



## Actionwork Press Release



### ipoweri national anti-bullying conference for young people

Produced by Actionwork in partnership with ipoweri  
and in association with North Somerset Council

20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> November 2006, Winter Gardens, Weston-super-Mare

The ipoweri national conference has been hailed a huge success. A film of the event and an ipoweri conference report will be available soon on the web and in hard-copy formats.

#### Highlights included:

- 750 delegates from all over the country and abroad
- Hundreds of young people sharing their ideas and strategies on how to deal with bullying
- Tremendous press coverage of the ipoweri event including: BBC national news, I TV national news, BBC World Service, centre page spread in the Sun newspaper, Blue Peter, Newsround, BBC Radio Bristol, Somerset Radio, Star FM, Al Jazeera Television, Colourful Radio, Orchard FM, all the local papers in the South West and more around the country. Plus many other foreign networks covered the event
- ipoweri Damilola Taylor Young Achiever of the Year Award presented by Richard Taylor and won by Katie Englefield and Calum Griffiths
- ipoweri national anti-bullying music competition won by Karl Griffiths
- ipoweri petition calling for the government to provide anti-bullying training as a core part of teacher training (12 metres in length, fluorescent Green, signed by celebrities and delivered to 10 Downing Street with support of local MP Mr Penrose)
- Celebrity attendance including Esther Rantzen, Gemma Bissex (Hollyoaks), Steve Borthwick (Bath RFC Captain), Lance Lewis (World Professional Kickboxing Champ)
- International contributions from California, South Korea, South Africa and Turkey
- Shows, music, drama, films, presentations and speeches from young people, anti-bullying specialists, celebrities and members of parliament contributing
- An event organised by young people for young people
- Shown live around the world on the internet
- The birth an anti-bullying television station BBTV (Bully Box TV)

Andy Hickson, Director of Actionwork and ipoweri conference Director said: "I have been overwhelmed by the fantastic young people who have attended this event. It is truly humbling to see hundreds of empowered young people standing up for their rights and supporting each other in such a positive way. The ipoweri conference was summed up for me when one young delegate, who had been severely bullied in the past, came up to me and said that this had been the best two days of his life"

For more information about Actionwork and ipoweri please see our website [www.actionwork.com](http://www.actionwork.com) or ring 01934 815163.

This ipoweri event was funded by the Department for Education and Skills, Actionwork, North Somerset Council, Persula Foundation, Save the Children, Salt Express, Gloucestershire Local Authority, Bristol City Council, Barcode, Healthy Schools, Staples of Weston, Currys of Weston, South West Grid for Learning and Devon Curriculum Services. Actionwork is a member of the ABA, SIETAR and the IABC