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Regeneration and employability – making the connections

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Content

- Regeneration in Scotland – policy context
- Towards a more strategic approach
- Employability – the challenge
- Towards a new Scottish policy framework
- Where does transport come in?
- A key issue for the National Transport Strategy



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What do we mean by regeneration?

- All things to all people?
- A “wide but clear” definition
- Not about a list of activities – about outcomes



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Defining regeneration

- **Sustainable transformation of specific places**, involving a range of outcomes which all need to be present if change is to be sustained
- About **business, people** and **place**
- So has **economic, physical, social** and **environmental** aspects.



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Outcomes

- Improved business confidence
- Increased economic activity and employment
- Higher incomes and less reliance on benefits
- Effective public services
- A higher skills base
- Higher land and property values
- Improved community confidence
- A better physical and natural environment



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Where does regeneration fit in?

- Major contribution towards Executive's twin goals
- Supporting sustainable economic growth
- Tackling poverty and disadvantage
- At the heart of Closing the Opportunity Gap



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Our key target

- Promoting community regeneration of the most deprived neighbourhoods, through **improvements by 2008 in employability, education, health, access to local services, and quality of the local environment.**



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So what are we doing about it?

- Targeting the most deprived neighbourhoods – the Community Regeneration Fund
- Integrating funding streams
- Regeneration Outcome Agreements



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But that's not the whole story...

- A lot of other activity supporting aspects of regeneration
- A lot of players, a lot of instruments
- Overall coherence/consistency?
- A clear strategic view?



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Pulling together the threads

- Need to exploit potential synergies between our and others' activity
- Need to assume more of a leadership role at national level
- Need to articulate our vision more clearly
- Need to set out our priorities



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Employability

- A challenging starting point
- Closing the Opportunity Gap - targets A, B, G, J
- Reduce the number of workless people dependent on DWP benefits in 7 authority areas by 2007 **and** 2010
- Reduce the number of 16-19 year olds not in education, employment and training by 2008
- By 2007 ensure that at least 50% of looked-after young people leaving care have entered education, employment or training



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An employability framework for Scotland

- Executive and UK Government responsibilities
- Range of key stakeholders and agencies on the ground
- Making sense of the landscape
- Strategic focus for Scotland



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Making the connections

- Regeneration and employability are interdependent
- We must use regeneration to create job opportunities
- We must make sure that people can take advantage of the opportunities
- We must address any barriers to doing so



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So where does transport come in?

- Situation in the most deprived communities
- Multiple aspects of transport
- Transport as a component of regeneration initiatives
- Transport as a creator of opportunity
- Transport constraints as a barrier to growth



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A key issue for the National Transport Strategy

- How do we ensure “fit” – so that transport policy contributes to regeneration, regeneration activity contributes to transport, and both make sense?