

# Community Development and Public Services ; A Policy Framework

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Presentation to Sustainability and Community Development Seminar

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DEPARTMENT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



Department for  
**Social  
Development**

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# Sustainability Issues

- Changes to Funding Programmes
- Reduction in Violence
- Disadvantage is still with us
- Quality of Public Services
- How to make best use of Voluntary and Community Sector
- What do we want to sustain?

# Facts on the VCS

- Approx. 4,500 organisations
- Approx. 29,000 employees
- 72,000 active volunteers
- Estimated Annual income £657m
  - £246m from Government and public agencies

# Positive Steps; A Policy Framework

- Funding Mechanisms
- Community Development
- Service delivery and Supporting Change
- Better Governance and Accountability
- Relationship with Government
- Support Services

# Community Development

- Longer Term Planning Framework
- Establishment of Community Investment Fund for support of core costs of local community development activity
- Initial investment: £1 m – 2005/06
  - £2 m - 2006/07
  - £2 m - 2007/08
- Complementary to other programmes (e.g. CSP)
- Criteria/delivery mechanisms under consideration
- Launch in next financial year

# Community Development- other Issues

- Support services and Local Community development
- Community Infrastructure. You know it when you see it!
- Needs of different communities
- Measuring success. Not core grants for ever
- Impact on Service delivery

# Public Services

- Sector as key partner
- Better Access to Service Users
- Change for both government and the sector
- Service Delivery and Advocacy by the sector
- Local Delivery and Special Needs
- The Modernisation |Fund

# Supporting Change

- **Modernisation Fund** - £3 m over next 3 years – to support modernisation and change within the VCS
- Activities likely to be supported include: restructuring initiatives, joint working, organisational development, improving governance and ICT innovations.
- Further £15 m over next 3 years to support capital projects delivered through the VCS.
- Revenue fund launched. Capital to follow

# VCS Support & Development Services

- Development of a strategy for VCS support services
- Matching Resources to Need
- Networking centres – support for feasibility studies
- Community accounting services. Who will deliver?

# Closing Thoughts

- How to share community development best practice
- Workers or volunteers?
- Neighbourhood Renewal, Public Services and Community Development
- How can we achieve a Shared Future.
- A Local Democracy

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