

APPENDIX – B1

The Coalition: Our Programme for Government

The programme for government was published on 20th May 2010. The information below is taken from the document and relates to services which Communities provide. The areas covered are:

- areas of interest to Community Safety & Regulatory Services
- areas of interest to Youth & Community Support Services
- areas of interest for Community Cultural Services

1. COMMUNITY SAFETY & REGULATORY SERVICES

Community Safety

- We will introduce measures to make the police more accountable through oversight by a directly elected individual, who will be subject to strict checks and balances by locally elected representatives.
- We will oblige the police to publish detailed local crime data statistics every month, so the public can get proper information about crime in their neighbourhoods and hold the police to account for their performance.
- We will require forces to hold regular beat meetings so that residents can hold them to account.

Trading Standards

- We will overhaul the Licensing Act to give local authorities and the police much stronger powers to remove licenses from, or refuse to grant licenses to premises which are causing problems.
- We will allow councils and the police to shut down permanently any shop or bar found to be persistently selling alcohol to children.
- We will double the maximum fine for under age alcohol sales to £20,000.

2. YOUTH & COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

Alcohol

- We will ban the sale of alcohol below cost price.
- We will review alcohol taxation and pricing to ensure it tackles binge drinking without penalizing binge drinkers, pubs and local industries.

Drugs

- We will introduce a system of temporary bans on new legal highs while health issues are considered by independent experts. We will not ban a substance without receiving full advice from the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs.

Youth Offending Service

- We will introduce a 'rehabilitation revolution' that will pay independent providers to reduce reoffending, paid for by the savings this new approach will generate within the criminal justice system.

- We will investigate a new approach to families with multiple problems.

3. COMMUNITY CULTURAL SERVICES

Culture

- We will maintain free entry to national museums and galleries, and give national museums greater freedoms.
- We will examine the case for moving to a gross profits tax system for the National Lottery so that more money goes into sport, the arts and heritage.
- We will cut red tape to encourage the performance of more live music.

Sport & Olympics

- We will work with the Mayor of London to ensure a safe and successful Olympic and Paralympic Games in London 2012 and urgently form plans to deliver a genuine and lasting legacy.
- We will use cash in dormant betting accounts to improve local sports facilities and support sports clubs.
- We will support the creation of an annual Olympic-style schools sports event to encourage competitive sport in schools, and we will seek to protect school playing fields.

Further education, 14 – 19 and youth employment

- We will seek ways to support the creation of apprenticeships, internships, work pairings, and college and workplace training places as part of our wider programme to get Britain working.
- We will set colleges free from direct state control and abolish many of the further education quangos. Public funding should be fair and follow the choices of students.
- We will introduce National Citizen Service. The initial flagship project will provide a programme for 16 year olds to give them a chance to develop the skills needed to be active and responsible citizens, mix with people from different backgrounds, and start getting involved in their communities.
- We will improve the quality of vocational education, including increasing flexibility for 14–19 year olds and creating new Technical Academies as part of our plans to diversify schools provision.
- We will end all existing welfare to work programmes and create a single welfare to work programme to help all unemployed people get back into work.
- We will ensure that Jobseeker's Allowance claimants facing the most significant barriers to work are referred to the new welfare to work programme immediately, not after 12 months as is currently the case.
- We will ensure that Jobseeker's Allowance claimants aged under 25 are referred to the programme after a maximum of six months.