

# 2007 Pre-Budget Report and Comprehensive Spending Review

## PUBLIC SERVICE AGREEMENTS

The Government today announces a reformed performance management framework which places increased emphasis on a new relationship with public sector professionals and includes a smaller, streamlined set of 30 new PSAs articulating the Government's highest priority outcomes for the CSR07 period.

Each PSA is underpinned by a single Delivery Agreement shared across all contributing departments and developed in consultation with delivery partners and frontline workers.

### Sustainable growth and prosperity

- 1) A new PSA to **raise the productivity of the UK economy**, that commits to sustaining high rates of economic growth, improving the standard of living and maintaining the UK's position as a thriving economy.
- 2) A new PSA to **improve the skills of the population, on the way to ensuring a world-class skills base by 2020**, which sets stretching national targets to support working age individuals to acquire the skills they need to succeed at all levels, from functional numeracy and literacy, qualifications at further and higher levels and apprenticeships.
- 3) A new PSA to **ensure controlled, fair migration that protects the public and contributes to economic growth**, which will be delivered by strengthening UK borders and fast tracking asylum decision, supported by a commitment to increase removals of those that cause the most harm to society first and manage migration to reduce the number of vacancies in areas where there are skills shortages.
- 4) A new PSA to **promote world-class science and innovation in the UK** which commits to world-class research in UK centres of excellence, investment to enable Higher Education and Public Sector Establishments to develop their capacity to engage with business, increased business investment in R&D and ensuring a strong base of future Scientists, Engineers and Technologists through the take up of A levels and PhDs.

- 5) A new PSA to **Deliver reliable and efficient transport networks that support economic growth** which sets out the strategy for managing urban traffic routes and the strategic road network and will build on the progress already made on the rail network by setting a national target to increase capacity.
- 6) A new PSA to **deliver the conditions for business success in the UK**, that commits to provide a competition regime and corporate governance framework ranked amongst the world's best, a flexible labour market, open competitive energy markets that deliver supplies at competitive prices, regulation that is justified and a target to reduce administrative burdens on business.
- 7) A new PSA to **improve the economic performance of all English regions and reduce the gap in economic growth rates between regions** by maintaining macroeconomic stability to help businesses and individuals plan for the future, implementing reforms to tackle market failures in the underlying drivers of growth and devolving decision making to the regional and local levels to ensure that delivery is responsive to the challenges of each particular area.

#### **Fairness and opportunity for all**

- 8) A new PSA to **maximise employment opportunity for all**, which will drive further progress on raising the overall employment rate, as well as narrowing the gap between employment rates of disadvantaged groups (such as disabled people or lone parents) and the overall rate. The PSA will also drive reductions in the numbers on out-of-work benefits and the time spent on out-of-work benefits.
- 9) A new PSA to **halve the number of children in poverty by 2010-11, on the way to eradicating child poverty by 2020**, with a national target to reduce the number of children in relative low-income households, supplemented by indicators to track progress on reductions in the number of children in absolute low-income and the number in relative low-income and material deprivation.
- 10) A new PSA to **Raise the educational achievement of all children and young people**, focusing efforts on raising standards at all levels of learning and development, with stretching national targets from 0-19.
- 11) A new PSA to **Narrow the gap in educational achievement between children from low income and disadvantaged backgrounds and their peers**, which for the first time sets national targets focussed on

individual pupil level progression and will drive improvement for the most vulnerable, such as young people in care.

- 12) A new PSA to **Improve the health and wellbeing of children and young people** which commits to reverse long-term trends on childhood obesity and includes action to improving the experience of parents of disabled children with the services they receive
- 13) A new PSA to **improve children and young people's safety** which will focus on reducing bullying, reducing unintentional and deliberate injuries to children, and reducing the numbers of preventable deaths.
- 14) A new PSA to **increase the number of children and young people on the path to success** including national targets to reduce the number of young people not in education, employment and training and to tackle teenage pregnancy, alongside a focus on reducing drug and alcohol use by teenagers and getting more young people engaged in positive activities.
- 15) A new PSA to **address the disadvantage that individuals experience because of their gender, race, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief**, which includes commitments to reduce discrimination in employment, increase participation in public life by under-represented groups and narrow the persistent gap between men's and women's wage rates.
- 16) A new PSA to **increase the proportion of socially excluded adults in settled accommodation and employment, education or training**, focusing on four groups at high risk of suffering from multiple disadvantage and negotiating difficult transition points – care leavers, offenders under probation supervision; adults with secondary mental health problems; and adults with moderate to severe learning disabilities.
- 17) A new PSA to **tackle poverty and promote greater independence and wellbeing in later life**, which commits to improvement in areas that older people themselves have said are important, such as employment opportunity, levels of health in later life and continuing to ensure pensioners share in the rising prosperity of the nation.

### **Stronger communities and a better quality of life**

- 18) A new PSA to **promote better health and wellbeing for all** which includes stretching national targets to narrow the gap in life expectancy between the poorest areas and the national average and reduce smoking rates, alongside improving access to psychological therapies.

- 19) A new PSA to **ensure better care for all** which will see Government deliver its commitment to ensure no one waits more than 18 weeks from GP referral to hospital appointment, combined with increased focus on patient experience, particularly people's satisfaction with GP services, and a commitment to reduce rates of hospital associated infections.
- 20) A New PSA to **increase long term housing supply and affordability**, which will drive improvements to housing affordability by increasing housing supply - making progress towards meeting the government's ambition of at least 240,000 net additional homes per year by 2016. The PSA also sets a stretching national target to increase the number of affordable homes provided to 70,000 per annum, and commits to improve the energy performance and carbon footprint of new homes.
- 21) A new PSA to **build more cohesive, empowered and active communities**, which aims to create thriving places in there are shared values and a sense of belonging – people's perceptions of their local communities will be key to measuring progress, alongside commitments to increase participation through volunteering and in a wide variety of cultural and sporting activities.
- 22) A new PSA to **deliver a successful Olympic Games and Paralympic Games with a sustainable legacy and get more children and young people taking part in high quality PE and sport** which will drive delivery of the Olympic park and venues, bring a focus on maximising the legacy and sets out a commitment that, in addition to at least 2 hours per week of high quality PE and Sport in school for all 5-16 year olds, all children and young people aged 5-19 will be offered opportunities to participate in a further 3 hours per week of sporting activities.
- 23) A new PSA to **make communities safer** which will focus on reducing levels of serious violent crimes and acquisitive crimes, alongside increased focus on public confidence in local crime reduction agencies and a framework to deliver local priorities on reducing re-offending.
- 24) A new PSA to **deliver a more effective, transparent and responsive Criminal Justice System for victims and the public**, bringing offences to justice through simple and efficient processes, with a particular focus on serious crime (alongside PSA 23). Alongside commitments to increase public confidence in the fairness of the system and deliver better standards of service for victims and witnesses.
- 25) A new PSA to **reduce the harm caused by Alcohol and Drugs** which will drive further improvement in the level of effective treatment for drug

users, for the first time extending this to focus on alcohol misuse, thereby reducing the harm to communities as a result of associated crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour.

- 26) A new PSA to **reduce the risk to the UK and its interests overseas from international terrorism** stopping attacks, mitigating their impacts and tackling violent extremism.

#### **A more secure, fair and environmentally sustainable world**

- 27) A new PSA to **lead the global effort to avoid dangerous climate change**, which sets out the UK's ambitions to secure robust global commitments for the period after 2012, adopt and promote cost-effective policies which reduce UK net greenhouse gas emissions, and adapt to unavoidable climate change.

- 28) A new PSA to **secure a healthy natural environment for today and the future**, which demonstrates the Government's commitment to ensuring a healthy natural environment for everyone, monitoring key components such as water quality, biodiversity and air quality, as well as recognising the significant role that farmers and land managers play in protecting and enhancing the natural environment.

- 29) A new PSA to **reduce poverty in poorer countries through quicker progress towards the Millennium Development Goals**, which sets out the Government's commitment to build a global partnership on development that stretches beyond traditional aid programmes – working with and through international partners, focusing UK action on where it is most needed in Africa and South Asia.

- 30) A new PSA to **reduce the impact of conflict through enhanced UK and international efforts**, which embeds a strategic and comprehensive approach to reducing conflict and its impact through improved UK and international efforts to prevent, manage and resolve it. Creating the conditions required for effective state-building and economic development and monitoring progress to strengthen international institutions and build the UK's capability to plan, co-ordinate and deploy civilian and military resources.

For further details on these please see:

[www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/pbr\\_csr/pbr\\_csr07\\_index.cfm](http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/pbr_csr/pbr_csr07_index.cfm)

