

APPENDIX II Headline Achievements since the 2005 Community Strategy

JOBS & PROSPERITY

People

- Recession: signing of **Local Employment Partnership** agreement with Jobcentre Plus.
- Future Skills Dudley selected as a primary contractor for the Department for Works and Pensions **Flexible New Deal** programme, with a potential value of up to £120m over the next 7 years, to help to address worklessness issues across the Black Country.
- **City Strategy Pathfinder** to tackle worklessness in five disadvantaged wards in the borough - Brierley Hill, Castle & Priory, Netherton, Woodside & St Andrew's, St James's and St Thomas's.
- A '**Dudley Means Business**' task group established - representatives from Dudley MBC and key partner agencies, to proactively co-ordinate positive actions to support local residents and businesses through the recession.

Places

- Shared vision for regeneration through the **Black Country Joint Core Strategy**.
- An agreed strategy around the role of the Borough's primary centres with **New Heritage Regeneration Limited** (NHR) established as a delivery mechanism for the area development frameworks at Dudley and Brierley Hill.
- **£6m of Advantage West Midlands (AWM) funding** drawn down for the acquisition of premises in Dudley town centre to support the delivery of the **Dudley Area Development Framework (ADF)**.
- **£4.2m of funding from AWM and Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF)** approved for the **Dudley Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI)** to deliver regeneration based on historic townscape
- **Area Action Plans (AAPs)** being developed for Brierley Hill, Halesowen and Stourbridge.
- **Halesowen town centre** - £30m redevelopment of the Cornbow completed in December 2008: new ASDA store employing up to 400 people and a new bus station.
- **Local Centre Regeneration** - regeneration plans approved for Lye district centre and Cradley/Windmill Hill local centre.
- **Brierley Hill Sustainable Access Network**, a new £27m strategic link road to reduce congestion and open up development land, delivered on time and within budget.
- Commencement of improvements to **Burnt Tree Island**.
- Overall cleanliness and appearance of the borough via SHEP contribution through the Beat Sweep Scheme and targeted graffiti initiatives in partnership with West Midlands Fire, Police and Environment Agency

HEALTH & WELL-BEING

People

- Improvements to health outcomes
 - Death by Coronary Heart Disease
 - Reduction in all age all cause mortality from 762/100,000 1995-7 to 618 in 2007;
 - Life expectancy 1995/7 to 2005-7: males from 74.5 to 77 yrs; females from 79.5 to 81.6 yrs
 - Reduction in premature death from cardiovascular disease from 148.6 in 1995/97 to 79.1 in 2005/7
 - reduction in the percentage of our year 6 children who are obese – 20.18% against a target of less than 23%
 - Greater choice and quality in adult care
- Successful programmes to tackle smoking and substance misuse: 2420 helped to quit in 2008/9
- Adult social care – c.1000 people exercising choice, self directed support
- Dudley – pilot for personalised healthcare budgets
- Major contrib.. toward well being of older people through good information, engagement and understanding of needs
- Establishment of new cross-authority Mental Health Trust
- Increase in number of people taking physical exercise (Place Survey)
- Decrease in children/young people drinking/smoking/using substances:
 - Alcohol drunk by Yr 10s in week before survey – 2004 (56%), 2008 (39%);
 - % Yr 10s smoking, 2004 (25%), 2008 (15%);
 - % Yr 10s ever tried drugs: 2004 (27%), 2008 (20%)
 - access to “Scores on the Doors” Food Safety/Healthy Options

Places

- Refurbished PFI hospital at Russell’s Hall;
- Major performance improvements in adaptations service
- Large public/private LIFT capital programme bringing together health and social care services in one integrated health facility;
- 3 of Borough’s children’s homes judged as “outstanding” by OFSTED;
- Healthy Towns initiative based on the Borough’s parks (£4.5m); 1 of only 9 borough awarded;
- Refurbished leisure centre facilities (£1.4m investment);
- QUEST standards met in all our leisure centres

HERITAGE, CULTURE & LEISURE

People

- More people involved in physical activity (swimming etc);
 - Leisure options card holders from 3290 in 2006/7 to 4520 in 2008/9;
 - Participation in physical activity and sport as per the Active People Survey (2005/06) and Active People Survey 2 (2007/08) indicates a marginal increase in participation in physical activity from 16.7% (national rank 340) to 16.9% (national rank 327).
The participation measure is based on adults undertaking 3 x 30 minutes of physical activity/sport each week
 - Dudley is the best performing authority in the Black Country in terms of this indicator but participation levels are still well below the national average for participation of 21.3%
- More visitors to museums and galleries
 - Personal from 194/1000 pop. in 2005/6 to 301.7/1000 in 2008/9
- Improved satisfaction with libraries (note: increased opening hours)
 - BV118a – 68% in 2003/4 to 86% 2006/7
- Good engagement mechanisms for all council services
- Creation of Heritage, Culture & Leisure Partnership and adoption of the Council's Culture Strategy

Places

- Borough awarded Play Pathfinder status (£3.2m programme **improving services and outcomes**)
- Broadfield House/Redhouse Cone feasibility study (**Leadership, capacity and capability**)
- Healthy Towns initiative offering **wider community outcomes**;
- Provided more diversionary activities such as Multi-User Games Areas increased (MUGAs) in 5 parks, improving facilities for teenagers;
- New Archives & Family History Centre commissioned

ENVIRONMENT & HOUSING

People

- More people recycling - 14084 tonnes 2005/6; 20179 tonnes 2008/9;
- Green waste collection service rolled out across all households in the Borough -115,000 green bins phased in since spring 2006
- 30% combined recycling and composting target achieved
- Improved standards of cleanliness in borough: 12% 2007/8 to 8% 2008/9
- Improvements in reducing graffiti in borough: – 6% 2007/8 to 3% 2008/9
- The number of enforcements has increased at the same time as the number of incidents of fly tipping has decreased
- Green Care Team received Employer of the Year Award at the Future Skills Dudley Awards 2008
- Street Cleansing National Service Team of the Year Awards 2007
- Proactive Friends Groups operating across major parks in the borough
- Programme of highway resurfacing improving travel for local people and visitors to the borough
- Replacement programme for Street Lighting infrastructure improving levels of lighting across local communities.

Places

- Rehousing programme of the North Priory residents ahead of schedule;
- 2 Extra Care housing schemes about to commence
- Major upgrade of recycling centres network
- Brierley Hill parallel route – improvements to congestion and air quality;
- Provision of affordable homes;
 - 200 delivered in 2008/9 against target of 110 (target exceeded by >100%);
- Reduction of non-decent housing on course to meet 2010 government target;
- Improved performance on reoccupation of vacant dwellings in both sectors
- Introduction of Civil Parking Enforcement in 2008 reducing congestion and improving highway accessibility across the borough
- Gold award for Stourbridge in Heart of England Britain in Bloom Awards
- Horticultural Excellence Award for Mary Stevens Park
- Major refurbishment of Subway works in Stourbridge

INDIVIDUAL & COMMUNITY LEARNING

People

- Play Strategy (see Heritage & Culture Pathfinder)
- Post16 A level outcomes
- KS2 results make Dudley the best in the Black Country and one of the top three performing authorities in the West Midlands.
- Number of adults gaining skills for life qualifications;
- Adult skills for life programme delivery and take up;
 - No. adults over 60 completing a learning programme: 735 in 2007/8, 3678 in 2008/9;
- Levels and choices of engagement with children and young people; BEST programme targets exceeded (supporting people from priority groups into construction-related jobs);
 - BEST programme 2003-7: 1219 learning opportunities, 1000 qualifications, 1112 job outcomes
- Improved adult learning inspection performance
- National Family Learning award
- NEETS (young people not in education, employment or training): Dudley's figures consistently outperforming the national average and our statistical neighbours

Places

- Community based extended schooling (Caslon school exemplar);
- Narrowing gap between Borough and national KS attainment and exceeding it;
- Development and implementation of the Play Strategy

COMMUNITY SAFETY

People

- Continued reduction in total crime, despite the expectation of a rise in recession conditions
- Continued reduction in violent crime, vehicle crime, racial incidents;
 - 3661 in 2006/7, 2080 in 2008/9;
- Victims of crime;
 - 3000 less victims;
- Prolific offender programme successful in curbing crime;
- Substance misuse programme significantly improved
- Over 800 antisocial behaviour referrals achieved and resolved
- Development of intervention programme to address anti-social behaviour among young people;
- Strong community cohesion, tension monitoring and prevent programme arrangements
- Effective safeguarding of vulnerable adults Board established with clear governance arrangements – 250 safeguarded in 2008-9
- Over 3000 staff trained to recognise and respond to adult abuse
- Alcohol strategy developed

Places

- continued reduction in overall crime,
 - 14966 incidents 2006/7, 11450 in 2008/9
- deployment of PCSOs in neighbourhoods and town centres;
 - increased from 19 to 102;
- development of PACTS and Neighbourhood Watch:
 - (436 NW coordinators in place);