

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

HERITAGE, CULTURE & LEISURE

People

- More people involved in physical activity ;
 - 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

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