



Regeneration to enable growth

A toolkit supporting community-led regeneration

**January 2012**



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## **Introduction**

This document was originally published in January 2011 under the title *Regeneration to enable growth: What Government is doing in support of community-led regeneration*<sup>i</sup>.

In the year since then, Government has made considerable progress with its growth and localism agendas, which has added several new tools to the 'regeneration toolkit'.

We hope that this updated and refreshed toolkit will help local communities, councils, businesses and civil society organisations to navigate their way through the many tools and options available to them as they shape plans for their area and their community.

## **Regeneration driven locally to enable growth**

The Coalition Government's first priority is restoring the health of the national economy by reducing the deficit and supporting growth. Economic growth is essential if we are to tackle unemployment, poverty, poor health and inequality and improve standards of living.

A strong national economy depends on the strength and vitality of local economies across the country, and the *Local Growth White Paper*<sup>ii</sup> set out the Government's strategy to encourage locally-driven growth that is sustainable and fair, encouraging business investment and promoting economic development.

When at its most effective, regeneration can remove the barriers to economic growth and help local leaders to strengthen their communities and support people back into work. And, in turn, economic growth can provide opportunities to tackle disadvantage, deprivation and dilapidation – helping to regenerate and breathe economic life into areas. Regeneration in its broadest sense can only really succeed and be sustainable if the underlying conditions for growth are right, with a healthy private sector economy. That's important to individuals and communities, but it matters for the country too – we need every part of Britain to fulfil its potential so we can prosper and grow as a nation.

With the country facing a record budget deficit and less money available for investment in regeneration, a new approach is needed to ensure that: local economies prosper; that parts of the country previously over-reliant on public funding see a resurgence in private sector enterprise and employment; and that everyone gets to share in the resulting growth.

**We are therefore taking a different approach.** As we said in the Local Growth White Paper, our approach is localist - putting civic leaders, residents, local businesses, and civil society organisations in the driving seat and providing them with powers, flexibilities, options and incentives to drive local regeneration and growth and improve the social and physical quality of their area.

At its core, regeneration is about concerted action to address the challenges and problems faced by the community of a particular place. It's about widening opportunities, growing the local economy, and improving people's lives. But beyond that high-level definition, it is not for Government to define what regeneration is, what it should look like, or what measures should be used to drive it. That will depend on the place – the local characteristics, challenges and opportunities.

It is for local people, not central Government, to identify which areas need regeneration, define what it should look like, and what measures should be used to drive it.

Central Government's role is strategic and supportive:

- **reforming and decentralising** public services
- providing **powerful incentives** and support for growth
- **removing barriers** that hinder local ambitions, and
- providing **targeted investment and reform** to strengthen the infrastructure for growth and regeneration and to support the most vulnerable.

### Reforming and decentralising

As set out in our “Guide to Decentralisation and the Localism Bill”<sup>iii</sup>, we are **lifting the burden of bureaucracy and empowering local areas to do things their way**. The Government believes power should be decentralised to the lowest appropriate level.

Those who live in our most disadvantaged communities rely most critically on public services. Our **Open Public Services White Paper** proposals will give people more choice and control over the services they use, help ensure public service providers are more accountable for the quality of services that they provide, and that services provide fair access. Where local areas come forward with credible proposals to do things differently, we will seriously consider these.

Simplified and streamlined **National Planning Policy**, alongside other planning reforms, put local plans at the heart of the planning system, and new **neighbourhood development plans** and **neighbourhood development orders** will give greater power to local councils and communities to determine and influence how their area develops.

Our plans for **welfare reform**, including the new universal credit, and the new Work Programme, will radically simplify the welfare state, make work pay, and tailor employment support to local circumstances to give people the right incentives and support to get back into work.

We are increasing local control of public finance, including radically reforming **local government finance** by de-ringfencing to allow local areas to channel resources more effectively to address their priorities. Using these freedoms, **Community Budgets** are allowing local redesign of services and pooling of budgets across organisational boundaries, to address local priorities and improve services, particularly where current delivery arrangements are complex. We are also bringing in a system of **self-financing for council housing**, giving local authorities greater autonomy in financing and managing their housing stock. The new system will enable the development of long-term business plans, encouraging authorities to take a strategic view of their stock investment needs and make best use of their assets. In addition, we are also bringing new approaches to commissioning of services, such as payment by results, and encouraging social finance and philanthropy.

Alongside this, we are opening up government to public scrutiny, strengthening accountability to local people, and giving communities the information they need to influence and challenge. **Police & Crime Commissioners** will give local people a strong voice in how their communities are policed. We are also creating more opportunities for communities to take the lead – for example through **community rights to bid, to build, and to challenge** and the **Free Schools** policy.

And we are devolving **public health** responsibilities to local government, creating the opportunity to develop holistic solutions to health and wellbeing that meet local health needs.

#### Incentives and support for growth

We are freeing up places to grow their economies. We are providing powerful incentives for the delivery of housing growth through the **New Homes Bonus**, and have announced the second round of provisional allocations, totalling over £430m. The Local Government Resource Review has considered options to deliver a fundamental shift in local government funding, giving councils a strong financial incentive to promote local economic growth through enabling them to keep a proportion of the **business rates** generated in their area, and giving them the power to grant **business rate discounts** if they wish.

We've amended the **Community Infrastructure Levy** – creating certainty about the costs of development and ensuring neighbourhoods share the advantages of development by receiving a proportion of the funds councils raise from developers.

We are abolishing Regional Development Agencies and supported the creation of 38 **local enterprise partnerships**, drawing local civic and business leaders together with other key partners, working across functional economic areas to drive local economic growth. And we've agreed 24 **Enterprise Zones** which will apply a combination of fiscal incentives, reduced planning restrictions and other measures to help kick start new investment and drive the creation of new private sector jobs, helping to rebalance the economy and drive local and national growth.

We are taking decisive action to free up **public sector land** through our accelerated surplus public sector land disposal programme. Four major landholding Government Departments and the Homes and Communities Agency have each published strategies to release to the market thousands of acres of surplus brownfield land for development. We are also working with those departments and agencies with smaller landholdings to release their land.

And **the HCA** are providing enabling support and assistance to deliver local ambitions through the provision of technical and specialist advice, expertise and intelligence.

#### Removing barriers that hinder local ambitions

To maximise the impact of incentives we are removing the barriers that thwart local ambition and limit agencies' room for manoeuvre. We are simplifying and streamlining **national planning rules**. We are proposing introducing powers to allow authorities to borrow against future income from development and business growth through **tax increment financing**, and are considering allowing City Mayors to borrow against Community Infrastructure Levy receipts to support national infrastructure.

Our **Big Society vanguards** and **barrier busting portal** led the way in removing barriers, and we are leading negotiations on bespoke deals between Whitehall Departments and the 8 core **cities** outside London to unlock barriers to economic growth and prosperity.

We are releasing thousands of acres of formerly used surplus public sector land, and using Build Now, Pay Later terms where possible to help decrease developer risk. The 26 **Capital and Assets Pathfinders** are bringing a customer-focused place-based approach to asset management and new capital investment, improving access to local services and freeing up capital to regenerate many town centres and localities.

And we are encouraging local knowledge and skills, self-reliance, and creative thinking that focuses on opportunities, for example through the **Community Organisers** programme, the **Planning Advisory Service**, and **support for neighbourhood planning**.

## Targeted Investment & Support

Alongside our support for local action, we are investing in vital **infrastructure to support growth and regeneration**.

£6.3 billion of additional infrastructure funding was announced as part of the Autumn Statement, including 14 major **local transport schemes** tackling congestion on the road and rail networks, superfast **broadband**, extra money for **schools and housing**, increasing the **Regional Growth Fund**, and more funding for **science and innovation**. This is on top of:

- The original £1.4bn **Regional Growth Fund** investment, which is already supporting private sector enterprise, economic growth, and the creation of sustainable jobs, particularly in those areas that are most heavily dependant on the public sector.
- £4.5bn for new **affordable homes** which is expected to deliver 170,000 new homes by 2015, including £100m to bring empty homes back into use as affordable homes. Plus £50m to tackle concentrations of **empty homes** in areas of low demand, and over **£2bn investment in the Decent Homes programme** which will halve the backlog of work, including refurbishing around 127,000 homes in the council sector - many of which are in disadvantaged areas. Investment is already paying off – the number of non-decent English local authority dwellings in April 2011 was 217,100, a 26% decrease compared with April 2010.
- The **European Regional Development Programme**, which is continuing to help stimulate economic development and regeneration, with a budget equivalent to approx £1.4bn to the end of 2015.
- The **Growing Places Fund**, which is providing £500m for LEPS in 2011/12 to support local infrastructure projects which unlock housing and economic growth.
- The £420m **Get Britain Building** investment fund, which will support building firms in need of development finance, including small and medium-sized builders, unblocking stalled sites.
- The £20m **High Street Recovery Fund**, which is providing financial help to small businesses following the riots of August 2011, and a further £20m contribution towards the regeneration of the worst-hit places - Tottenham and Croydon.
- The £35m **Housing Market Renewal** transition fund, matched to £71m, which will ensure a structured exit from the programme in the five most challenged areas.
- The £500m investment to transform **the Olympic Park** after the games to create a new community in East London.
- The **Coastal Communities Fund** (worth £18m in England), which will support local economic development in coastal areas.
- £165m investment to help **rural communities** realise their full economic potential, including through the Rural Community Broadband Fund and Rural Growth Networks.

- Investment in national and local **transport**, particularly £750m for '**High Speed 2**' over the next four years to progress plans for a national high speed rail network, which would unlock areas of the north for development and create better access to markets and opportunities. And around £7.5bn for **Crossrail**, providing significantly improved transport links between London's key business areas and several deprived areas, including Greenwich, Newham and Tower Hamlets. In addition, we continue to fund local transport schemes through Local Transport Plans.

Taken together, these investments alone, alongside our commitment to honour £1.3bn of existing **HCA and RDA contracts**, add up to **over £25 billion of central government investment in infrastructure and growth that is supporting regeneration**. And this is not all - we are investing in people too, particularly those who need most support.

Public funding for **adult skills** will provide maximum subsidies to those that are worst off – the unemployed seeking work and those with the lowest qualifications. **Pupil premium, Children's Centres and free early education for disadvantaged two year olds** will support improved educational and social outcomes for our most vulnerable children.

We are investing £80m in **Community First** grants, which are helping communities come together through new and existing community groups, to identify local priorities, plan for their future and become more resilient. And **Big Society Capital** will invest in financial intermediaries in the social investment market, who in turn will increase access to finance for frontline, social organisations.

Alongside direct investment, we have taken into account that some councils are very dependent on central government grants to maintain front line services, and have protected councils until 2013 with Transition Grant ensuring none will face a reduction in Spending Power of more than 8.8%. The average revenue spending power reduction for 2012-13 is expected to be 3.3%, lower than 2011/12's figure of 4.4%.

And we are determined to build on the huge interest areas have shown in the issue of families with multiple problems. That's why we identified £448 million from government departments and brought it together to deliver our commitment to turn around the lives of 120,000 **troubled families**. This is complemented by £200m of European Social Fund Programme funding which will be invested in employment related support.



## Conclusion

The Government aspires to a future where local communities, councils, business and social enterprises come together to agree priorities for their area, and work in partnership to drive forward their plans for regeneration – thinking creatively, corraling resources, and working collaboratively with local service providers to improve the lives and opportunities of local people and unlock growth.

Through the policies, programmes, tools, powers and flexibilities outlined in this regeneration 'toolkit', Government aims to give all areas the **opportunity** to deliver local growth and regeneration. It is now **up to local partners to respond** and to decide how they use the toolkit to address their local priorities.

The actions taken and tools employed from this menu will vary from place to place and need to happen at the right spatial level. In disadvantaged neighbourhoods within a larger local authority area, the focus might be very much on the community and neighbourhood-led interventions to connect the neighbourhood to growth and opportunities nearby, so local partners may decide the priorities might be community development, skills, transport and influence of that particular community over plans for the wider area. In other areas partners may agree that regeneration plans should encompass a whole town, city region, or rural area and the priorities might be attracting employers and investors.

The Government will continue to help rebalance growth across the country, but regeneration activity should be led by local communities, not by Whitehall. That's why Ministers are devolving power from Whitehall to the Town Hall, **putting residents, and civic and business leaders, in the driving seat - which is when regeneration is at its most powerful and effective.**

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## Private Sector and Voluntary and Community Sector

The following tables set out a range of policies, rights and funds that are available to help you drive forward or influence regeneration plans for your area.

### *How can I find out what my local authority is doing in my area?*

Policy	What is it?	How could it help regeneration?	Department	Where can I find out more?
<b>Transparency</b>	Publication of local authority and central government data, including information on spend, council minutes and papers, and planning applications and decisions.	Ensures people can have a clear view of what is being spent and where, therefore enabling them to challenge decisions that are made about their area.	DCLG	Your local authority's website and also <a href="http://www.data.gov.uk">www.data.gov.uk</a>

### **How can I influence my local authority to take action?**

Policy	What is it?	How could it help regeneration?	Department	Where can I find out more?
<b>Planning Policy</b>	A consolidated and reduced National Planning Policy Framework.  Abolition of regional planning and the creation of neighbourhood development plans.	Greater control and power for local authorities and communities over the way in which their area develops, making it easier for local areas to shape the development they want, and giving them greater ability to attract new housing and employment development.	DCLG	<a href="http://communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningsystem/planningpolicy/planningpolicyframework/">http://communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningsystem/planningpolicy/planningpolicyframework/</a> Neighbourhood planning was introduced through the Localism Act: <a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm">http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm</a>
<b>Barrier Busting</b>	Assistance for communities and local authorities to break down bureaucratic barriers	Removal of barriers and bureaucratic log jams that are getting in the way of regeneration.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.barrierbusting.communities.gov.uk">www.barrierbusting.communities.gov.uk</a>
<b>Sustainable Communities Act</b>	Includes an invitation to councils to ask people how they want their area to be improved, and a right to challenge the Government to remove any barriers stopping them from taking the action their residents want.	Greater power for residents to drive local improvements, and should ensure places are regenerated as residents want.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/scainvitation2010">www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/scainvitation2010</a>

## How can I get more involved?

Policy	What is it?	How could it help regeneration?	Department	Where can I find out more?
<b>Community Right to Bid</b>	The right to nominate a community asset and, if it comes up for disposal on the open market, give communities time to prepare a bid to buy the asset.	Ability for communities to save local facilities that are threatened with closure – perhaps the local shop, pub, or library – in order to promote community benefit.	DCLG	This was introduced through the Localism Act: <a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm">http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm</a>
<b>Community Right to Build</b>	The right for communities to bring forward their own community-led development proposals, where proposals meet certain criteria and are supported by a majority of the local community, without the need to bring forward a separate planning application.	Greater flexibility for communities to bring forward their own development proposals for the sites that they want to see developed, with the type of development they want to see.	DCLG	This was introduced through the Localism Act: <a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm">http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm</a>
<b>Community Right to Challenge</b>	A right for community groups and the Voluntary Community Sector to challenge local authorities to use competitive procurement for the delivery of public services	Will help ensure local services meet the needs of local people, and that local people have more of a say.	DCLG	This was introduced through the Localism Act: <a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm">http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm</a>
<b>Community Right to Reclaim Land</b>	The right for communities to challenge public sector landowners to sell unused or underused land	Will help to bring unused or underused public land and property back into use	DCLG	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/1833082">http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/1833082</a>
<b>Community Organisers</b>	Training for 5,000 Community Organisers	Will build and mobilise local networks and leadership to drive the change that the community needs.	Office for Civil Society	<a href="http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/content/big-society-overview">www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/content/big-society-overview</a> More details from <a href="http://www.locality.org/communityorganisers">www.locality.org/communityorganisers</a>
<b>Barrier Busting</b>	Assistance for communities and local authorities in breaking down bureaucratic barriers	Removal of barriers and bureaucratic log jams that are getting in the way of local regeneration.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.barrierbusting.communities.gov.uk">www.barrierbusting.communities.gov.uk</a>
<b>Community Action Against Crime – Innovation Fund</b>	The fund is designed to encourage effective partnerships and get everybody working together to tackle crime.	Will encourage greater community activism, and enable communities to develop innovative approaches to tackling the local crime issues that matter to them	Home Office	<a href="http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/crime/partnerships/innovation-fund">www.homeoffice.gov.uk/crime/partnerships/innovation-fund</a>

**Where might I be able to access resources and funding to support my regeneration project?**

<b>Policy</b>	<b>What is it?</b>	<b>How could it help regeneration?</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Where can I find out more?</b>
<b>Public Sector Land Disposal Programme</b>	A programme to identify and release to the market surplus public sector land	Assets, particularly land, have an important role to play in stimulating and enabling regeneration	DCLG	<a href="http://www.homesandcommunities.co.uk/ourwork/register-surplus-public-sector-land">http://www.homesandcommunities.co.uk/ourwork/register-surplus-public-sector-land</a>
<b>Community First</b>	A small grants and endowment match challenge programme designed to enable communities to take social action to meet local needs	Will help neighbourhood groups implement their own plans to improve the neighbourhood	Office for Civil Society	<a href="http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/content/big-society-overview">www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/content/big-society-overview</a> More information from <a href="http://www.cdf.org.uk">www.cdf.org.uk</a>
<b>Big Society Capital</b>	An independent financial institution, working with social investors and community lenders to increase access to finance for frontline, social organisations.	Will grow the social investment market and make it easier for social enterprises, charities and voluntary groups working in every sector to access capital.	Office for Civil Society	<a href="http://www.bigsocietycapital.com/">http://www.bigsocietycapital.com/</a> <a href="http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/big-society">www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/big-society</a>
<b>Social Impact Bonds</b>	A contract between a public sector body and investors, in which the former commits to pay for an improved social outcome. Investor funds are used to pay for a range of interventions to improve the social outcome.	Will make it easier to attract social investment in deprived areas. The scheme would provide funding for preventative and early intervention to tackle entrenched social problems by voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations.	Office for Civil Society	<a href="http://www.parliament.uk/deposits/depositedpapers/2011/DEP2011-0271.pdf">http://www.parliament.uk/deposits/depositedpapers/2011/DEP2011-0271.pdf</a>
<b>European Regional Development Fund</b>	A European funding programme which helps stimulate economic development and regeneration	Potential funds to support local regeneration and stimulate economic development projects	DCLG	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/regeneration/regenerationfunding/europeanregionaldevelopment/">http://www.communities.gov.uk/regeneration/regenerationfunding/europeanregionaldevelopment/</a>
<b>Rural Development Programme for England</b>	A co-financed European grants programme to improve economic and social opportunities in rural areas	Potential funds for agricultural, forestry & rural businesses and communities	DEFRA	Rural Development Programme for England Network: <a href="http://rdpenetwork.defra.gov.uk/funding-sources">http://rdpenetwork.defra.gov.uk/funding-sources</a> or Defra <a href="http://www.defra.gov.uk/rural/rdpe/">http://www.defra.gov.uk/rural/rdpe/</a>
<b>Regional Growth Fund</b>	A challenge fund to increase private sector investment to promote employment and growth, particularly in those areas currently most reliant on public sector spending	Potential funds to support local schemes that unlock private sector-led growth and investment	BIS / DCLG	<a href="http://www.bis.gov.uk/RGF">http://www.bis.gov.uk/RGF</a>

<b>The removal of clawback rights from historic capital grant programmes</b>	By removing capital clawback rights from historic grant programmes we can free communities to use the assets funded through these programmes in ways that best meet the needs of their communities.	Communities can now use these assets as security to obtain loans to sustain and / or expand their activities. If an asset is too expensive or no longer fit for purpose they will now be able to sell it and move to more appropriate premises that better meet the needs of local people.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/newsroom/1838364">www.communities.gov.uk/news/newsroom/1838364</a>
<b>Green Deal and Energy Company Obligation</b>	The Green Deal eliminates the need to pay upfront for energy efficiency measures and instead provides reassurances that the cost of the measures should be covered by savings on the electricity bill. The Energy Company Obligation (ECO) will provide extra help with measures for those in need.	Will support improvements to the insulation and energy efficiency of homes and businesses. For example as well as contributing to community health and wellbeing, large-scale external insulation projects facilitated by the Green Deal can help improve the look and feel of buildings as well as reducing energy consumption. The Energy Company Obligation will provide additional support for eco-improvements to run down properties and for those on low incomes.	DECC	<a href="http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/tackling/green_deal/green_deal.aspx">http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/tackling/green_deal/green_deal.aspx</a>

***What support is there available for my organisation?***

<b>Policy</b>	<b>What is it?</b>	<b>How could it help regeneration?</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Where can I find out more?</b>
<b>Community Asset Transfer</b>	The transfer of under-used land and buildings from the public sector to community ownership and management	Helps organisations to develop assets and deliver long-term social, economic and environmental benefits	DCLG	<a href="http://www.atu.org.uk">www.atu.org.uk</a>
<b>Community Shares</b>	Enables social enterprises to sell shares to members of the public to support the social aims of the venture which could include a local shop, renewable energy project or football club.	Will make it easier to attract social investment in deprived areas. Community Shares can provide a new source of investment for community enterprises.	DCLG	Information on the government funded action research programme and practical guidance is available at: <a href="http://www.communityshares.org.uk">www.communityshares.org.uk</a>
<b>Transition Fund</b>	£100m Transition Fund enabling charities, voluntary sector and social enterprises to adapt to, and manage, the transition to a different funding environment.	The fund will help organisations continue to deliver key public and take advantage of future opportunities offered by the Big Society.	Office for Civil Society	<a href="http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/transitionfund">www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/transitionfund</a> The fund is closed to new applications

<b>Safer Future Communities Fund</b>	Providing practical support and advice to frontline Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise organisations that support Home Office objectives	Will put organisations in a position to become more effective partners with the statutory sector and provide more cost effective services, including involvement in co-design and co-delivery of services that meet local needs.	Home Office	<a href="http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/crime/partnerships/support-modernisation-fund">www.homeoffice.gov.uk/crime/partnerships/support-modernisation-fund</a>
<b>Child Poverty Core Offer of Support</b>	The Child Poverty Core Offer partners provide sector-led support to local authorities and their partners, including the voluntary and community sector (VCS), in preventing and tackling child poverty at the local level.	Will support local activity to tackle and prevent child poverty. Support can include a focus on providing more cost effective services, co-design and co-delivery of services that meet local needs.	Joint DfE / DWP / HMT / Child Poverty Unit	Join the on-line Child Poverty Community of Practice at: <a href="http://www.communities.idea.gov.uk/reg/sp.do">www.communities.idea.gov.uk/reg/sp.do</a>
<b>Neighbourhood Planning support</b>	Assistance for local groups developing neighbourhood plans, including free impartial advice, practical workshops, tailored on-line resources, networking tools and telephone advice lines.	By offering communities practical advice and support to help them achieve their aspirations for their community.	DCLG	The Prince's Foundation for the Built Environment: <a href="http://www.princes-foundation.org/our-work/supporting-communities-and-neighbourhoods-planning">http://www.princes-foundation.org/our-work/supporting-communities-and-neighbourhoods-planning</a> Locality: <a href="http://www.buildingcommunity.org.uk">www.buildingcommunity.org.uk</a> CPRE in partnership with NALC <a href="http://www.planninghelp.org.uk">www.planninghelp.org.uk</a> , <a href="http://www.cpre.org.uk">www.cpre.org.uk</a> ; <a href="http://www.nalc.gov.uk">www.nalc.gov.uk</a> RTPI <a href="mailto:info@planningaid.rtpi.org.uk">info@planningaid.rtpi.org.uk</a> <a href="http://www.rtpi.org.uk/planningaid/">http://www.rtpi.org.uk/planningaid/</a>

## Local Authorities

The following tables set out a range of policies, options, powers and tools that you might find helpful in driving forward regeneration for your area to meet the needs of your community:

### ***What is Government doing to give me greater flexibility to better meet the needs of my community?***

<b>Policy or Fund</b>	<b>What is it?</b>	<b>How could it help regeneration?</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Where can I find out more?</b>
<b>Local Enterprise Partnerships</b>	Local Enterprise Partnerships are public private partnerships led by businesses with strong civic input. They represent natural economic areas.	Partnerships provide the vision, knowledge and strategic leadership needed to drive sustainable private sector growth and job creation in their area.	DCLG/BIS	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/regeneration/economicgrowth/localenterprisepartnerships">www.communities.gov.uk/regeneration/economicgrowth/localenterprisepartnerships</a> and <a href="http://www.bis.gov.uk/policies/regional-economic-development/leps">www.bis.gov.uk/policies/regional-economic-development/leps</a>
<b>General Power of Competence</b>	New power for local authorities to act in any way they see fit provided that action falls within the law	Will give councils a free hand to pursue the best interests of their local area	DCLG	This was introduced through the Localism Act: <a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm">www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm</a>
<b>Elected Mayors</b>	Provision for the creation of directly-elected mayors in the 11 largest English cities.	Mayors will play an important role in ensuring that our biggest cities are genuine drivers of economic growth - both for the benefit of the city and the surrounding area.	DCLG	This was introduced through the Localism Act: <a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm">www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm</a>
<b>Planning Policy</b>	Abolition of regional planning and the creation of neighbourhood development plans	Greater control and power for local authorities and communities over the way in which their area develops, making it easier for local areas to drive the development they want.	DCLG	This was introduced through the Localism Act: <a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm">http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm</a>
<b>National Planning Policy</b>	Simplification of the national planning policy into consolidated National Planning Policy Framework.	Will reduce amount of prescription set at national level, allow local communities to set their own policies, giving them greater ability to attract new housing and economic development.	DCLG	<a href="http://communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningsystem/planningpolicy/planningpolicyframework/">http://communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningsystem/planningpolicy/planningpolicyframework/</a>
<b>Local Development Orders</b>	Local Development Orders remove the requirement to apply for planning permission on a site-by-site basis.	Could be used for a variety of purposes from encouraging investment in derelict sites to permitting minor developments across a wider area.	DCLG	



<b>Council housing self-financing</b>	Will allow councils to retain all income from council rents and spend it on local housing services.	Greater ability to undertake proper business planning for council housing to ensure it meets the housing needs of the local community	DCLG	This was introduced through the Localism Act: <a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm">www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm</a> Also, <a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/housing/selffinancetransition">www.communities.gov.uk/publications/housing/selffinancetransition</a> <a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/housing/socialhousing">www.communities.gov.uk/housing/socialhousing</a>
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***How might I be able to access funding to drive the regeneration my community needs?***

<b>Policy or Fund</b>	<b>What is it?</b>	<b>How could it help regeneration?</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Where can I find out more?</b>
<b>De-ringfencing</b>	Simplification of funding rules to remove budget ringfencing	Greater ability to channel funds to address local priorities.	DCLG	
<b>Local Government Resource Review / Business Rates Retention</b>	A Review which delivered proposals to enable councils to retain their locally-raised business rates.	Could allow local authorities to receive direct financial benefits from increases in their business rates yield. Income will be unringfenced so could be reinvested in regeneration.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/localgovernment/localgovernmentfinance/gresourcereview">www.communities.gov.uk/localgovernment/localgovernmentfinance/gresourcereview</a>
<b>Local Government Resource Review – Tax Increment Financing</b>	A power to allow local authorities to borrow against predicted growth in their locally raised business rates.	Could provide funds for key infrastructure and other capital projects, which will further support locally driven economic development and growth.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/localgovernment/localgovernmentfinance/gresourcereview/">www.communities.gov.uk/localgovernment/localgovernmentfinance/gresourcereview/</a>
<b>New Homes Bonus</b>	The New Homes Bonus match funds the additional council tax raised for new homes and long term empty properties brought back into use, with a premium for affordable homes, for the following 6 years.	The New Homes Bonus Income will be unringfenced so could be reinvested in regeneration.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/housing/housingsupply/newhomesbonus">www.communities.gov.uk/housing/housingsupply/newhomesbonus</a>
<b>Council housing self-financing</b>	Will allow councils to retain all income from council rents and spend it on local housing services.	Greater ability to undertake proper business planning for council housing to ensure it meets the housing needs of the local community	DCLG	This was introduced through the Localism Act: <a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm">http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm</a> Also, <a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/housing/selffinancetransition">www.communities.gov.uk/publications/housing/selffinancetransition</a> <a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/housing/socialhousing">www.communities.gov.uk/housing/socialhousing</a>

<b>Community Infrastructure Levy</b>	A new tool allowing local authorities to set a mandatory charge on new development to raise funds to spend on the provision of infrastructure to support growth. The Autumn Statement raised the possibility of borrowing against Community Infrastructure Levy receipts in selected locations.	A new funding stream which authorities can use to provide the infrastructure needed to support regeneration.	DCLG	Details on the CLG website at <a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningsystem/communityinfrastructurelevy/">www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningsystem/communityinfrastructurelevy/</a> and <a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm">http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm</a>
<b>European Regional Development Fund</b>	A European funding programme which helps stimulate economic development and regeneration.	Potential funds to support local regeneration and stimulate economic development projects.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/regeneration/regenerationfunding/europeanregionaldevelopment/">http://www.communities.gov.uk/regeneration/regenerationfunding/europeanregionaldevelopment/</a>
<b>Growing Places Fund</b>	£500m for Local Enterprise Partnerships in 2011/12 to support local infrastructure projects which unlock housing and economic growth.	Development of infrastructure (such as transport or utilities improvements) can help to open up wider development opportunities, such as land for housing and economic development projects.	DCLG/BIS/DfT	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/regeneration/2024674">http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/regeneration/2024674</a>
<b>Get Britain Building Fund</b>	£400m investment fund to support building firms in need of development finance, including small and medium-sized builders.	Will help unblock stalled development sites.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/housing/pdf/2033676.pdf">http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/housing/pdf/2033676.pdf</a>
<b>Coastal Communities Fund</b>	A fund supporting local economic development in coastal areas.	Will support a wide range of projects, including those that support charities, the environment, education and health. Examples could include support for developing renewable energy, improving skills or environmental safeguarding or improvement.	DCLG/HMT	<a href="http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/press_86_11.htm">http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/press_86_11.htm</a>
<b>Empty Homes funding</b>	£100m to tackle problematic empty homes.	Will engage local communities in dealing with empty homes in their area.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/housing/pdf/2033676.pdf">http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/housing/pdf/2033676.pdf</a>
<b>Funding for clusters of empty homes</b>	£50m (match funded to £100m) to tackle concentrations of empty homes in areas of low demand.	Tackling empty homes in areas of low demand, likely to involve refurbishing and reconfiguring homes, as well as improving the public realm and tackling wider issues in the local area.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/housing/pdf/2033676.pdf">http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/housing/pdf/2033676.pdf</a>

<b>Public Health</b>	Local authorities will be responsible for improving the health of the people in its area. A public health budget will be allocated, and a new health premium will reward local authorities for progress made on improving health and reducing health inequalities.	Will make it easier to create tailored local solutions in order to meet local needs. Will also enable joining up with other areas of local government's work (such as housing, the environment, transport, planning etc).	DH	<i>Healthy Lives, Healthy People</i> White Paper – <a href="http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publichealth/HealthyLivesHealthyPeople/index.htm">www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publichealth/HealthyLivesHealthyPeople/index.htm</a>
<b>Early Intervention Grant</b>	A new non-ringfenced grant paid to local authorities, bringing together funding for Sure Start, targeted youth support and family support.	Will promote investment in early intervention and prevention to support children, young people, students and families who need extra help before problems escalate and, where needed, more intensive support.	DfE	<a href="http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/earlylearningandchildcare/a0070357/early-intervention-grant-frequently-asked-questions/">www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/earlylearningandchildcare/a0070357/early-intervention-grant-frequently-asked-questions/</a>
<b>Green Deal and Energy Company Obligation</b>	The Green Deal eliminates the need to pay upfront for energy efficiency measures and instead provides reassurances that the cost of the measures should be covered by savings on the electricity bill. The Energy Company Obligation (ECO) will provide extra help with measures for those in need.	Will support improved insulation and energy efficiency of homes and businesses. As well as contributing to community health and wellbeing, large-scale external insulation projects can help improve the look and feel of buildings as well as reducing energy consumption. The Energy Company Obligation will provide additional support for eco-improvements to run down properties and for those on low incomes.	DECC	<a href="http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/tackling/green_deal/green_deal.aspx">http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/tackling/green_deal/green_deal.aspx</a>
<b>Social Impact Bonds</b>	A contract between a public sector body and investors, in which the former commits to pay for an improved social outcome. Investor funds are used to pay for a range of interventions to improve the social outcome.	Will make it easier to attract social investment in deprived areas. The scheme would provide funding for preventative and early intervention to tackle entrenched social problems by voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations.	Office for Civil Society	<a href="http://www.parliament.uk/deposits/depositedpapers/2011/DEP2011-0271.pdf">http://www.parliament.uk/deposits/depositedpapers/2011/DEP2011-0271.pdf</a>
<b>The removal of clawback rights from historic capital grant programmes</b>	By removing capital clawback rights from historic grant programmes we can free communities to use the assets funded through these programmes in ways that best meet the needs of their communities.	Communities can now use these assets as security to obtain loans to sustain and / or expand their activities. If an asset is too expensive or no longer fit for purpose they will now be able to sell it and move to more appropriate premises that better meet the needs of local people.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/newsroom/1838364">www.communities.gov.uk/news/newsroom/1838364</a>

**What flexibilities will Government give me to allow me to make best use of my resources?**

<b>Policy or Fund</b>	<b>What is it?</b>	<b>How could it help regeneration?</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Where can I find out more?</b>
<b>De-ringfencing</b>	Simplification of funding rules to remove budget ringfencing	Greater ability to channel funds to address local priorities.	DCLG	
<b>Community Budgets</b>	Enables local public service partners to work together to redesign services across organisational boundaries, pooling budgets to address local priorities and improve services, particularly where current delivery arrangements are complex.	Enables public funds to be more effectively channelled to address local priorities, and improve services through redesign and integration. By removing barriers to cross-organisational working, the approach could be particularly helpful in communities with complex and interrelated needs which require multi-agency response.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/localgovernment/decentralisation/communitybudgets">www.communities.gov.uk/localgovernment/decentralisation/communitybudgets</a>
<b>Neighbourhood Budgets and Local Integrated Services</b>	A community-led approach to redesigning services where local people determine priorities for local service reform and co-produce this change with local partners.	Enables neighbourhoods to have more control over spending of public funds, building engagement and ownership.	DCLG / Office for Civil Society	
<b>Local Government Resource Review</b>	A Review which delivered proposals to enable councils to retain their locally-raised business rates.	The Review has delivered proposals to allow local authorities to receive direct financial benefits from increases in their business rates yield. Income will be unringfenced so could be reinvested in regeneration.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/localgovernment/localgovernmentfinance/lgresourcereview">www.communities.gov.uk/localgovernment/localgovernmentfinance/lgresourcereview</a>
<b>Discretionary business rate discounts</b>	The Localism Act contains a wide power to enable local authorities to grant business rate discounts.	Enables councils to respond to local circumstances by, for example, supporting struggling local pubs or post offices, or by encouraging social enterprises or new start-up enterprises through business rate relief.	DCLG	This was introduced through the Localism Act: <a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm">www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm</a>

**What other help is available to me?**

<b>Policy or Fund</b>	<b>What is it?</b>	<b>How could it help regeneration?</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Where can I find out more?</b>
<b>Asset Transfer Unit</b>	Advice and expertise on matters relating to community asset transfer.	Can assist with community asset transfers.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.atu.org.uk">www.atu.org.uk</a>
<b>Homes &amp; Communities Agency</b>	Enabling offer to local partners, including provision of technical and specialist advice, including on legal agreements, complex planning applications, investment models and deal brokering, spatial and market intelligence, and various toolkits for delivery.	Can assist with development and delivery of complex regeneration schemes.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.homesandcommunities.co.uk/">www.homesandcommunities.co.uk/</a>
<b>Planning Advisory Service</b>	Provides consultancy and peer support, learning events and online resources to help local authorities understand and respond to planning reform.	Can provide support, advice and examples from practice of where the planning system can help to deliver regeneration schemes.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.pas.gov.uk">http://www.pas.gov.uk</a>
<b>Barrier Busting</b>	Assistance for communities and local authorities in breaking down bureaucratic barriers.	Removal of barriers and bureaucratic log jams that are getting in the way of regeneration.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.barrierbusting.communities.gov.uk">www.barrierbusting.communities.gov.uk</a>
<b>Troubled Families Team</b>	A refreshed programme of work to deliver our commitment to turn around the lives of 120,000 troubled families.	Many of these families are concentrated in disadvantaged areas.	DCLG	

**Other Government policies and investments that support regeneration:**

Many other Government policies and investments, even those without a specific regeneration aim, also contribute towards regeneration, for example:

***National programmes and policies***

<b>Policy or Fund</b>	<b>What is it?</b>	<b>How could it help regeneration?</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Where can I find out more?</b>
<b>Affordable Housing Programme</b>	The Affordable Homes Programme 2011-15 is a capital grant programme of £4.5 billion operated by the Homes and Communities Agency. Grant is provided to Registered Providers, developers and Local Authorities to provide affordable housing in England. This programme also covers Empty Homes, Traveller Pitch Funding, Homelessness Change Programme and Mortgage Rescue.	Housing has a key role to play in regeneration. Funding through this programme could be aligned to provide a choice of housing, either social or affordable home ownership, as part of wider regeneration objectives to maximise impact.	DCLG	Homes and Communities Agency
<b>Decent Homes Programme</b>	£1.6bn of investment over 2011-15 to improve poor council housing	Social housing tends to be concentrated in deprived areas. Funding could be aligned to wider regeneration objectives to maximise impact.	DCLG	Your local council or the Homes and Communities Agency.
<b>Network of Jobcentres</b>	A network of 740 Jobcentres, providing local information on employment vacancies and support to unemployed people to help them back into work.	Tackles worklessness. Strong links with the voluntary and community sector ensures that unemployed people can access better advice and support to get back into work. We are engaged with Further Education Colleges to broker skills provision to suit the local job market.	DWP	
<b>Jobcentre Plus recruitment service</b>	An easily accessible and free recruitment service for employers	Helps to fill job opportunities created by economic growth and enterprise. Can also free-up money for businesses to invest in local development and growth. Locally, builds closer relationships with businesses committed to addressing worklessness in their community.	DWP	Business Link – recruiting through Jobcentre Plus

<b>Job Centre Plus Rapid Response Service</b>	The Rapid Response Service provides tailored support to public or private sector employers who plan to make redundancies.	Helps to address the effects of job losses on individuals and on the local community by helping people move rapidly into alternative employment.	DWP	<a href="http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/bdotg/action/detail?itemId=1084072915&amp;type=RESOURCES">http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/bdotg/action/detail?itemId=1084072915&amp;type=RESOURCES</a>
<b>Further Education and Skills Reform</b>	Reforming training provision, freeing training organisations to agree skills priorities locally and deliver them flexibly using funding from government, employers and individuals.	Will improve education outcomes and employment chances for young people and adults, with particular financial support focused on the low skilled, young people and people making the transition to the labour market from unemployment.	BIS	
	Reform of informal adult and community learning to support the Big Society and help people progress to other learning.	Will help build the Big Society through learning, particularly helping those with the lowest skills and motivation to progress.	BIS	
<b>Free Schools</b>	Free schools are an easier route for any suitable organisation or group, such as parent, teacher or community groups, to establish new schools in response to parental demand.	Schools have a key role to play in building and supporting communities. Free Schools reflect and respond to the particular needs of the local community and offer high educational standards.	DfE	<a href="http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/leadership/typesofschools/freeschools">http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/leadership/typesofschools/freeschools</a>
<b>Children's Centres</b>	Children's Centres' core purpose is to improve outcomes for young children and their families. There is a particular focus on the most disadvantaged	Will ensure children are equipped for life and ready for school, no matter what their background or family circumstances	DfE	
<b>National Citizens' Service</b>	A Government initiative supporting young people to develop new skills and make a difference	Will connect more young people with their communities and their own power to make a contribution. It is designed to promote a more cohesive, responsible and engaged society.	Office for Civil Society	<a href="http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk">www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk</a>
<b>Package of business growth initiatives</b>	The package announced in November includes actions to address the challenges faced by small and medium businesses tailored start-up support, and increased funding for trade and investment.	Will help small businesses grow and create jobs, export to new markets, secure finance and cut red tape. Small and Medium Enterprises are particularly prevalent in deprived areas.	BIS	<a href="http://www.bis.gov.uk/policies/growth/growing-mid-sized-businesses">http://www.bis.gov.uk/policies/growth/growing-mid-sized-businesses</a>

<b>Credit easing</b>	A package of measures worth £21bn. The National Loan Guarantee Scheme will enable participating banks to access cheaper funding, providing they pass these lower loan rates on to small businesses. A Business Finance Partnership, initially focusing on co-investment with the private sector, will provide loan funds for mid-sized businesses and SMEs. A non bank lending taskforce will examine barriers to the development of alternative debt markets in the UK.	Will strengthen the flow of credit to smaller businesses that do not have ready access to capital markets. These tend to be particularly prevalent in deprived areas.	BIS	<a href="http://www.bis.gov.uk/policies/growth/growing-mid-sized-businesses">http://www.bis.gov.uk/policies/growth/growing-mid-sized-businesses</a>
<b>Business Mentoring</b>	A cohesive and sustainable network of at least 40,000 experienced business mentors. Also, <b>Get Mentoring</b> is a new initiative to recruit and train 15,000 volunteer business mentors from the small, medium and micro business community.	Will support enterprise creation and growth across the UK.	BIS	<a href="http://www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/enterprise/docs/b/11-515-bigger-better-business-helping-small-firms.pdf">www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/enterprise/docs/b/11-515-bigger-better-business-helping-small-firms.pdf</a> Also see the online mentoring portal <a href="http://www.Mentorsme.co.uk">www.Mentorsme.co.uk</a> and <a href="http://www.getmentoring.org">www.getmentoring.org</a>
<b>Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs).</b>	The right for communities to elect Police and Crime Commissioners.	Will give local people a strong voice in how their communities are policed, and make forces truly accountable to their communities. Will ensure that Police and Crime Commissioners are in a position to help struggling areas address local problems.	Home Office	
<b>Community Action Against Crime Innovation Fund</b>	A £10m fund to enable grass roots community activist groups to work with their community safety partnership to tackle local crime problems, including through co-design and co-delivery of initiatives to cut crime.	Will encourage greater community activism, and to enable communities to develop innovative approaches to tackling the local crime issues that matter to them encourage effective partnerships to get everybody working together to tackle crime	Home Office	



<b>Tourism</b>	Government plans for supporting the tourism industry	Tourism can be one of the fastest and most efficient ways to regenerate economically deprived areas.	DCMS	<a href="http://www.culture.gov.uk/publications/7896.aspx">www.culture.gov.uk/publications/7896.aspx</a>
<b>Broadband Strategy / Rural Community Broadband Fund</b>	Plans for ensuring that homes and businesses right across the UK are able to access a decent level of connectivity, even in the most remote areas.	Broadband helps rural residents access employment, public services and other opportunities, and rural businesses access markets.	DEFRA	<a href="http://www.interactive.bis.gov.uk/comment/bduk/">www.interactive.bis.gov.uk/comment/bduk/</a> or <a href="http://rdpenetwork.defra.gov.uk/funding-sources/rural-community-broadband-fund">http://rdpenetwork.defra.gov.uk/funding-sources/rural-community-broadband-fund</a>
<b>Rural Community Action Network</b>	National network working at community, local, regional, and national levels to support and enable initiatives in rural communities.	Will help communities address local needs, focusing on broadband, housing, community services (including transport) and fuel poverty and energy generation.	DEFRA	<a href="http://www.acre.org.uk">www.acre.org.uk</a>
<b>Rural Growth Networks</b>	A fund of around £15m to support up to six pilot Networks, to be run by Local Enterprise Partnerships. Aimed at stimulating additional economic activity by addressing identified barriers to growth in rural areas.	By encouraging businesses and generating jobs, local growth in rural areas will be boosted.	DEFRA	<a href="http://www.defra.gov.uk/rural/economy/">http://www.defra.gov.uk/rural/economy/</a>
<b>Natural Environment White Paper</b>	The White Paper sets out Government's ambitions to protect and improve the natural environment. It includes activities to make it easier for local communities and organisations to work together to pursue multiple environmental outcomes, such as Local Nature Partnerships and Nature Improvement Areas.	These initiatives encourage new partnerships to work together and improve the local natural environment. Evidence suggests that a healthy natural environment is a cost effective tool that can help to support economic and social regeneration.	DEFRA	<a href="http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/natural/whitepaper/">http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/natural/whitepaper/</a>
<b>British Waterways</b>	Transferring responsibility for their inland waterways in England and Wales from British Waterways, a public corporation, to civil society through the creation of a new charity, the Canal & River Trust.	Waterways can be the lynchpin for urban and rural regeneration and help improve the health, well-being, environment and opportunities for people living within deprived areas.	DEFRA	<a href="http://www.britishwaterways.co.uk">www.britishwaterways.co.uk</a>

<b>Big Tree Plant</b>	Grant scheme to encourage people and communities to plant more trees in England's towns, cities and neighbourhoods	Will help to green urban and residential areas with support particularly focused at deprived areas that are lacking in greenery. Trees and woodland areas can help to address health inequalities, raise the quality of the area and encourage inward investment.	DEFRA	<a href="http://www.thebigtreeplant.direct.gov.uk/index.html">www.thebigtreeplant.direct.gov.uk/index.html</a>
<b>Local Air Quality Action Plans</b>	Action plans at a local level to improve air quality.	Areas that experience poor air quality are often in deprived neighbourhoods. Improvements will enhance the quality of life in such areas.	DEFRA	<a href="http://laqm.defra.gov.uk/action-planning/action-planning.html">http://laqm.defra.gov.uk/action-planning/action-planning.html</a>

### **Specific geographic areas**

<b>Policy or Fund</b>	<b>What is it?</b>	<b>How could it help regeneration?</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Where can I find out more?</b>
<b>Cities</b>	Work initially with 8 core cities to negotiate tailored deals between each city and Government.	Will allow cities greater freedom and flexibility to develop innovative and wide ranging proposals which address local barriers to growth and prosperity, and support private sector growth.	Cabinet Office, DCLG & BIS	<a href="http://www.dpm.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/sites/default/files_dpm/resources/CO_Unlocking%20GrowthCities_acc.pdf">http://www.dpm.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/sites/default/files_dpm/resources/CO_Unlocking%20GrowthCities_acc.pdf</a>
<b>Enterprise Zones</b>	Establishment of 24 Enterprise Zones across England which will benefit from a combination of financial incentives and reduced planning.	Will encourage businesses and generate jobs, helping to rebalance the economy and drive local and national growth	DCLG	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/regeneration/economicgrowth/enterprisezones">www.communities.gov.uk/regeneration/economicgrowth/enterprisezones</a>
<b>High Speed 2</b>	Proposal for a Y-shaped high speed rail network, comprising lines from London to Birmingham and then to Leeds and Manchester.	Would support increased productivity by improving connectivity between London's powerhouse economy and the major cities of the Midlands and the North, and enabling major regional city economies to integrate more effectively. Would create regeneration opportunities in the vicinity of the stations.	DfT	<a href="http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/rail/pi/highspeedrail">www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/rail/pi/highspeedrail</a>
<b>Crossrail</b>	New rail services running 72 miles from Maidenhead and Heathrow in the west through a new 21 mile tunnel under central London to Shenfield and Abbey Wood in the east	Will provide improved transport links from London's existing major employment centres to some of London's most deprived boroughs. Will also create regeneration opportunities in the vicinity of the stations, and is likely to attract new private sector development.	DfT	For enquiries about the Crossrail project, you can contact The Department of Transport at: <a href="mailto:crossrail@dft.gsi.gov.uk">crossrail@dft.gsi.gov.uk</a>

<b>Local Authority Major Transport Schemes</b>	Funding for a number of capital projects to improve local transport infrastructure	Many schemes are designed to facilitate development in new employment sites and improve access to jobs and services.	DfT	
<b>Local Transport Plans</b>	Funding for local transport schemes through Local Transport Plans	Improving safety and accessibility to the local road network can support regeneration areas	DfT	
<b>London Reforms</b>	Localism Act passes greater powers over housing and regeneration to the Mayor of London to carry on housing investment activities currently carried out by the Homes and Communities Agency, and the economic development work done by the London Development Agency.	A strategic pan-London focus will ensure housing and regeneration activities meet the needs of Londoners, and enable the Mayor to increase alignment of different funding streams, help mitigate cuts and maximise efficiencies.	DCLG	This was part of the Localism Act: <a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm">http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted/data.htm</a>
<b>Olympics Legacy</b>	Remodelling of the Olympic Park and venues, and facilitating its further development, including several thousand new homes. Transport infrastructure improvements as well. Ensuring local people have access to Olympics-related work opportunities.	Will turn one of the most deprived areas in the UK into a sustainable and prosperous district with outstanding sporting, residential, business and leisure facilities surrounded by parkland. Training and employment effects too – e.g. Over 1,580 unemployed and local people have gained work in the Olympic Park as a result of training in construction skills.	DCMS/DCLG/ Greater London Authority	<a href="http://www.legacycompany.co.uk/">http://www.legacycompany.co.uk/</a>
<b>Thames Gateway</b>	The Thames Gateway is an area of unrivalled potential and opportunity which provides the Greater South East with much needed room to grow.	Busting barriers to growth and ensuring high-value projects provide new jobs.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/regeneration/thamesgateway">www.communities.gov.uk/regeneration/thamesgateway</a>
<b>Homes &amp; Communities Agency Property &amp; Regeneration Programme</b>	Completion of committed schemes in the Homes and Communities Agency's Property & Regeneration programme	Completion of committed property and regeneration schemes	DCLG	<a href="http://www.homesandcommunities.co.uk">www.homesandcommunities.co.uk</a> or email at: <a href="mailto:mail@homesandcommunities.co.uk">mail@homesandcommunities.co.uk</a>
<b>Regional Development Agency Committed schemes</b>	Completion of committed Regional Development Agency schemes	Completion of committed regeneration schemes.	DCLG/BIS	

<b>Capital and Asset Pathfinders</b>	26 areas. Customer-centric place-based approach to asset management and new capital investment	Potential 20% savings which could free up capital to regenerate many town centres and localities. Redesign and co-location of services could also improve access to local services and deliver better outcomes.	DCLG / Local Government Association	
<b>Community Infrastructure Levy Front Runners</b>	Tailored support for 28 councils implementing the reformed Community Infrastructure Levy, to help them set a charge for their area.	A new funding stream which authorities can use to provide the infrastructure needed to support regeneration.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.pas.gov.uk/pas/core/page.do?pageId=1103726">http://www.pas.gov.uk/pas/core/page.do?pageId=1103726</a>
<b>Community Budget Pilots</b>	Three "whole place" pilots and three "neighbourhood" pilots.	Enables public funds to be more effectively channelled to address local priorities, and improve services through redesign and integration. By removing barriers to cross-organisational working, the approach could be particularly helpful in communities with complex and interrelated needs which require multi-agency response.	DCLG	
<b>Neighbourhood Planning Front Runners</b>	125 areas, each receiving a grant of up to £20,000 towards the cost of developing a neighbourhood plan.	Greater control and power for local authorities and communities over the way in which their area develops, making it easier for local areas to shape the development they want, and giving them greater ability to attract new housing and employment development.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningsystem/neighbourhoodplanningvanguard/s/">http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningsystem/neighbourhoodplanningvanguard/s/</a>
<b>High Street Recovery Fund</b>	£20m fund providing financial help to small businesses following the riots of August 2011, and a further £20m contribution towards the regeneration of the worst-hit places - Tottenham and Croydon.	Will help local economies to recover after the riots.	DCLG	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/2016836">http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/2016836</a>

## **Government Support for vulnerable individuals**

Other strands of the Government work provide particular support to vulnerable individuals and help contribute to the regeneration of the areas in which they live.

<b>Policy or Fund</b>	<b>What is it?</b>	<b>How could it help regeneration?</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Where can I find out more?</b>
<b>Jobcentre Plus Support</b>	Jobcentre Plus is now able to tailor and personalise the services it offers to the individual, according to local labour market need.	Will better meet the individual needs of claimants and customers and local employers. Jobcentre Plus has greater flexibility to support welfare to work objectives and priorities through partnership working.	DWP	From your local Jobcentre Plus District Manager
<b>The Work Programme</b>	An integrated package of support providing personalised employment support for those who are long term unemployed or at risk of becoming so.	Will better meet the individual needs of customers and local employers. Providers will be free to design support based on the needs of individuals and target the support at the right time. They will be free to enter into partnerships with local statutory and voluntary organisations where they choose to do so. For those furthest from the labour market, early access to the Work Programme will be offered to ensure they receive help within a timescale that is most appropriate to them.	DWP	<a href="http://www.dwp.gov.uk/policy/welfare%2Dreform/get%2Dbritain%2Dworking/#work">www.dwp.gov.uk/policy/welfare%2Dreform/get%2Dbritain%2Dworking/#work</a>
<b>Get Britain Working - Work Clubs</b>	Work Clubs provide unemployed people with a place to meet and exchange skills, share experiences, find opportunities, make contacts and get support to help them in their return to work.	Will encourage unemployed people to share skills and experience, and enable people to use their local knowledge and resources to help unemployed people in their communities.	DWP	Additional information available on: <a href="#">Work Clubs</a> <a href="#">Get Britain Working</a>
<b>Get Britain Working - Work Together</b>	Encouraging unemployed people to volunteer whilst looking for work and signposting people to local opportunities and online help.	Will help unemployed people to develop their skills through volunteering	DWP	<a href="http://www.dwp.gov.uk/policy/welfare-reform/get-britain-working">www.dwp.gov.uk/policy/welfare-reform/get-britain-working</a>

<b>Get Britain Working - Work Experience</b>	Work Experience allows Job Seeker Allowance claimants aged 18 – 24 to gain an insight into the world of work. Also available to 16/17 year old claimants.	Will help unemployed young people gain experience of work, relying on local employers to provide these opportunities.	DWP	<a href="http://www.dwp.gov.uk/policy/welfare-reform/get-britain-working/#experience">http://www.dwp.gov.uk/policy/welfare-reform/get-britain-working/#experience</a>
<b>Get Britain Working - New Enterprise Allowance and Enterprise Clubs</b>	Mentoring and financial support for Job Seeker Allowance claimants aged 18+ who have been claiming for 26-weeks, who want to start their own business and can demonstrate they have a viable business proposition with growth potential. Enterprise Clubs support claimants on New Enterprise Allowance and other unemployed claimants who are in the early stages of developing their business propositions.	Will help unemployed people move in to self-employment, establish new businesses and boost local economies.	DWP	<a href="http://www.dwp.gov.uk/adviser/updates/new%2DEnterprise%2Dallowance/">www.dwp.gov.uk/adviser/updates/new%2DEnterprise%2Dallowance/</a> <a href="http://www.dwp.gov.uk/policy/welfare-reform/get-britain-working/#enterprise">http://www.dwp.gov.uk/policy/welfare-reform/get-britain-working/#enterprise</a>
<b>Get Britain Working – Sector based work academies</b>	Pre-employment sector-based training and work placement, and guaranteed interview for unemployed people (England only at present)	Aimed at business sectors with high local vacancies, providing tailored support to meet the skills needs of those seeking work and the requirements of employers	DWP	<a href="http://www.dwp.gov.uk/policy/welfare-reform/get-britain-working">www.dwp.gov.uk/policy/welfare-reform/get-britain-working</a>
<b>Free Early Education</b>	15 hours a week of free nursery education for the poorest two-year olds	Will improve disadvantaged children's development and help their parents to work	DfE	<a href="http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Parents/Pre-schooldevelopmentandlearning/NurseriesPlaygroupsReceptionClasses/DG_10016103">www.direct.gov.uk/en/Parents/Pre-schooldevelopmentandlearning/NurseriesPlaygroupsReceptionClasses/DG_10016103</a>
<b>Pupil Premium</b>	Funding for schools with disadvantaged pupils to provide them with targeted help.	Will help children from disadvantaged backgrounds receive higher standards of education, thereby giving them a better start in life. Will reduce educational inequalities	DfE	<a href="http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/teachingandlearning/schoolswhitepaper/b0068570/the-importance-of-teaching/school-funding/pupil-premium">www.education.gov.uk/schools/teachingandlearning/schoolswhitepaper/b0068570/the-importance-of-teaching/school-funding/pupil-premium</a>
<b>National Scholarship Programme</b>	Assistance for the poorest students with the costs of higher and further education.	Will remove the barriers that prevent poorer young adults from entering university.	BIS	<a href="http://www.bis.gov.uk/he-access-agreements">http://www.bis.gov.uk/he-access-agreements</a>
<b>Further Education Funding</b>	Public skills investment focused on the unemployed seeking work, young adults (19 to 24) and adults with low skills.	Will have maximum impact on economic development by developing skills in demand locally, with most Government financial support going to those in greatest need.	BIS	

<b>Troubled Families Team</b>	A refreshed programme of work to deliver our commitment to turn around the lives of 120,000 troubled families.	Many of these families are concentrated in disadvantaged areas.	DCLG	
<b>Fuel Poverty - Warm Front</b>	The Scheme offers funding for installation of heating and insulation measures for people on certain income-related benefits who own their home or rent it from a private landlord.	Makes homes warmer, healthier and more energy-efficient, contributing to health and wellbeing in vulnerable households.	DECC	<a href="http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/MoneyTaxAndBenefits/BenefitsTaxCreditsAndOtherSupport/On_a_low_income/DG_10018661">http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/MoneyTaxAndBenefits/BenefitsTaxCreditsAndOtherSupport/On_a_low_income/DG_10018661</a>
<b>Fuel Poverty Warm Home Discount</b>	A four-year scheme to help low-income and vulnerable households with energy costs.	Contributes to health and wellbeing in vulnerable households.	DECC	<a href="http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/funding/whds/whds.aspx">http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/funding/whds/whds.aspx</a>

## Departmental contact details

Department	Switchboard	Website	Email enquiries
<b>Department for Communities &amp; Local Government (DCLG)</b>	0303 444 0000	<a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk">www.communities.gov.uk</a>	<a href="mailto:contactus@communities.gov.uk">contactus@communities.gov.uk</a>
<b>Office for Civil Society (OCS)</b>	0207 276 3000	<a href="http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk">www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk</a>	
<b>Department for Business, Innovation &amp; Skills (BIS)</b>	0207 215 5000	<a href="http://www.bis.gov.uk">www.bis.gov.uk</a>	<a href="http://www.bis.gov.uk/contact">www.bis.gov.uk/contact</a>
<b>Department for the Environment, Food &amp; Rural Affairs (DEFRA)</b>	08459 33 55 77	<a href="http://www.defra.gov.uk">www.defra.gov.uk</a>	<a href="mailto:helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk">helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk</a>
<b>Department for Culture, Media &amp; Sport (DCMS)</b>	0207 211 6000	<a href="http://www.culture.gov.uk">www.culture.gov.uk</a>	<a href="mailto:enquiries@culture.gov.uk">enquiries@culture.gov.uk</a>
<b>Department for Transport (DFT)</b>	0300 330 3000	<a href="http://www.dft.gov.uk">www.dft.gov.uk</a>	<a href="mailto:FAX9643@dft.gsi.gov.uk">FAX9643@dft.gsi.gov.uk</a>
<b>Department for Work &amp; Pensions (DWP)</b>		<a href="http://www.dwp.gov.uk">www.dwp.gov.uk</a>	<a href="http://www.dwp.gov.uk/contact-us">www.dwp.gov.uk/contact-us</a>
<b>Department for Education (DfE)</b>	0370 000 2288	<a href="http://www.education.gov.uk">www.education.gov.uk</a>	<a href="http://www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus">www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus</a>
<b>Home Office (HO)</b>	0207 035 4848	<a href="http://www.homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk">www.homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk</a>	<a href="http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/contact-us">www.homeoffice.gov.uk/contact-us</a>
<b>Department of Energy &amp; Climate Change (DECC)</b>	0300 060 4000	<a href="http://www.decc.gov.uk">www.decc.gov.uk</a>	<a href="mailto:correspondence@decc.gsi.gov.uk">correspondence@decc.gsi.gov.uk</a>
<b>Department of Health (DH)</b>	020 7210 4850	<a href="http://www.dh.gov.uk">www.dh.gov.uk</a>	
<b>Her Majesty's Treasury (HMT)</b>	020 7270 5000	<a href="http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk">www.hm-treasury.gov.uk</a>	<a href="mailto:public.enquiries@hm-treasury.gov.uk">public.enquiries@hm-treasury.gov.uk</a>

<sup>i</sup> *Regeneration to enable growth: What Government is doing in support of community-led regeneration*, Department for Communities and Local Government, January 2011

<sup>ii</sup> *Local Growth: realising every place's potential*, HM Government, 28 October 2010

<sup>iii</sup> <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/localismplainenglishupdate>