

Update: Creating Sustainable Communities, Issue 4, Summer 2004

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Welcome to Update

by *Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott*

Welcome to this fourth edition of Update magazine.

We have continued to see major progress on sustainable communities since the last issue, with important announcements on Decent Homes, Key Worker Housing and the Market Renewal Pathfinders. We have also met our target of eliminating the long-term use of Bed and Breakfast accommodation for families with children. Recent figures show real advances in delivering the homes we need, with 14% more homes built in London and the South East in 2002/03 than in the previous year.

However, creating sustainable communities is not just about buildings but about people and skills too. In this edition, we look at one project that is helping community and voluntary groups share knowledge and expertise.

And, following on from Sir John Egan's recent investigation, we report progress on a national skills centre for sustainable communities.

On the 17th June I called for nominations for The Deputy Prime Minister's Award for Sustainable Communities. I encourage those people who are working so hard towards delivering sustainable communities to make an application for this award and I look forward to meeting the nominees and winners at the Sustainable Communities Summit in January.

As we go to print we have been in discussions with the Treasury on the 2004 Spending Review, which will set the level of resources for sustainable communities for the next three years. The main decisions should have been announced by the time you read this. I will have more news for our next edition.



John Prescott, MP
Deputy Prime Minister

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Prescott". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John Prescott, MP

Deputy Prime Minister

Update is produced four times a year by the Sustainable Communities Delivery Unit (SCDU) which is part of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM).

The purpose of *Update* is to provide an overview of news, progress and contact details on the programmes and priorities for delivering Sustainable Communities.

If you have any information which you think may form the basis for an *Update* article, or you have suggestions for the publications section or for the events diary that you would like us to consider, please **contact the editor on 020 7944 3766 or email: update@odpm.gov.uk**

News in brief

Communities plan debated in Parliament

The Sustainable Communities agenda has been well aired in Parliament over the last few months, with no fewer than three wide ranging Parliamentary debates touching on many of the issues involved.

On 5 May there was a half day opposition debate in the House of Commons on the Government's record on housing, and on the same day the House of Lords held a debate on the role that central government plays in supporting local communities. Replying to the debate in the Lords, ODPM Minister Lord Rooker said:

"We are supporting local communities through a national framework for action, delivering money and support where it is most needed, empowering local people to deliver progress according to their own priorities".

On 12 May the Lords debated the Barker Review of Housing Supply and there was widespread support from the speakers for the main thrust of the report's recommendations.

Contact:

www.publications.parliament.uk

A tale of eight cities

In April, the Government published *"Making it Happen: a tale of eight cities"*, describing recent successes of the eight Core Cities - Birmingham, Bristol, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham and Sheffield.

The report highlights success stories of urban renaissance, demonstrating how effective civic leadership and strong partnerships can create new prosperity in cities and their regions.

Available on the ODPM website or from ODPM Publications.

Contact:

T: 0870 1226 236

E: odpm@twoten.press.net

www.odpm.gov.uk

URC stocktake

With 16 Urban Regeneration Companies (URCs) now established in England, meeting the Urban White Paper 2000 target, ODPM has reviewed this important policy initiative in the light of experience and the context of the Communities Plan.

Following wide consultation, revised guidance approved by Ministers was launched at the annual URC Conference in Liverpool in May.

The guidance, and a report of the stocktake exercise (including examples of current best-practice) can be found on the ODPM website.

Contact:

www.odpm.gov.uk/urbancompanies

Renting Business Premises booklet

ODPM has published a booklet for business tenants explaining in simple language what to look out for when renting business premises. It includes messages about the importance of obtaining expert advice and an explanation of some of the potential pitfalls.

'Renting business premises - a short guide' is aimed at tenants of small business who are often poorly informed about property and who can get into difficulties as a result. Copies are available from ODPM Publications.



Contact:

T: 0870 1226 236, or E: odpm@twoten.press.net

www.odpm.gov.uk/businessstenancies

Funding announced for North Staffs and Birmingham Sandwell Pathfinders

ODPM has recently announced £30 million of funding for the North Staffordshire Market Renewal Pathfinder (known as Renew) and £50 million for the Birmingham Sandwell Market Renewal Pathfinder (known as Urban Living). These resources are for the period until March 2006.

Contact:

www.odpm.gov.uk/pathfinders or

E: market.renewal@odpm.gov.uk

Decent Homes events

Ministers celebrated progress towards the 2010 Decent Homes target with a series of events at ODPM and Government Offices in May.



Ministers met tenants and stakeholders involved in delivery, from Chief Executives to frontline staff.

The Deputy Prime Minister announced that by the end of 2004, ODPM will have cut the number of non-decent homes by one million since 1997, levering in £18 billion of investment for councils and housing associations. He also announced consultation on a Gap Funding scheme to make housing transfer more viable in negative value estates.

Contact Ruth Ludbrook, ODPM

T: 020 7944 8392

E: ruth.ludbrook@odpm.gsi.gov.uk

Land Restoration Trust

Launched in April, by the Deputy Prime Minister, the Land Restoration Trust will tackle dereliction across England, transforming derelict, neglected or underused land into valuable community assets.



The Trust will acquire derelict land and work with local partners to create sustainable 'green amenities' providing social, economic and environmental benefits for both people and nature. Some 1,500 hectares will be secured over the next three years.

Contact:

www.englishpartnerships.co.uk

Five years of the RDAs

Ministers, business and the voluntary sector praised the work of Regional Development Agencies as they marked their fifth anniversary in April.

RDA Chair of Chairs Bryan Gray said: *"Last year alone, we created as many jobs as there will be fans at this year's FA cup final, and as many learning opportunities as there are students in the Open University. We have much to celebrate, but there is much more to do".*

Contact:

www.rdauk.org

Milton Keynes Partnership Committee established

As part of the ODPM's Growth Area proposals, an Urban Development Area and Partnership Committee was established in Milton Keynes in June. The Milton Keynes Partnership Committee, chaired by Sir Bob Reid, will be the local planning authority for all major applications within the designated areas and will set the strategic vision for Milton Keynes. The Committee will ensure that the future growth of sustainable development across Milton Keynes will be focused and co-ordinated effectively.

Contact: Lizzie West, ODPM

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E: lizzie.west@odpm.gsi.gov.uk

Better Buildings report

Following the Better Building Summit last October, the Sustainable Buildings Task Group was established to identify cost effective improvements in the quality and environmental performance of buildings.



The Task Group, which brought together key representatives from the construction sector, local authorities and the Housing Corporation, reported back to the Government in May.

Recommendations included a number specifically focused on energy, water and waste. ODPM, Defra and DTI are currently exploring how best to take these recommendations forward.

Contact:

www.dti.gov.uk/construction/sustain/sbtg.htm

to download the full Task Group report

Delivering Sustainable Communities Summit

The Delivering Sustainable Communities Summit will be held in the GMEX, Bridgewater Hall and MIC in Manchester from 31 January to 2 February 2005.



It will be the largest event of its kind in the country with 2000 delegates expected from the UK and beyond.

The Summit will embrace national, regional and local influences and offer keynote presentations, plenaries, workshops and expert master-classes. There will also be site visits, fringe events, an exhibition and a Gala dinner, which will host the Deputy Prime Minister's Award for Sustainable Communities.

Details of the programme, exhibition space and sponsorship packages will shortly be available from the ODPM website.

Contact:

www.odpm.gov.uk/summit

Creating sustainable communities

Implementing the Egan Review

Task Group focus on a National Centre

A Task Group has been formed to advise the ODPM on the development of a National Centre for Sustainable Community Skills, advancing one of the key recommendations of the Egan Skills Review.

The National Skills Centre Task Group



Sir John Egan delivered his review *"Skills for Sustainable Communities"* to the Deputy Prime Minister in April.

He called for a culture change in the skills, behaviours, knowledge and training of more than 100 occupations involved in delivering sustainable communities, with a new National Skills Centre to drive forward the agenda.

The National Centre will work with others in developing world class generic skills, and contribute to research and national and international debate on sustainable communities. It will also identify skills gaps, review continuous professional development and gateway education, and encourage more entrants into these core occupations.

The announcement met with support from a range of organisations, including the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI), CABE (Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment), English Heritage, and English Partnerships. Planning for the National Centre will be assisted by a newly-formed Task Group, with members drawn from practitioner and policy backgrounds in built environment, planning, heritage, regeneration, and skills.

Chaired by David Lunts, Director for Urban Policy at ODPM, the Task Group met for the first time in May and deliberated possible forms and functions of the new Centre.

Options are now being considered and evaluated, with an announcement about the Centre expected early next year.

For more information about the National Centre, see the Design and Skills section under Urban Policy on the ODPM website.

Planning bursaries

One of the areas where there is a skills shortage is in trained planners. ODPM is addressing this shortage by funding a bursary scheme for students undertaking "fast track" one-year post-graduate planning courses. The £1.3million scheme will fund 144 post-graduate planning places, with 12 at each of the RTPI accredited planning schools. The scheme will run initially for two years and will see the number of post-graduates more than double.

Contact: Eamon Mythen, ODPM T: 020 7944 8733

E: eamon.mythen@odpm.gsi.gov.uk

Planning for tomorrow

Tomorrow's Planners is a ten-year initiative to help build sustainable communities by changing the way the planning system operates. It was launched in January 2003 by PATH National Ltd, a skills development agency, in partnership with ODPM and The Planning Inspectorate, to address the under-representation of Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities in the planning profession. Research shows that only 1.7% of Royal Town Planning Institute members belong to BME groups, compared to 7.9% of the national population. In London, 30% of the population are from BME groups, but only 6.6% of London's planners.

The programme provides BME groups with quality career opportunities in planning. PATH National recruit and place individuals with host organisations on 3-year traineeship programmes. In its first year, PATH successfully placed 19 high calibre individuals. The second phase of the programme was launched in March and aims to place 40 individuals. Creating a workforce that reflects the community it serves is an ambitious task and the emphasis is on the long-term nature of the project. Over the next ten years, the aim is to secure 500 opportunities for BME individuals in planning.

Tomorrow's Planners today: planning trainees launch phase two of the programme



The project is supported by ODPM, London Development Agency, Learning & Skills Council, and 48 host employers.

Contact: Tony Wilson (Project Manager) at PATH National.

T: 020 7001 2000

E: twilson@pathuk.co.uk

www.pathuk.co.uk

Key Worker Living

Key Worker Living, the Government's £690 million programme of housing support for key workers in London, the South East and East of England, was launched in March by the Deputy

Prime Minister. Over the next two years the programme will help to keep the essential skills needed in frontline public services in areas where expensive housing is adversely affecting recruitment and retention.

In a change from the Starter Home Initiative, a new delivery mechanism has been developed. Zone Agents - Registered Social Landlords with proven records in delivering low-cost home ownership schemes - have been appointed to administer the scheme.

The Deputy Prime Minister with Ministers and key workers at the launch of Key Worker Living in March



Bernie Conroy from Metropolitan Home Ownership explains the role of an Agent:

"The role of a Zone Agent" she says "is to act as a one-stop shop, responsible for the promotion and marketing of all forms of key worker housing in the zones. We manage all enquiries from initial enquiry through to completion of an eligibility application form. We then progress eligible applicants through our own housing programme or refer them to other providers to find intermediate rent or shared ownership housing solutions".

Bernie explains that when applicants are given the go ahead to find a property they must act quickly as funds are allocated on a 'first come first served' basis. An assessment is made as to what they can afford against their current and future needs and then applicants are advised of what they can borrow.

"We will provide eligible applicants with a loan of up to £50,000 (£100,000 for potential future leaders in London schools) to help them buy their home, depending upon housing need and affordability", Bernie explains.

"This loan is placed as a second charge on the property. Applicants need to fund the remainder of the purchase price through a mortgage and/or personal savings. The loan will not involve them making monthly repayments or interest payments".

The size of home people can buy depends on the number of people that are going to live there. Households of one or two people (including children) will be eligible for a two bedroom property; households of three or more people will be eligible for three bedrooms.

For London there is a website and telephone number (0845 300 2820) offering a 'one stop shop' service; details of Zone Agents outside London can be found at:

www.odpm.gov.uk/keyworkerliving or

www.keyworkerliving.co.uk

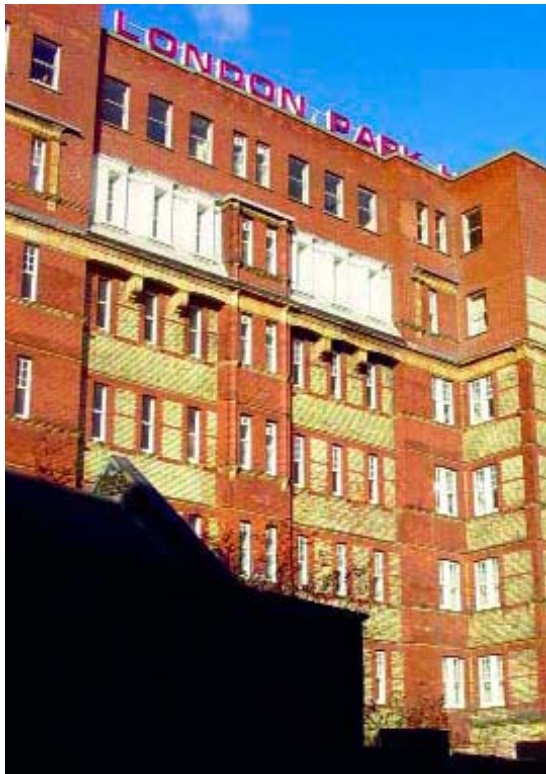
London-Wide Initiative

Innovative approach aims to help London's key workers

Nowhere is the lack of affordable homes more acute than in London and the South East. The area suffers from some of the highest health worker vacancy rates in the country and with average house prices in Greater London running at £235,000, the affordability gap is set to increase.

But government has recognised the problems and launched a range of initiatives designed to assist key workers, such as teachers, nurses and social workers, to find quality homes for rent and for ownership. One of the most innovative schemes, aimed at engaging the private sector, is being spearheaded by national regeneration agency, English Partnerships.

The London-Wide Initiative (LWI) involves English Partnerships assembling a portfolio of sites - to date it has acquired 12 brownfield sites within Greater London - and entering into a partnership with one or more private sector developers to jointly deliver low-cost sale housing for key workers.



But it's not just a case of building homes, its about speeding up delivery and bringing forward new ideas and techniques that will create cost savings, yet result in better quality, well-designed properties.

John Lewis, Director of English Partnerships' Strategic Joint Ventures Division explains the rationale of the LWI.

"Certainly in the medium term, key worker housing shortages can only be solved by the public sector taking the lead and creating public-private partnerships.

By taking on the risks associated with site assembly we are better placed to attract the expertise of the housing industry and together devise new ways of operating that will establish long-term development models."

A pilot phase is expected to deliver 3,500 homes of which 2,000 will be for key workers, and development should begin in early 2005.

www.englishpartnerships.co.uk

Planning out crime to make our streets safer

The importance of planning and design in making our streets safer was highlighted when Planning Minister Keith Hill and Crime Prevention Minister Hazel Blears visited Kings Cross in London.



The Ministers were there to launch 'Safer Places: the Planning System and Crime Prevention, a good practice guide', showing how planners, architects and developers can all play their part in making streets, homes and parks safer places.

Keith Hill said:

"We are determined to build thriving, sustainable communities and that means places where people feel safe. Whether in your home, walking down your street or sitting in your local park, no one should feel threatened or frightened."

"This guidance sets out how we expect local planners, architects and developers to play their part in planning out crime. Lots of small things can make really big differences, whether it's a new CCTV system, better lit streets and stairways or the enclosure of courtyards to make play areas for kids."

The guidance is available on the ODPM website.

www.odpm.gov.uk/planning

High Hedges Consultation

Lifting the long shadows cast by neighbours' disputes over high hedges moved one step closer when ODPM Minister Yvette Cooper visited London's Holland Park recently.



Ms Cooper was launching a 12-week consultation on the Government's proposals on how high hedge legislation will work.

The new legislation means neighbours who cannot resolve their disputes over high hedges can appeal to local authorities to intervene.

Ms Cooper said:

"For many people high hedges can be great. But in some cases they can block out the light from neighbours' homes and gardens and make people's lives a real misery. And that isn't fair on those who have to suffer as a result."

Draft guidance for local authorities in dealing with disputes is available on the ODPM website.

www.odpm.gov.uk/treesandhedges

Bright future on the menu for 'Hoxton Apprentices'

The Deputy Prime Minister opened a flagship development - including a restaurant offering training for the homeless and vulnerable - when he visited the Shoreditch New Deal for Communities area (NDC) in June.



The Prospect Centre, in Hoxton Square, will give people a chance to train for a new job, learn about nutrition and fitness, and even how to start a business, using the centre's training kitchen, gym and business start-up facilities.

The Centre is supported by £500,000 from the Shoreditch NDC project and £450,000 from ODPM. £25,000 has been provided for catering training at the restaurant, called *The Hoxton Apprentice*.

The Deputy Prime Minister met a number of trainees. Leon Seraphin, who grew up in Hackney, said:

"I was interested in catering but had been unemployed for two years and didn't have the right qualifications.

"I have now been on a catering course at the Centre for four months. It's really helped me get back into the routine of working, and I've now gained all my hygiene and health and safety certificates. I'm now on the first step to becoming a qualified chef."

The Centre comes on top of the NDC's achievements, which include a 10 per cent increase in the number of children staying on at school after the age of 16 (2001-2002); and a five per cent reduction in the number of working age people claiming Job Seekers' Allowance (1999-2002).

www.trainingforlife.org/prospect.asp

Learning to listen to young people



Involving children and young people is important when decisions and policies affect the communities where they live. Young people are often invisible or seen as 'problems'. Yet policy and service delivery have outcomes that directly affect them.

Including young people in creating policies from the outset means that ODPM can devise and deliver better policies, services and planning decisions. Working in partnership with young active citizens is also creative, fun and strengthens democracy.

Every government department now has a commitment to produce an action plan to include children and young people in their work.

ODPM's plan, 'Learning to Listen', was developed in June 2003. It considers how the poorest and most socially excluded young people can have a voice and how young people can help create safe, sustainable, inclusive communities.

As part of the plan, at the end of 2003 ODPM organised a competition to ask how government should engage with young people. Numerous entries arrived, including a rap to the Deputy Prime Minister, a collage on the experience of homelessness and a poster and video showing photos taken by children of their local area. The winning entry was a Children's Society project involving a group of girls aged between nine and 13 years, who organised a conference in Newcastle for children to have their say about where they lived.

Earlier this year ODPM continued by hosting an exhibition and event at its London headquarters to bring together young people, ODPM staff and Ministers. ODPM invited young people to tell them how they would help the Office make their policies and services relevant to young people. Yvette Cooper, the ODPM Diversity Minister, attended and expressed her support for greater involvement of young people.

Views and ideas for the next steps were collected up in a report of the day, available from edu@odpm.gsi.gov.uk

ODPM has also set up a steering group on children and young people and it is hoped that young people will be part of this group. The group is already working on an action plan for 2004-5.

If you have ideas on how young people can help ODPM better deliver sustainable communities, contact:

Yvonne Campbell, Equality and Diversity Unit, ODPM

T: 020 7944 3112 or

E: yvonne.campbell@odpm.gsi.gov.uk

www.odpm.gov.uk/about (under 'corporate publications')

Transfer of surplus NHS sites

Land deal to provide more affordable homes



The Deputy Prime Minister joined Health Secretary John Reid in April to announce a groundbreaking deal to deliver thousands more affordable homes, growth and regeneration.

An agreement has been reached to transfer over 100 surplus NHS sites to ODPM.

The land will be used to tackle housing shortages and to promote the regeneration of priority areas as part of the Communities Plan.

The sites are expected to provide more than 15,000 new homes, with at least 5,000 of them affordable.

The announcement underlines the Government's commitment to build more homes across the country through better use of surplus public sector land.

Money raised from the sale of the sites will be re-invested into the NHS.

The Deputy Prime Minister said:

"This deal shows our determination to deliver more affordable homes where they are needed most, especially for key workers and young families. It will unlock major brownfield sites... and kick-start regeneration.

"The challenge is to ensure these sites provide the quality housing, infrastructure and investment vital to building places that stand the test of time. I want the developments which take place on these important sites to be exemplary projects, leading the way in demonstrating best practice in creating genuinely sustainable communities."

Health Secretary John Reid added:

"This will benefit the NHS in two ways at the same time. An injection of cash, and a valuable contribution to the provision of key worker accommodation in the areas where it is needed most.

"We currently have the biggest hospital building programme in the history of the NHS, but some of our land is genuinely surplus and has no established long-term NHS need. The receipts from the transfer will be transferred to the NHS and used to fund buildings and equipment."

English Partnerships (EP), the Government's national regeneration agency, will play a key role in the future plans for many of the sites. Other agencies, such as the Regional Development Agencies, local authorities and housing associations, will also be involved. Working with local authorities, EP will undertake a master planning exercise of the sites to maximise their potential. The private sector will then be fully involved in taking forward the development of the sites.

Contact:

Crispin Tuckley, ODPM

T: 020 7944 5319 or

E: crispin.tuckley@odpm.gsi.gov.uk

Self Build

Its place in the creation of sustainable communities

The Community Self Build Agency hosted an event at the Crypt of Saint Martin in the Fields, London, in March, to highlight the role of Community Self Build in the creation of sustainable communities.

The key speaker at the event, Chris Holmes, former Director of Shelter, argued that Self Build: *"helps to defuse the ghettos of private sector and social housing"*. He also considered Self Build to be part of the 'new vision' for housing: *"where people have a stake in the design and construction of their own homes, within socially diverse neighbourhoods"*.

Community Self Build involves a group of people getting together to build homes for themselves in partnership with other organisations, but its role in helping to create balanced communities is only half of the story.

The learning curve of self help, working as a member of a team and the acquisition of skills may be harder to quantify than the quality of housing provided, or the number of bricks laid.

But the empowerment of the individual Self Builders, through the process of 'learning by doing' is there nevertheless.

Self Builders 'earn' lower housing costs, and the skills and knowledge they gain increase employment opportunities, leading to less dependency on benefit.

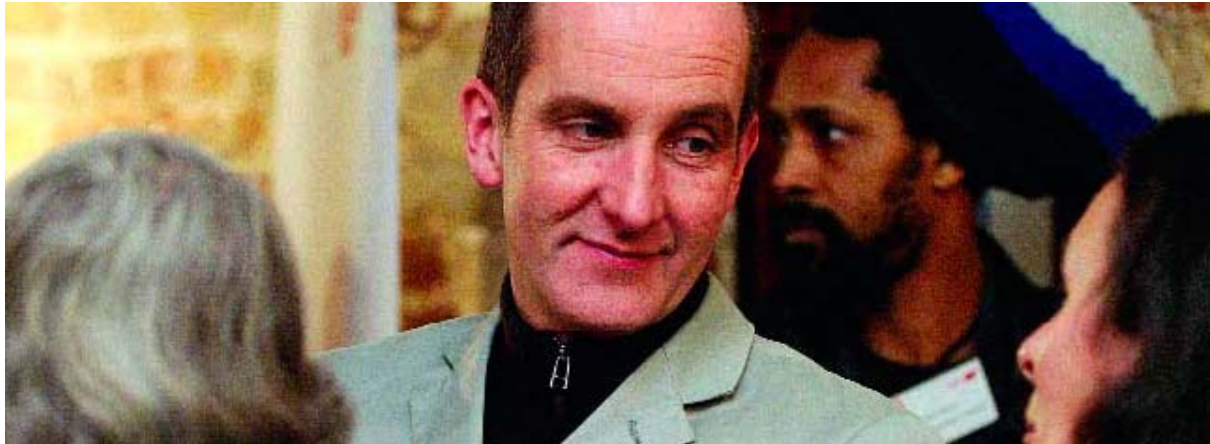
The Self Builders' involvement in the planning, design and construction of their own homes, alongside neighbours, also creates a strong sense of ownership and, the multiple wins offered by Self Build, complete the circle - the creation of self supporting, sustainable communities.

Chris Holmes was joined by former cabinet maker Clifford Dobbs, who wanted to share his experience of the St John's Self Build project in East London. On completion of the Self Build homes, Dobbs decided to go to university.

He is now a Business Area Manager for the Prince's Trust, helping people to turn their business dreams into reality.

Nine years after completion, all the houses are still occupied by the people who built them.

Kevin McCloud of Channel 4's 'Grand Designs' and Victor Bowen (background) of Angell Town Self Build Group, Brixton, at the event



To find out more about the work of the Community Self Build Agency, contact Nick Englefield on

T: 020 7415 7092 or

E: n.englefield@communityselfbuildagency.org.uk

www.communityselfbuildagency.org.uk

ODPM provides £50,000 for pilot 'Safe Moves' youth homelessness prevention scheme

Minister for Homelessness Lord Rooker announced funding of £50,000 for the Foyer Federation's youth homelessness prevention scheme 'Safe Moves' in March.

The funding ensures that its four pilot projects in Birmingham, Wolverhampton, North Yorkshire and Suffolk will continue until their funding is mainstreamed in October.



Launched by the Foyer Federation, with Connexions, Safe Moves aims to identify young people (aged 13 to 19) at risk of homelessness and offer them a range of interventions with advice and support to help them stay at home, or make a planned move into alternative accommodation. Interventions include peer mentoring by young people who have experienced homelessness themselves, informal life skills training and family mediation.

More than 100 young people have already been helped by Safe Moves. Foyer Federation Chief Executive Carolyn Hayman added:

"The extra funding from ODPM will ensure that Safe Moves continues to help vulnerable young people across the country. With the future of the pilot schemes secured we now hope to work with a second wave of pilots later this year."

Contact: Rob Burkitt, Foyer Federation

T: 0121 449 7217

www.foyer.net

Local Public Service Agreement Targets

Seventeen local authorities have begun negotiations on Second Generation Local Public Service Agreements (LPSAs), which are to give more flexibility to authorities as they strive for improvement.

LPSAs have been in place for the last three years and represent a new approach to improving public services.

This voluntary programme is designed to reward local authorities who deliver better performance in key areas and is open to every upper-tier authority in England.

Take-up of the first round has been encouraging - 144 authorities have concluded agreements or are at an advanced stage of negotiation. If they succeed in full, local authorities stand to earn around £1.5 billion in rewards from the agreements.

Two types of grant are available: Pump Priming Grants at the start to help authorities establish schemes; and Performance Reward Grants, paid if authorities achieve progress towards agreed targets.

In Round One of the LPSA scheme, authorities normally had 12 targets, offering better performance in areas such as education, transport and crime. Targets for some services were obligatory, but Round Two has no mandatory targets. There is a move to accept locally agreed priorities where the evidence is supportive. The system hopes to place greater emphasis on partnerships and on outcomes rather than outputs.

Contact:

Richard Anderson, ODPM

E: richard.anderson@odpm.gsi.gov.uk

Key interview

Focus on...

English Partnerships

interview with David Higgins

English Partnerships is the Government's national regeneration agency delivering high quality, sustainable growth in England. It does this by developing its portfolio of strategic sites and acting as the Government's advisor on brownfield land. It also ensures that surplus public sector assets are used to support wider government objectives, especially those contained in the Communities Plan.

Here we ask Chief Executive David Higgins about the challenges and opportunities faced by English Partnership in delivering its role.



Q: You have been chief executive at English Partnerships for just over a year. What is your background and what have been the highlights of your first year at the national regeneration agency?

Prior to joining English Partnerships I spent 13 years working for the Lend Lease Group in Australia during which time I held a number of positions until my appointment as Managing Director and Group Chief Executive. I was educated at the University of Sydney, where I gained a degree in civil engineering and I also have a Diploma from the Securities Institute of Australia.

Following graduation from University, I spent time working in the United Kingdom and Africa on construction projects before returning to Australia.

2003/2004 has been a tremendously successful year for English Partnerships. We have made excellent progress across the range of our activities from helping to provide new homes, many for key workers and young families, to bringing brownfield land back into use. Increasingly we promote best practice and champion innovation and quality with our partners.

However, what I am most proud of is the commitment, enthusiasm and professional ability of all those who work for English Partnerships. This has been a year of transition for everyone as we have restructured the organisation to deliver the whole range of our activities.

Q: What are the biggest challenges facing English Partnerships?

Our enhanced role as a key delivery vehicle of the Government's Communities Plan, launched by the Deputy Prime Minister in February 2003, has presented us with a major challenge, tackling England's housing crisis.

During the past year we have implemented a series of initiatives to combat the housing shortage in London and the South East and deal with the impact of housing abandonment in the North and Midlands to help create communities where people can afford to live and want to live. The Communities Plan outlined a significant role for English Partnerships to ensure that high quality, low

cost and affordable housing is available for key workers on low incomes. It also summarised our strategic function to search out and assemble land, especially brownfield and publicly owned land, for sustainable development to ease pressure on the greenbelt.

Q: What do you consider to be English Partnerships' main strengths?

Creating successful partnerships with the public and private sector is a key component of all our projects and programmes. We work in collaboration with the Regional Development Agencies (RDAs), Regional Planning bodies and the Regional Housing Boards. We also have close relationships with the Housing Corporation, local authorities and the communities they serve, plus the private sector to utilise its expertise in land acquisition, remediation and development to deliver high quality sustainable regeneration and development in areas of greatest need.



Our Strategic Joint Ventures Division (SJVD) was established with the aim of generating a pipeline of strategic development sites and to create new and innovative models of delivery with particular emphasis on the re-use of previously developed or brownfield land.

This year SJVD launched the London-Wide Initiative to deliver 3,500 houses across the capital, 2,000 of which will be for key workers, centred on 12 sites across the capital (see article on the London Wide Initiative).

The urgent need for more affordable homes in London and the wider South East is also being addressed by The Housing Partnership, a joint unit that brings together the skills and assets of English Partnerships and the Housing Corporation.

English Partnerships is also working closely with public sector agencies such as Defence Estates, the NHS and Rail Property, to maximise the potential of surplus government assets, especially in areas of housing shortages.

We maintain a Register on behalf of the ODPM, which is a comprehensive database to ensure that information on surplus public sector land is collated and accessible.

A number of surplus sites have been acquired for the London-Wide Initiative, as well as strategic sites to assist RDAs in delivering their business plans and to achieve the objectives of the Communities Plan.

Q: What will be the next milestone?

The publication of the second stage of the Communities Plan, 'Making it Happen: the Northern Way', made clear the Government's commitment to increasing growth and prosperity across the entire country. Current English Partnerships initiatives such as Urban Regeneration Companies, Millennium

Communities and the National Coalfields Programme will be important delivery mechanisms for the creation of sustainable communities in the North and the Midlands.

Here at English Partnerships we have effective area teams in place to ensure our national programmes are successfully delivered at local level.

This structure also provides more opportunities to inject skills from the private sector, enabling us to drive forward the sustainable communities agenda throughout England together with our partner organisations.

English Partnerships helps create communities where people can afford to live and want to live. Information on projects and programmes can be found at:

www.englishpartnerships.co.uk

Neighbouring communities for 10 years

Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber

ODPM Minister Yvette Cooper joined the Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber (GOYH) to open Hull's regional training facility for Neighbourhood Wardens in April.



One of the first areas to pilot a Neighbourhood Warden Resource Centre, Hull was awarded funding of £250,000 to supply an array of services that include training, mentoring, exchanges, support networks and conferences.

The new training facility, based at the Goodwin Resource Centre in the Riverside Area of Hull aims to build on the experiences of other community warden schemes operating in Hull which have been supported by GOYH.

In May, GOYH celebrated 10 years of delivery across the region, and the creating sustainable communities agenda has been key.

Other projects which have been delivered by GOYH during the organisation's 10-year history include:

Heeley City Farm, Sheffield

Set up to provide adults and children with learning resources, the Farm is home to a Training and Resource Centre, providing accredited training in the environmental industries. The project created local jobs during construction and provides a vital asset as part of the Farm's strategy for a sustainable future.

Priory Campus, Barnsley

The Community Centre is dedicated to providing community, education and enterprise support and serves surrounding communities which have been badly hit by pit closures. Located in Lundwood in Northeast Barnsley, the £3m Campus building is home to a range of agencies and has been helped by GOYH through the 'Reach Out' scheme and Objective One funding.

For more information contact:

Natalie Wilkins, Government Office for Yorkshire and The Humber

T: 0113 283 5476

www.goyh.gov.uk

The nine are 10!

The nine Government Offices for the English regions (GOs), the primary means by which a wide range of Government policies are delivered in the English regions, celebrate their tenth birthday this year.

In 2002/2003, the GOs were responsible for around £9 billion of Government expenditure and since 1994, their responsibilities have increased significantly. GOs now deliver programmes on behalf of 10 Departments.

The Deputy Prime Minister said:

"The GOs are at the heart of the Government's delivery process. They find better ways of delivering with partners and are crucial in helping to build better communities that meet the needs of all members of society."

To find out more about the work of the GOs, please visit www.rcu.gov.uk

Housing market renewal

Close-up look at Transform South Yorkshire

Market Renewal Pathfinder

Transform South Yorkshire (TSY) is the largest of nine Housing Market Renewal Pathfinders set up by ODPM in 2002, to tackle the problems of low demand housing in the north of England and the Midlands.



In March, TSY was awarded £71 million for the next two years, to get its planned activities off the ground.

The work to be funded includes refurbishment work to improve the appearance of run-down neighbourhoods, as well as 'masterplanning' exercises involving local people in working out how best to improve their neighbourhoods.

A key aspect of TSY's work is in providing a greater choice of homes that are better designed and more suitable for those living in them.

One way this will be achieved is through the targeted demolition of low quality or obsolete properties, however this is not the only answer.

Using "*early action*" money, TSY funded the conversion of two-bedroomed council houses in Shirecliffe, Sheffield, into four-bedroomed homes. The first stage of this is now complete and the first tenants, Maxine Holmes and her family, moved into their new, more modern and more spacious home in April.

This remodelling work has been a real partnership: Sheffield City Council provided the houses, South Yorkshire Housing Association will manage the properties and TSY funded the scheme.

What makes the project particularly special is that Rebuild, a community-based construction company, has undertaken the remodelling work. This means that, as well as helping larger families that want to live in Shirecliffe, the project has provided employment and training opportunities for local people, benefiting the wider community.

Remodelling work is also being carried out in Doncaster, and there are plans to expand even further. TSY is working with local partners and the Government to create sustainable communities and safe, attractive, vibrant neighbourhoods. It will take time to achieve this, but progress is being made, and this is only the beginning.

Contact: Sarah Bell

Transform South Yorkshire

Tel: 0114 273 4664

Market Renewal Pathfinders: Learning Lessons

Making the Market Renewal Pathfinders' knowledge and experiences available to others has always been at the heart of the programme.

With this in mind, ODPM published 'Learning Lessons' in February. This document draws together the first lessons emerging from the pathfinders, based on the programme's most recent event held in Manchester last October. It contains real examples of what works - and what doesn't - as they work with partners to revive housing markets.

Copies are available on the ODPM website at

www.odpm.gov.uk/pathfinders

Community involvement

Neighbourhood Wardens Scheme evaluation



In April, ODPM published the evaluation of its Neighbourhood Warden Scheme. The evaluators found that in warden areas:

- crime had fallen nearly 28 per cent;
- fear of mugging and street robberies down 10 percent;
- a 6.5 per cent decline in worry about bogus callers;
- a decline in residents perceiving 'teenagers hanging around' as a problem;
- where they are targeting anti-social behaviour, residents report 'fewer gangs' and 'less intimidation';
- that the schemes represent value for money; and
- many uncosted but crucial benefits, such as reduced fear of crime and environmental improvement.

The evaluation highlighted the wardens' unique role as the friendly face of regeneration. They forge links between local people and agencies to tackle issues affecting quality of life in disadvantaged communities, such as litter and fly-tipping.

The report identifies the critical factors for successful schemes. Case studies of four areas - Derby, Kirklees, Knowsley and Sedgefield - provide examples of how wardens are tackling fear of crime and anti-social behaviour through:

- high visibility patrols;
- dealing with low level crime to free up police time;

- building relationships with young people, providing diversionary activities and patrolling 'hotspots';
- encouraging residents to report crime and to take measures to reduce the likelihood of becoming a victim of crime; and
- identifying and remedying problems that increase fear of crime, such as lack of street lighting.

Comments by residents included:

"Wardens improve the area just by being there, talking to people, listening to them" (Kirklees resident);

"Things were ten times worse before the wardens came" (Knowsley resident).

'Identislot' scheme, Knowsley

To combat bogus callers Stockbridge co-funded an initiative, with Village Housing, called Identislot.

The project installed 154 units in older persons' homes to:

- reduce the fear of crime;
- improve community spirit; and
- raise awareness of bogus callers.

Identislot involves passing ID cards through a slot on the front door. 200 degree door viewers and door safety chains were also fitted, and high visibility street signs displayed to promote the initiative.

The report and summary are available at: www.neighbourhood.gov.uk

Liveability

Green Street

Web tool for sustainable refurbishment, repair and maintenance

www.greenstreet.org.uk

The sustainability of future communities is under threat from the CO₂ emissions produced by existing homes - over a quarter of the UK's total emissions.

Now - with the aid of a Housing Corporation Innovation and Good Practice (IGP) grant - a new web tool has been launched to provide comprehensive information and guidance on improving the environmental performance of existing homes.

'Green Street' - developed by Sustainable Homes and launched at the 2003 Sustainable Homes conference - is aimed primarily at housing professionals, providing information to support the development of design standards, but the advice available targets a broader audience.

Local authorities can find information on products available for carrying out sustainable refurbishment and maintenance, while resourceful advice is also accessible for residents wanting to take action in improving sustainability throughout their homes.

One of the fundamental qualities of Green Street is that it goes beyond providing information on energy conservation, water efficiency, waste reduction and material use, as it also offers beneficial advice on health and wellbeing issues. In addition the web tool responds to variations in the built form by presenting the information by house types.

A range of case studies is available to gain an understanding of the practical experiences of organisations delivering sustainable refurbishment. Some of the case studies also highlight the benefits of resident involvement in the refurbishment process.

Green Street aims to encourage sustainability through promoting easy ways to improve environmental performance of existing buildings and in turn help to provide healthier homes for residents. By implementing the guidance available through the web tool, combined with making wider social and neighbourhood improvements, Green Street shows how housing associations, local authorities and private landlords can contribute to a more sustainable future.

A row of different types of houses



Contact: Jo Koenig at Sustainable Homes

T: 020 8973 0422

E: jkoenig@hastoe.com

For a full list of IGP funded sustainable development projects go to

www.housingcorp.gov.uk/resources/sustain.htm

Launch of the Design Coding Pilot Programme

The Design Coding Pilot Programme was launched in May, initiating a year of capacity building, testing and evaluation involving a range of public agencies, local planning authorities, forward thinking designers and private developers. Pilot projects announced at the launch are located at Aldershot, Ashford, Cirencester, Hastings, Newcastle, and Rotherham.

In delivering the step change set out in the Communities Plan, ODPM has established the Design Coding Project to explore how design coding might be used to accelerate the delivery of high quality housing, while retaining the high levels of design input necessary for good quality placemaking. The pilots range in size from 400 to 4,500 dwellings, and are a mixture of public and private sector led. The programme will provide the means to investigate various models and approaches for developing, adopting and implementing design codes.

A design code is a set of specific rules or requirements to guide the physical development of a site or a place. Its aim is to provide clarity about what constitutes acceptable design quality for developers and local communities. This assists in accelerating the delivery of good quality new development.

The design code builds on the aspirations of a masterplan/ development framework, and provides a vision, a rationale, and a set of requirements (the codes themselves). These can be urban design principles aimed at delivering better quality places and include requirements for streets, blocks, massing and so on, or may be focused more on architectural or building performance.

The Design Coding Project is being undertaken in conjunction with the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) and English Partnerships with allied activities including:

- enabling support to the pilots by way of consultants appointed through CABE's expert panel of leading urban design and town planning consultants;
- research and methodology development;
- the analysis of mechanisms for delivering design coding through the planning system; and
- the monitoring, evaluation and review of the pilot programme.

Results of this programme will be presented at the Sustainable Communities Summit in 2005.

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Liveability Conference: Cleaner, safer and greener communities



A drive to promote cleaner, safer and greener communities has been launched to better explain the Government's liveability programmes.

The 'Cleaner, Safer, Greener Communities' drive was announced at the ODPM-sponsored Liveability Agenda Conference on 1 July. The drive aims to clarify what is meant by the term 'liveability' in order to better communicate and promote the work being done in this area. It also explains the links between different programmes and departments across government and its agencies.

Many people do not readily recognise that Government programmes to improve parks, play areas and activities for young people, or to tackle anti-social behaviour, litter and graffiti are all aimed at improving the quality of life where they live.

Examples of case studies and processes that have worked well are currently being sought to generate momentum and incentives to show people what can be achieved.

The Deputy Prime Minister said:

"Liveability is a huge challenge, and requires new ideas and innovation. We need to ensure that the right framework exists so that we can tackle behaviour which damages people's quality of life. But we need local people to make a real difference in their own neighbourhoods.

It means dealing with litter on the streets we use on our way to the shops. It means making the kids' play area safer, or improving the town centre where we meet our friends. For too long we tolerated poor quality public space.

We are determined to ensure that all parts of government at all levels - the ODPM, DCMS, Home Office, DEFRA and local government, in particular - should all work together to create better places to live."

A new website portal and CD were also launched at the conference to signpost sources of information, guidance and good practice on liveability issues.

To find out more visit the website portal at:

www.cleanersafergreener.gov.uk

Special grants programme

Housing for an ageing population

Planning for the future

"I feel much better after talking to other people - I can think about my housing more clearly now," said Miss James, aged 76.

This was one of the reactions to taking part in a housing *"Listening Event"* for older people in Teignbridge, Devon.



"The idea is that council officers listen and older people discuss, rather than the other way around", says Sue Adams, Director of charity Care & Repair England.

The event was part of an initiative to encourage authorities to liaise directly with older people right from the start of their older people's strategy planning process. Sue worked with Teignbridge District Council and Teignbridge Care and Repair to run these events which set the founding principles of the strategy.

Not surprisingly, being helped to stay in your own home, but having decent choices if you have to move, come high on the agenda. *"I want to stay in control of where and how I live for as long as possible"*, said participant Jim Dyer.

Care & Repair England publication *"Having Our Say - A Housing Action Kit for Older People"* provides background information about housing strategic planning and ideas for local action. *"This has been very well received"*, says David Gardiner, of Better Government for Older People. *"There is so much more that older people can achieve to encourage better housing"*.

This is just one of the many projects undertaken by Care & Repair England to improve older people's housing conditions.

Peter Archer, chair of Care & Repair England said: "through our 'Should I Stay or Should I Go' programme we have helped set up eight housing options and move-on services and created a web based information bank to help others do the same."

With a Regeneration and Older People report just launched and an innovative 'Healthy Homes' project in the pipeline, Care & Repair England is not standing still.

"There is just so much more to do to make sure that we have the right housing and services for an ageing society," concludes Sue Adams.

For further information

T: 0115 982 1527 or

E: info@careandrepairengland.org.uk

www.careandrepairengland.org.uk

Community Networking Project

For years, thousands of people around the country have given up their time and money to form a group to improve their local green spaces for their whole community to enjoy.

Often they receive good support from their local authority, but it is the drive and determination of these committed volunteers that ensures that their hard work results in a better quality of environment for everybody.

Despite the positive impact these community groups have on the quality of life of local residents, until recently there was no dedicated support available for community groups working with parks and green spaces.

In 2001, GreenSpace was awarded Special Grants Programme funding from ODPM and the Heritage Lottery Fund to set up the Community Networking Project (CNP). The aim was to research the resources and abilities of green space community groups.

The CNP produced a report last November, which analysed 1,000 groups working with parks and green spaces. It provides a wealth of information and reveals a highly competent and committed national movement. However, it also showed that many groups operate with very little financial support, and that there was great potential for increased networking and sharing of experiences.

In February 2004 the National Register went live on GreenSpace Online. The Register allows over 1,800 green space community groups to network and exchange experiences, ideas and skills.



The CNP has also published two guides to support community groups:

- 'Claiming your share', (December 2003), - provides details of over 100 funding bodies and support organisations, and help with the funding application process.

- 'Making a difference' (February 2004) - a toolkit for people who want to start, or develop, a community group or 'friends of' group aimed at improving parks and green space.

Funding for CNP ended in April, but the network of community groups continues to exchange support, ideas and guidance and has evolved into a well-established and recognisable resource for the sector.

GreenSpace is a not-for-profit organisation working for the improvement of parks and green spaces. The GreenSpace Online website offers the latest news, resources, information and features.

For further information about the work of the Community Network, or to purchase any of the guides mentioned, contact:

T: 0118 946 9060

E: nicko@greenspace.org.uk or visit:

www.green-space.org.uk

Recent publications

City Matters



ISBN: 1 86134 444 9

Martin Boddy, Michael Parkinson

This book provides a review of the findings of the Economic and Social Research Council's 'Cities: Competitiveness and Cohesion' research programme. Leading experts present the findings of this UK research organised around themes of competitiveness, social cohesion and the role of policy and governance.

Available from:

Policy Press,
c/o Marston Book Services,
PO Box 269 Abingdon,
Oxon OX14 4YN

Tel: 01235 465500

Fax: 01235 465556

Email: direct.orders@marston.co.uk

Price: £25.00

Measures of Community



ISBN: 1 901974 57 X

Gabriel Chanan

This study suggests 16 key indicators likely to achieve a rounded picture of the state of community life in any particular locality.

Available from:

Community Development Foundation
60 Highbury Grove, London N5 2AG

Tel: 020 7226 5375
Fax: 020 7704 0313
Email: admin@cdf.org.uk

Website: www.cdf.org.uk

Price: £19.95

The extended policing family: Visible patrols in residential areas



ISBN: 1 85935 187 5

Adam Crawford, Stuart Lister

This report documents the findings of a national survey of private security firms and regional surveys of local housing authorities and police forces and considers the effects of plural policing.

Available from:

Joseph Rowntree Foundation
York Publishing Services Ltd
64 Hallfield Road, Layerthorpe
York YO31 7ZQ

Tel: 01904 430033
Fax: 01904 430868

A free summary is available on the website at: www.jrf.org.uk. A free PDF version of the full report is also available at: www.jrf.org.uk/bookshop

Price: £15.95

Tools for Regeneration: A holistic approach for faith communities



ISBN: 0 9547294 0 4

Rumman Ahmed, Doreen Finneron, Harmander Singh

This toolkit is based on the needs of practitioners of faith-based regeneration as expressed in the conferences and workshops held by the Faith Based Regeneration Network between 2002 and 2004.

Available from:

The Faith Based Regeneration Network UK (FbRN UK)
9 Lambton Road, Raynes Park

London SW20 0LW
Tel: 020 8947 6160

Website: www.fbrn.org.uk

Price: £9.95

Making it work: The keys to success for young people living independently



ISBN: 1 86134 532 1

Jamie Harding

This book evaluates the extensive and innovative range of services that have been developed for unintentionally homeless 16- and 17-year-olds in Newcastle.

Available from:

Policy Press
c/o Marston Book Services,
PO Box 269
Abingdon,
Oxon OX14 4YN

Tel: 01235 465500

Fax: 01235 465556

Email: direct.orders@marston.co.uk

Price: £17.99

Seeing the bigger picture



ISBN: 1 85935 157 3

Fay Blair, Bob Evans

This report identifies the obstacles and barriers to the successful delivery of sustainable development at the local level, drawing from existing research and building on earlier studies in Joseph Rowntree Foundation programmes.

Available from:

Joseph Rowntree Foundation
York Publishing Services Ltd
64 Hallfield Road, Layerthorpe
York YO31 7ZQ

Tel: 01904 430033
Fax: 01904 430868

A free summary is available on the website at: www.jrf.org.uk. A free PDF version of the full report is also available at: www.jrf.org.uk/bookshop

Price: £15.95

Survey of Community Development Workers in the UK



ISBN: 1 901974 45 6

Andrew Glen, Paul Henderson, Jayne Humm, Helen Meszaros, Maire Gaffney

This report looks at who community workers are, their employment and activities. Paid and unpaid community workers are profiled, and the report looks at their responsibilities, experience, education, training and support.

Available from:

Community Development Foundation
60 Highbury Grove,
London N5 2AG

Tel: 020 7226 5375
Fax: 020 7704 0313
Email: admin@cdf.org.uk

Website: www.cdf.org.uk

Price: £19.95

The Journal of Community Work and Development



ISBN: 0 947919 73 2

This report is produced twice a year and focuses on community development research, theory, policy and practice across education, social work, housing, health, community regeneration and race relations.

Available from:

Community Development Foundation
60 Highbury Grove, London N5 2AG

Tel: 020 7226 5375

Fax: 020 7704 0313

Email: admin@cdf.org.uk

Website: www.cdf.org.uk

Price: £20.00 for both issues per year (£35.00 for two copies)

Replicating Successful Voluntary Sector Projects



ISBN: 1 897 916 108

Diana Leat

This report, based on a literature review, case studies and interviews with funders, explores the issues in encouraging replication of voluntary sector projects that work, emphasising that replication involves recipes rather than blue-prints.

Available from:

The Association of Charitable Foundations
2 Plough Yard
Shoreditch High Street
London EC2A 3LP

Tel: 020 7422 8600

Fax: 020 7422 8606

Website: www.acf.org.uk

Price: £10.00

Youth and Crime - second edition



ISBN: 0 7619 4464 8

John Muncie

This book provides an analysis of a wide range of issues surrounding young people, disorder and crime. It includes material on youth gangs, street crime, victimisation, crime prevention, surveillance, policing and children's rights, plus an analysis of youth, social policy and criminal justice reforms.

Available from:

SAGE Publications Ltd
1 Oliver's Yard,
55 City Road
London EC1Y 1SP

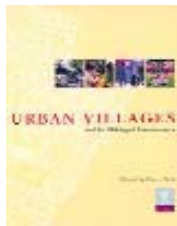
Tel: 020 7324 8500

Email: info@sagepub.co.uk

Website: www.sagepublications.com

Price: £19.99

Urban Villages and the Making of Communities



ISBN: 0 415 26273 9

Peter Neal

This book documents both the roots of the Urban Village movement and its application in contemporary society. A series of essays by practitioners offers particular urban perspectives.

Available from:

Spon Press (Taylor and Francis)
11 New Fetter Lane, London EC4P 4EE

Tel: 020 7583 9855

Fax: 020 7842 2298

Website: www.sponpress.com

Price: £25.00

ODPM newsletter

Inclusion - a quarterly newsletter, providing information, contacts and examples of good practice for all those involved in tackling social exclusion.



To subscribe free, contact:

The Social Exclusion Unit
7/G10
Eland House,
Bressenden Place
London SW1E 5DU

or telephone 020 7944 8133 or email

inclusioneditor@odpm.gsi.gov.uk

Back issues can be viewed on the website at www.socialexclusionunit.gov.uk

Sustainable Communities Video. The ODPM video, Sustainable Communities - where do you want to live?, is still available to view on the ODPM website: www.odpm.gov.uk. Copies are also available in VHS, DVD and CD-ROM formats from the ODPM distribution centre, Tel: 08701 226236, Email: odpm@twoten.press.net

Events diary

Local Environmental Quality

22 July 2004

To cover public awareness and enforcement in improving environmental quality, plus practical lessons and support for councils planning to make improvements.

Location: London

Organisers: LGA

Contact: LGA Conferences & Events,

Tel: 020 7664 3131

Fax: 020 7863 9158

Email: info@lga.gov.uk

Fees: £195 - £305 plus VAT

Housing Market Intelligence Conference 2004

7 - 8 September 2004

A conference aimed at senior strategists and business planners in house building. Includes the Housebuilder 2004 exhibition.

Location: London

Organisers: House Builders Federation and National House Building Council

Contact: Andy Mather

Tel: 020 7609 6802

or book online at

www.housingmarketintelligence.co.uk

Fees: £195 - £490 plus VAT (discounts before 26 July)

New Homes - Building a Better Future Conference 2004

8 - 9 September 2004

Looks at house building with high housing demand and developers working to create successful communities with improved design and quality of life.

Location: Bournemouth

Organisers: Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH)

Contact: CIH

Tel: 024 7685 1772

Website: www.cih.org

Fees: £199 - £489 plus VAT

Affordable Housing

17 September 2004

Looks at the delivery of affordable housing through the planning system.

Location: London
Organisers: RTPI
Contact: RTPI

Tel: 0845 120 9602
Email: info@hawksmere.co.uk

Fees: £299 plus VAT

BURA Annual Conference

11 - 12 October 2004

Intended as a forum for discussion of topics relevant to next year's Sustainable Communities Summit.

Location: Dudley
Organisers: BURA (British Urban Regeneration Association)
Contact: Events Team, BURA

Tel: 020 7539 4031

Website: www.bura.org.uk

Fees: £95 - £320 plus VAT (for both days)

The Liveability Project: Managing the space between buildings

12 October 2004

A one-day conference examining how greener, safer, sustainable communities can be achieved.

Location: London
Organisers: Waterfront Conference Company
Contact: Waterfront

130-132 Tooley Street
London SE1 2TU

Tel: 020 7787 1210
Fax: 020 7787 1211

Website: www.thewaterfront.co.uk

Fees: £179 - £509 plus VAT

Cityscape UK

12 - 13 October 2004

A conference for those involved in the design, management and construction of towns and cities, looking at the challenges they face.

Location: London
Organisers: International Business Events Ltd
Contact: Caroline Hale

Tel: 020 8822 6917

Website: www.cityscapeonline.com

Fees: tba

The inclusion of an event or publication in '*Update*' does not imply any endorsement by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.

Update by email

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To be added to the mailing list for either version (or both), please contact the ODPM on 020 7944 6865 or email: update@opdm.gov.uk

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