and young people's health can be found at:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_094400

Significant health inequalities exist between different areas and communities within Tameside, with some wards featuring amongst the worst in the country. The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) produced for the first time this year describes the current and future health, care and well-being needs of the local population. It includes a section dedicated to children and young people and identifies relevant health and social care issues and commissioning priorities – for more information on this get in touch with Anna Hynes, the Health and Social Care Network Officer at T3SC.



**NAVCA
Quality
Award**



**Celebrate together, Learn together,
Be heard together!**



If you want to join us at Tameside Community Youth Alliance or become a member of the Funky Lizard. Please contact Veronica Hyde:
0161 339 4985 - funkylizard@t3sc.org
www.t3sc.org