



Department for  
Digital, Culture  
Media & Sport

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Keynote speech, Local Government Association Youth  
Conference  
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# Common goals and interests

- The shared aim of helping young people reach their full potential
- A fundamental principle of putting youth voice at the centre of policy and programmes
- Recognition of the importance of increasing collective impact by working with partners across different sectors
- A focus on outcomes and measuring impact



# The Shared Society



Action by every level of government, national and local; and by civil society, businesses, individuals and communities to solve the everyday injustices and the burning injustices that many people face.



# Policy priorities across Government

- Enriching young people's lives
- Promoting social mobility
- Tackling burning injustices that hold some young people back



# Government investments

Supporting young people, including the most disadvantaged, to develop skills and participate in their communities

- £40m Youth Investment Fund (in partnership with the Big Lottery Fund)
- £40m #iwill Fund (in partnership with the Big Lottery Fund)
- National Citizen Service
- Annual grant to the British Youth Council
- Sporting Future Strategy
- Culture Whitepaper



# Government investments

## Promoting social mobility

- Social mobility Opportunity Areas - £72 million investment
- £22m Essential Life Skills Programme (focussed in the Opportunity Areas)
- Commitment to reaching 3m apprenticeship starts by 2020
- Traineeships - 66% progressed into a positive destination
- Careers Strategy



## Tackling burning injustices, including mental health

- Children and Young People's Mental Health Green Paper
  - New measures signal a fundamental shift in mental health support, with over £300m of funding available
  - Training for senior designated mental health leads in schools to improve prevention work
  - Earlier access to services through creation of new Mental Health Support Teams working in and directly with schools
  - New four week waiting time for NHS Children and Young People's mental health services to be piloted



# Partnerships and building a strong youth sector together

The Civil Society Strategy will provide opportunities to:

- recognise the strengths of the organisations and individuals that support young people;
- look at what more Government could do, through non-budgetary measures, to support the youth and other sectors that contribute to civil society; and
- consider how we could increase collaboration between national Government and local partners to tackle pressing issues





# Engagement

- DCMS will launch engagement early in the new year
- Build on insights gathered through the engagement we did with young people, youth organisations and local authorities earlier this year
- Further opportunities for engagement - online and face to face

