

## **National Regional and Local Context**

### **10 year vision for local government (ODPM 2004)**

In July 2004, the government published a new 10 year vision for Local Government. It puts forward four main areas of focus – developing strong and vibrant community leadership, improving citizen engagement and participation, improving service delivery and developing a new relationship between central, regional and local government.

For further information:

[www.odpm.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1137794](http://www.odpm.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1137794)

### **Every Child Matters: Change for Children (2003)**

A Green Paper was published in 2003 which set out a new approach to ensure the well-being of children and young people from birth to age 19. Every organisation providing services for children and young people is now working towards the shared outcomes of ensuring every child is healthy, safe, enjoying and achieving, making a positive contribution and achieving economic well being.

For further information:

[www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/culturesportplay](http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/culturesportplay)

### **Youth Matters (DfES 2005)**

The Youth Green Paper published in 2005 builds on the foundations of Every Child Matters, and sets out how the public sector will help all young people achieve the five key outcomes in a smooth transition to adulthood.

For further information:

[www.dfes.gov.uk/publications/youth/](http://www.dfes.gov.uk/publications/youth/)

### **Extended Schools: Providing Opportunities and Services for All**

It is expected that by 2010, all children will be offered access to a variety of extended school services, beyond the normal school hours, either on school premises or through partnerships with other organisations.

For further information:

[www.teachernet.gov.uk](http://www.teachernet.gov.uk)

## **Comprehensive Performance Assessment – The Harder Test (Audit Commission 2005)**

CPA is a centrally administered inspection regime which helps local authorities in England to improve local services for their communities. A new framework was produced in 2005 to make the inspections 'harder but fairer'. A combined whole score for every authority will be between 0 and 4 stars, with 4 stars being the highest. There are also 5 labels for 'direction of travel' which rate the chance of progress in the coming years:

- Improving strongly
- Improving well
- Improving adequately
- Not improving adequately
- Not improving

## **Choosing Health: making healthier choices easier (Department of Health 2004)**

This government white paper sets out key principles for supporting the public in making more informed and healthier choices in life. The paper stresses that inter-agency working is the cornerstone to achieving healthier lifestyles. Of the six strategic priorities in the paper, Cultural Services can have a substantial impact on reducing obesity, increasing the uptake of exercise and improving mental health.

For further information:

[www.dh.gov.uk](http://www.dh.gov.uk)

## **Equality and Diversity**

British and European legislation on equality regulates the way the Council interacts with service users and employees. The aim of the legislation is to eliminate discrimination and promote equality of opportunity and aspiration. Age, race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, social background and disability are all covered in various acts of parliament and European directives.

For further information:

[www.dti.gov.uk/er/equality/](http://www.dti.gov.uk/er/equality/) and [www.disability.gov.uk/dda/](http://www.disability.gov.uk/dda/)

## **Green Spaces, Better Places (Urban Green Spaces Task Force 2002)**

This report outlines the importance of urban green spaces and calls for central/local partnership to revitalise them. It explores the issues and sets out conclusions and recommendations including the regeneration of current spaces and the creation of new ones which are attractive, accessible, safe and sustainable.

For further information:

[www.odpm.gov.uk/embedded\\_object.asp?id=1127706](http://www.odpm.gov.uk/embedded_object.asp?id=1127706)

## **Inspiring Learning for All (2004)**

The Inspiring Learning for All is a vision for accessible and inclusive museums, libraries, archives and libraries. The agenda is intended to improve the services offered by all those services mentioned and measure the impact they have on people's learning.

For further information:

[www.inspiringlearningforall.gov.uk/](http://www.inspiringlearningforall.gov.uk/)

## **Getting Serious About Play – A Review of Children's Play (DCMS 2004)**

The DCMS commissioned a review of children's play to ensure that money earmarked by the government for play went to the right places. The test of success for play areas should be long term popularity with children, access should be free, out of hours use of schools grounds and buildings should be promoted and there should be a focus on areas of deprivation.

For further information:

[www.culture.gov.uk/global/publications/archive\\_2004/children\\_play\\_review\\_report.htm](http://www.culture.gov.uk/global/publications/archive_2004/children_play_review_report.htm)

## **Sport Playing Its Part (Sport England 2005)**

This set of documents show how sport can work to achieve many objectives – from tackling obesity to reducing youth crime and anti-social behaviour to reducing absence from work due to ill health. Central Government have accepted that the achievement of targets in sport make a direct impact on such objectives. This acceptance, together with the demonstration of how sport can be used to meet various diverse agendas, means that sport can play a big part in achieving the wider outcomes set by the Council and local community.

For further information:

[www.sportengland.org/index/news\\_and\\_media/news\\_gs/sport\\_playing\\_its\\_part.htm](http://www.sportengland.org/index/news_and_media/news_gs/sport_playing_its_part.htm)

## **Valuing People and Places: West Midlands Cultural Strategy 2001-2006**

Culture West Midlands is one of the eight regional cultural consortiums in England set up by the DCMS. The document is the first regional cultural strategy and provides a shared vision, focus and set of priorities for all local authorities within the region. The regional strategy encompasses all cultural providers and highlights the significant role culture can play in achieving good quality of life for all in the West Midlands.

For further information:

[www.culturewm.org.uk](http://www.culturewm.org.uk)

## Sign Up for Sport – A Regional Plan for Sport in the West Midlands 2004 – 2008 (Sport England)

The ultimate aim of this plan is to increase the numbers of people in the West Midlands involved in sport by 50,000 people. It encourages all organisations to work together and make small improvements during each year of the plan in order to achieve the seven key outcomes:

- Improving levels of participation in club and community sport
- Improving levels of sport performance
- Widening access to sport
- Improving the health and well being of people through sport
- Creating safer and stronger communities through sport
- Improving education through PE and sport
- Benefiting the economy through sport

For further information:

[www.sportengland.org/wm\\_regional\\_plan\\_for\\_sport.pdf](http://www.sportengland.org/wm_regional_plan_for_sport.pdf)