

PRESS RELEASE

25th August 2004

Angling for money advice



Photographs of children fishing available – see below

There's no catch in the launch of a new local money advice partnership ...it's absolutely free!

Concerned partners whose business brings them up against money problems have joined to create a Money Information Network in Tameside - to be known as MiNT. Partners include organisations and agencies who see the problems that money mismanagement can bring, and include the Citizens Advice Bureau Tameside, Cash Box Credit Union, New Charter and other Housing Associations, the Tame Valley Partnership and Tameside Council.

The group is keen to promote financial inclusion within the community, and educate younger people about money matters. Colleges and schools will play a large part in this education programme.



business for neighbourhoods

Now MiNT is inviting everyone in Tameside to a drop-in session on Saturday 4th September at West End Methodist Church Community Hall, Stockport Road, Ashton-under-Lyne between 10.00 am and 4 pm.

There'll be many people on hand to give free advice and information. Stalls include the partners in MiNT, but also local banks and building societies, Social Enterprise, Basic Skills Agency, ClearPay (information about tax advice and returns), Inland Revenue (family credits), TV Licensing and even the Oral Health Unit.

Not only is the event free, but everyone who drops in will be entered into a £200 cash prize draw. Kids can also have some fun with organised games and events.

One of the money experts is Martin Frost, Group Director of Finance at New Charter. He said, "This is a first for the north, and we have many keen partners who are willing to give good money advice. Our aim is to encourage everyone to manage their money better. I feel we have the right team to provide the information and training and are looking forward to the launch on 4th September. We've worked hard to get a website up and running, and people can find out more by logging on to www.mintameside.org.uk".

Yvonne Cartey from the Cash Box Credit Union commented, "It's historically appropriate that MiNT will be launched right beside the statue of Hugh Mason in Ashton's West End. Over a century ago, he recognised that good education, advice and welfare benefited the local community far beyond his own mills. Now the partnership is copying that approach



by bringing free expertise to those people who the financial services sector traditionally ignore”.

Picture 1 – Lauren Jackson fishing for money
Picture 2 – Little fishy dippers (from left to right) – Niamh Simpson, Ellie Fyfe, Lauren Jackson, Alex Fyfe and Caitlin Simpson.

NOTES FOR EDITORS

1. The partners in MiNT are: Ashton Pioneer Homes, Age Concern, Cash Box (Credit Union), Citizens Advice Bureau Tameside, Manchester and District Housing Association, New Charter Housing Trust Group, Sanctuary Housing Association, Tameside College, Tameside Council (Welfare Rights and Housing Strategy Group), Tame Valley Partnership and West Pennine Housing Association.
2. MiNT hopes to have two new partners shortly - Jobcentre and the Legal Services Commission.
3. MiNT will also work with Tameside College to promote financial education within the community.
4. The West End Methodist Church Community Hall is behind the statue of Hugh Mason on Stockport Road (junction with Hamilton Street), Ashton-under-Lyne.
5. There'll be practical workshops after the launch event for those interested in money advice. These will be held at locations throughout Tameside including New Charter's new head office in Ashton-under-Lyne.
6. Website www.mintameside.org.uk
7. **iN business for neighbourhoods** is a major new campaign, through which housing associations and companies across England are demonstrating the positive difference they make to people's homes, communities and quality of life. New Charter is one of over 400 housing companies and associations supporting the initiative.

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