

Evaluation of Living Places
Programme Year 2
MLA Council
Phase 2: Final Report
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1. INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT FOR THE EVALUATION

Overall aims of evaluation

- 1.1 The Living Places Partners (Arts Council England, CABE, English Heritage, MLA Council, Sport England and DCMS) commissioned DC Research in mid-2009 to carry out an Evaluation of Year 2 (2009-2010) of the Living Places Programme.
- 1.2 As outlined in the Invitation to Tender, the purpose and focus of the evaluation was to understand to what extent the three aims and seven success criteria of the Living Places programme have been met, and to what extent the programme had an impact on 'place-making' in the Priority Places.
- 1.3 The three aims of the Living Places Programme are to:
- Align investment from the sporting and cultural sector across organisational boundaries so it can be used more efficiently for people and places.
 - Provide information, advice and support on the use of culture and sport in sustainable communities to people working in local government, housing, property development, planning and a host of other fields who take the day-to-day decisions that shape communities of the future.
 - Build the capacity of communities themselves so people can be empowered to bring cultural and sporting activity and infrastructure to their communities.
- 1.4 The seven success criteria, against which programme success was to be measured, are:
- Criterion 1: A **strategy** to respond both geographically and thematically to tackle our agreed challenges and opportunities.
 - Criterion 2: A clear **plan** for supporting effective cultural provision in the Priority Place areas.
 - Criterion 3: Effective **partnership working** by the key delivery agencies to the agreement.
 - Criterion 4: Influencing progress on developing an **evidence base** for culture within communities.
 - Criterion 5: Influencing progress in influencing the issues of **access to cultural opportunity** in strategically selected places.
 - Criterion 6: **Influencing new policies** and programmes relating to sustainable communities to ensure they contain appropriate provision for culture.
 - Criterion 7: **Best Practice and Learning**: Share good practice & identify learning opportunities emerging from new ways of working.
- 1.5 It was originally stated (in the Invitation to Tender) that whilst an assessment against each of the success criteria was required, that there was to be a focus on the evaluation of partnership working (Criterion 3) and sharing of good practice (Criterion 7, focusing on the CSPT).
- 1.6 A summary of the approach and methodology for both Phases of the Evaluation is contained in Appendix 2 to this report.

- 1.7 Phase 1 of the Year 2 evaluation was completed in March 2010 and an Interim Report was produced. This current standalone report (Phase 2) updates these findings and presents an Evaluation Framework which aims to provide an ongoing (sustainable) means of being able to evaluate the achievements of Living Places – particularly at the Priority Place level. When finalised, both this report and the Phase 1 findings should be taken together as the Year 2 Evaluation.
- 1.8 It should also be noted that whilst the original remit of this evaluation was on Year 2 of Living Places (which ran from April 2009 to April 2010), this phase of the evaluation was carried out between June and August 2010, and took the opportunity to reflect on the new and evolving post-election environment and the potential influences, impacts, opportunities and concerns that this may bring for Living Places.
- 1.9 The study team would like to thank all those who participated in the research through consultations, group discussions, and by responding to the Culture and Sport Planning Toolkit (CSPT) survey. A list of consultees is set out in Appendix 1 to this report, and a summary analysis of the CSPT survey responses is provided in Appendix 3.
- 1.10 Finally, the study team would also like to thank members of the Living Places Evaluation Group, and in particular Silvia Anton and Paul Bristow, for their guidance, advice and support throughout the Year 2 evaluation process.

Structure of the report

- 1.11 This report is the Final Report for Phase 2 of the Year 2 Evaluation (produced in September 2010) and is structured as follows.

- The remainder of this section sets out the **changing rationale for Living Places**, and also the context in which Phase 2 of the Evaluation was carried out, and **summarises the factors that have influenced the findings**.
- Section 2 summarises the **achievements of Living Places partnership working and the lessons learnt**. (Criterion 3)
- Section 3 summarises the **impact to date of the Culture and Sport Planning Toolkit**. (Criterion 7)
- Section 4 details examples of **evidence and good practice to date**, including examples of the **policy influencing** role of Living Places.
- Section 5 deals with the development of the **Evaluation Framework**, including stakeholder expectations, issues and perspectives, as well as presenting the framework itself.
- Finally, Section 6 provides a **summary of the key findings** from the evaluation.

Changes to the context/rationale/aims of Living Places

- 1.12 Most partners regard Living Places as delivering a set of common aims/objectives in a range of partnership based settings. However, concerns remain amongst partners about positioning Living Places as a way of working, making it more difficult to distinguish from other activity and increasing uncertainty amongst some about the added value of Living Places, especially beyond the specific Priority Places that are working well.
- 1.13 Throughout Year 2 there has been a growing consensus that **Living Places has evolved away from a programme based format and towards a way of**

working (or a philosophy) that concerns mainstream activity and delivery rather than time limited programme work. This shift is regarded as having the potential to be helpful in aligning Living Places with the priorities of the new Government, with a caveat that such activity needs to be locality and demand focused.

- 1.14 A number of consultees reported that they were much more receptive towards Living Places as a programme now that it has a more mainstream approach and is much less nationally directed. This is in part a result of changing national priorities in terms of development regeneration (predating the general election), and also in part due to the National Partner Group for Living Places being more comfortable about the generation of outcomes by Priority Places and regional place shaping partnerships.
- 1.15 The notion of '**mainstreaming**' Living Places activity, mentioned by a range of stakeholders increasingly throughout both phases of the evaluation, tends to focus on the regional partnerships taking on place-shaping responsibility through the place-shaping sub groups of the regional arrangements.
- 1.16 Mainstreaming at the Priority Place level concerns the maintenance of the profile, added value and capacity that areas have benefitted from by being designated a Priority Place, and in the future, these partnerships will need to make case by case decisions about how activity can be sustained.
- 1.17 Establishing the role of culture and sport in successful Priority Places has taken considerable effort from a range of partners, who will need to consider a range of implications if the emphasis on Living Places and place shaping is scaled down. Ultimately Priority Place partners will need to decide whether they value the activity that has been created and supported by Living Places.
- 1.18 The key issue currently at the forefront of the minds of the majority of consultees is the change in government, and the resulting budgetary pressures and ongoing announcements about changes to structure. There are a number of elements of these developments that have emerged in Phase 2 discussions.
- 1.19 Firstly, the announcement of changes, and likely future changes, to the DCMS family of NDPBs is raising questions in the Priority Places about the future of Living Places activity, and the ability, capacity, and willingness of cultural agencies and regional partners to engage.
- 1.20 Secondly, the dismantling of many of the structures through which development and regeneration is funded and delivered raises issues about who Priority Places and Living Places partners should engage with. For example, prior to the general election, there was a focus on influencing the development of integrated regional strategies and Regional Development Agencies (RDAs), with some success. Following recent announcements about the abolition of much of the regional infrastructure, partners in places will need support and guidance about new structures and audiences, and how to reposition activity and effort appropriately.
- 1.21 Finally, government departments will need to reposition and brief new ministers on the role and purpose of Living Places specifically, and the role of culture and sport in regeneration more generally. Many partners see this as both a threat (i.e. a programme indelibly linked to the approach and ethos of the approach and priorities of the previous government) and an opportunity (a place based locality approach delivering enhanced culture and sport provision to communities where appetite and demand exists, with the long term expectation of cost savings related to improvements in health, wellbeing and community cohesion as a result in an increase or step change in participation).

2. ACHIEVEMENTS OF LIVING PLACES PARTNERSHIP WORKING AND THE LESSONS LEARNT

- 2.1 Partnership working in a Living Places context is split across three levels. In its original form, Living Places comprised a national programme and five Priority Places, with regional partnerships evolving and playing an increasingly prominent role in Year 2.
- 2.2 At the national level, partners had been working hard to embed Living Places within CLG, and also to better engage the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA). As noted in the Phase 1 report, NPG tactically developed a task based approach for both HCA and CLG to help them engage in the right Living Places debates (such as eco-towns, Community Infrastructure Levy, business planning etc.) on their (departmental) terms. The adoption of an 'as and when' approach to engagement reduced the time commitment expected from CLG and HCA in particular, and also allowed cultural agencies to focus on cultural business where appropriate, without the fear of putting off non cultural partners.
- 2.3 Consultation evidence suggests that this approach has resulted in enhanced discussions on issues such as eco towns and the Community Infrastructure Levy at the national level, and there is ongoing and developing evidence that this approach is being mirrored in regional partnership working. At the regional level, this flexibility allows partnerships to deliver and take opportunities relevant to their area (with the National Partners Group mandating regional partnerships only to support Priority Places and eco-towns, and engage in evaluation in the current (Year 3) of Living Places).
- 2.4 It was noted by some consultees that capacity within the NDPBs at the national level is likely to impact on the work of NPG (although a number of national consultees welcomed the reduction in frequency of NPG meetings). Furthermore at the regional level anticipated changes in staffing and resources may also impact on the ability of NDPB's to spend resources/time working together to the same extent as they have been able to in the past.
- 2.5 At the Priority Place level there is still work to be done in multi-issue partnerships to raise the profile of culture and sport on economic development and regeneration agendas (with one consultee making the analogy that "*culture and sport is regarded as championship level agenda item, whereas economic development is seen as being Premier League*"). In essence, where Living Places activity is discussed in partnership settings alongside other priorities, culture and sport does not have the same cache. This issue will be of increasing importance once the new structure of Local Economic Partnerships become established and active.
- 2.6 In June 2010, BIS and CLG asked local authorities and businesses to consider forming Local Economic Partnerships¹ (LEPs). Looking forward to the development of LEPs a number of partners noted that Pennine Lancashire and PUSH as sub regional groups of local authorities were arguably demonstrative of the most appropriate level to coordinate place based culture and support collaboration. Corby, whilst successful, is much more locality-focused, and this makes it more difficult for cultural agencies to have a collaborative impact, as local partners are already focused and working together.

¹ For more details please see

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/regeneration/economicgrowth/localenterprisepartnerships>

- 2.7 Given this, it is both notable and encouraging that a number of the Priority Place partnerships (notably Corby, PUSH and Pennine Lancashire) are already **engaging in debates about (LEP) structures**. For example, PUSH partners are looking at developing their partnership into an LEP, with the challenge for Living Places activity firstly being to ensure prominence on the LEP agenda, and secondly how to continue to support the capacity and expertise that Living Places partners have provided to PUSH.
- 2.8 Beyond the Priority Places, the regional Living Places/place shaping partnerships continue to have a strong role in the mainstream place based culture and sport agenda, with some evidence that regional cultural groups are strategically disengaging from a focus purely on Priority Places, towards dealing with a number of localities of priority. Key developments since the Phase 1 Report include successful West Midlands engagement with HCA around pilot impact work in East Birmingham, Stoke and Rugby, and evidence that place shaping thinking is embedded in MKSM, and in the development of the MKSM cultural strategy.
- 2.9 Another example is in Pennine Lancashire, where (as outlined in the Interim Report as the planned approach post April 2010) the partnership arrangements have now evolved into a regional partnership group for the cultural agencies and other key regional partners (with this group focusing on four localities of priority, including Pennine Lancashire), and the development of a sub regional group, in the form of a culture, sport and leisure sub group of PLACE, which is chaired by a local authority chief executive, has local government engagement, and has Living Places as part of the group's Terms of Reference.
- 2.10 In contrast, Corby's partnership meets infrequently, but significant activity and delivery is ongoing, and partners are engaged in LEP discussions with neighbouring local authorities. In PUSH, the Quality Panel is part of the MAA partnership arrangements, also evolving towards a LEP approach.
- 2.11 A separate partnership 'thinkpiece' is currently being developed by DC Research that will consider further partnership specific lessons as a result of the evaluation of the experiences in each of the five Priority Places in Year 2 (and also the Year 1 evaluation).
- 2.12 A number of consultees noted that there is significant crossover in terms of regional (and national) Living Places partnerships and cultural improvement partnerships. Given that the latter focus on new methods of delivery and provision of evidence around the impact of discretionary services, there may be opportunities to look at merged agendas. This might provide the basis for a future shift of Living Places into the wider culture and sport improvement and local government agenda.

In summary, it is clear that Living Places is moving into a transitional phase, and there is an emerging recognition that Priority Places agenda need to be driven by a locality based approach. This will allow place based culture and sport activity in development and regeneration to have a flexible work programme that is responsive to budgetary change and locality based priorities. In this context, it is vital that Living Places partners recognise that local authority relationships will be vital.

3. IMPACT OF THE CULTURE AND SPORT PLANNING TOOLKIT

- 3.1 Whilst the origins of the Culture and Sport Planning Toolkit (CSPT) were complex, there is consensus that the CSPT has evolved into a position where it represents significant and tangible achievement for Living Places partners. The CSPT is regarded by many as, perhaps, the single most useful thing that Living Places has delivered to date, with the successful delivery of the online Toolkit and a series of (in the main) well attended events and seminars being important for the credibility of the Living Places Programme.
- 3.2 There has been some concern that the language used in the CSPT was overly 'growth focused' and does not reflect the place shaping emphasis shifting towards regeneration. Additionally, the content of CSPT is seen by some consultees as being a bit too technical, especially for the attendees at the workshops.
- 3.3 There remains much thought and concern about the next steps for CSPT. In particular there is a need to develop a mechanism (at best) or a clear understanding (at least) as to the relevance and usefulness of the CSPT in supporting the development of culture and sport in places with existing heritage assets.
- 3.4 The results from the CSPT survey, which was originally carried out in February 2010m and has been repeated (in July 2010) for the Phase 2 Report, highlight a number of key findings around the toolkit.
- 3.5 First, in terms of **awareness**, the July 2010 survey shows that 91% of respondents were aware of the CSPT (up slightly from the 89% from February 2010 89%). Given that the largest proportion of respondents are planners (36%) this shows good awareness amongst one of the key target groups for the CSPT. However, these results about awareness need to acknowledge that the survey is only sent to those individuals that attended the CSPT events, and therefore high levels of awareness are to be expected. A survey of the general population of planners may yield quite different results.
- 3.6 Second, for both surveys, by far the two most **common routes** through which respondents **found out about the CSPT** were attendance at the regional events/seminars, and invitations to the events/seminars. This may indicate that attempts to further increase the awareness of the toolkit amongst key audiences should consider the provision of more such events.
- 3.7 Third, in terms of identifying the **key users of the CSPT**, the February survey identified local authority planners as those most commonly ranked first, followed by local authority cultural professionals. These same two groups were also ranked highest in the July 2010 survey. The July 2010 survey also identified local authority regeneration professionals as highly ranked, increasing in score since February, which may be an indication of the widening remit/focus of Living Places from growth/planning towards regeneration.
- 3.8 Fourth, to assess **awareness over time of the CSPT**, analysing results from both surveys shows that awareness was highest immediately after the regional events, with most respondents (50%²) describing their awareness at that point as being 'high'. The most common response for awareness prior to the regional events was no awareness (40% of respondents³), with awareness in February

² February 2010 CSPT survey

³ July 2010 CSPT survey

2010 being most commonly described as medium (49% of respondents⁴), and awareness in July 2010 most commonly being described as low (44% of respondents⁵). This shows that awareness has diminished between February and July, suggesting that ongoing activity is required to maintain (and further increase) the levels of awareness of the CSPT into the future.

- 3.9 Finally, **actual use of the CSPT** was reported by less than a quarter of respondents, (which is broadly similarly to the results from the March 2010 Survey), and the uses range from familiarisation with the toolkit, as an advocacy tool with planners in local authorities, to inform workshop discussions with local authorities, towards more tangible examples such as using it to help negotiate Section 106 contributions for arts and culture facilities in a 950 home development in a local authority district.
- 3.10 There is evidence of further work having been delivered regarding CSPT, notably in PUSH, Pennine Lancashire and the London Living Places partnership. Much of this work has involved building on the TCPA led seminars to ensure that CSPT is plugged into local development frameworks in areas where there is an appetite for culture and sport thinking in planning.
- 3.11 In **London**, a series of four workshops, hosted by different London Boroughs and designed to reach planners responsible for Local Development Frameworks, have been delivered. This has been followed with a grant programme that the 16 attending Boroughs are eligible to apply to. A total of five grants of a maximum of £10,000 is available for successful Boroughs to undertake a piece of specific improvement work related to the CSPT seminar.
- 3.12 In **Pennine Lancashire**, Masters level planning students at the University of Liverpool have 'applied' the CSPT as part of their course to test it out in a variety of locations and for potential developments in Pennine Lancashire. This use of the toolkit has led to evidence of the power of the toolkit (albeit in a theoretical setting), and some key lessons. The lessons identified included: the iterative nature of planning (and therefore consideration about the ordering of stages of the toolkit, especially around Stages 1 and 2); the complexity of the CSPT website (with reflections and feedback noting that whilst there is very useful material contained within the CSPT website, it can take some effort and time to find it); and the power of the toolkit (counter-balanced by the concern that only a small number of people from the target user audiences are actually aware of the toolkit).
- 3.13 In the **South West**, there has been a place shaping seminar with local authorities that built on the CSPT seminars, and provided a forum for engagement with the cultural agencies. In addition, Prof Elson has also been working with South Gloucestershire on CSPT and the libraries tariff.
- 3.14 It is clear that CSPT continues to be an important and tangible product of the Programme for Living Places partners. However, a number of consultees are concerned about the future of CSPT in the absence of a Living Places programme. CSPT is undoubtedly valuable work, but with radical changes to the planning system it is likely that different context for its application will emerge.
- 3.15 There is therefore a need to look at a re-contextualised approach for CSPT using the in-house expertise of those cultural agencies with well-established planning functions and specialisation (i.e. CABE, English Heritage, and Sport England).

⁴ February 2010 CSPT survey

⁵ July 2010 CSPT Survey

Such an approach would be to ensure that local authorities better understand cultural provision in places, and this may provide new opportunities for CSPT as the revised planning system emerges.

3.16 In terms of future activity around the CSPT, both surveys asked respondents what the key challenges are, and what the next steps should be. The key issues identified were:

- Making sure that the CSPT is **well publicised** in order to ensure that awareness is both maintained and increased. This could involve developing a **communications plan** (incorporating a range of the possible routes through which to publicise the CSPT).
- **Improving the evidence base for the CSPT** – including the incorporation of strong(er) case studies and examples of success into the website. This could include commissioning/supporting the use of the CSPT in specific areas (e.g. some of the Priority Places) to develop clear case studies and evidence of its use. This could build on the examples identified earlier in this section about the testing of the CSPT.
- Ensuring that there are **dedicated resources** in order to both **keep the CSPT current and** have resources **to continue to promote** and push the agenda to key target 'audiences'.
- More **promotion about the CSPT dedicated at/directed towards planners** (e.g. via planning authorities, planning journals, university courses, developing links to have the CSPT included as part of CPD for planners etc.)
- Suggestions that there is a **need for more roadshows and workshops** about the CSPT (to follow on from and build upon the 2009 regional events).
- Taking steps to **raise the profile of the CSPT with senior people** (e.g. chief executives and directors in local authorities) to ensure awareness and buy in is achieved.

Given the high levels of awareness amongst those that have engaged with the CSPT, highlighted by both the Year 2 CSPT surveys, partners now need to consider how this awareness is being translated into actual use and application of the CSPT. As such, measures for both the level of awareness and also the level of use of the CSPT are included within the Evaluation Framework proposed in Section 5 of this report.

In addition, future issues for the CSPT will include clarity on who should be responsible for the ongoing promotion, support and training, refreshing and maintenance of the CSPT (including the website).

4. EVIDENCE AND POLICY INFLUENCE

- 4.1 With regard to policy influence, the March 2010 Phase 1 Evaluation Report highlighted that there was little evidence to suggest that Living Places had achieved much in terms of influencing national policy in Year 2 at that point, and given the election and subsequent change in government, this largely remains the case.
- 4.2 Prior to the general election, there was a focus on activity around influencing the development of integrated regional strategies and Regional Development Agencies (RDAs), with some reported success in a number of regions. This included engagement with regional development agencies (notably with emda, Advantage West Midlands, Yorkshire Forward and SWRDA) in evidence base and integrated regional strategy development processes.
- 4.3 Despite recent announcements about the future of RDAs, some partners are confident that similar arguments and cases can be made to LEPs as they emerge. Living Places partners are now much more aware of the approaches and mechanisms through which planning and regeneration professionals can be influenced. Looking forward, partners in places will continue to need support and guidance about new structures and audiences to influence.
- 4.4 Table 4.1 sets out the LEP proposals relevant to each of the five Priority Places. It should be noted that at the time of writing, the Government is reviewing all 57 LEP proposals, a number of which overlap in terms of geography. Furthermore, it should not be assumed that local authorities have signed up to LEPs that cover their areas.
- 4.5 Table 4.1 shows that there are two proposals for each of Corby, Pennine Lancashire and PUSH, three Thames Gateway proposals, and a range for the South West. It is interesting to note the Kent-Essex proposal in the context of the Thames Gateway, and also the Tourism South East visitor economy proposal involving PUSH and Thames Gateway.

Table 4.1: Priority Places and Local Economic Partnerships

Priority Place	LEP	Constituent Local Authorities
Corby	Northamptonshire	Cross Roads of England - Northamptonshire CC and Districts (does not have support of districts)
	South East Midlands	Milton Keynes Council, Bedford BC, Central Bedfordshire Council, Luton BC, and Aylesbury Vale DC (Buckinghamshire); Cherwell DC (Oxfordshire); South Northamptonshire DC, Daventry DC, Northampton BC, Kettering BC and Corby BC (Northamptonshire)
Pennine Lancashire	Lancashire	Lancashire CC, Preston City Council, Lancaster City Council, South Ribble BC, Chorley BC, West Lancashire DC (The county has said the bid will cover the whole county area in opposition to Blackpool and Blackburn proposals)
	Pennine Lancashire	Blackburn with Darwen BC , Pendle BC, Ribble Valley BC, Burnley BC, Hyndburn BC, Rossendale BC
PUSH	Hampshire	Basingstoke and Deane BC, East Hampshire DC, Eastleigh BC, Fareham BC, New Forest DC, Portsmouth City Council, Southampton City Council, Winchester City Council, Gosport BC, Hart DC, Rushmoor DC, Test Valley DC
	Solent	Portsmouth City Council, Southampton City Council, Eastleigh BC, Fareham BC, Gosport BC, Havant BC, New Forest DC, Test Valley BC , Winchester City Council, and Isle of Wight Council
South West	Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole	Bournemouth BC, Dorset CC and its districts and the Borough of Poole
	Devon, Plymouth and Torbay	Devon CC and its districts, Torbay Council and Plymouth City Council
	Empowering Enterprise: Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly	Cornwall Council and the Isles of Scilly
	Gloucester, Swindon and Wiltshire	Gloucestershire CC and its districts, Swindon BC and Wiltshire CC
	Heart of the South West	Somerset CC, Taunton Deane BC, Sedgemoor DC, South Somerset DC, West Somerset DC
	South Somerset and East Devon	South Somerset DC and East Devon DC
	West of England	Bristol City Council, North Somerset Council, Bath & North East Somerset Council, South Gloucestershire Council
Thames Gateway	Bexley, Dartford, and Gravesham	Bexley LBC, Dartford BC and Gravesham BC
	Kent and Medway	Kent district councils and Medway Council
	Kent-Essex	Essex CC and Districts, Southend-on-Sea Council, Thurrock Council and Kent CC, Canterbury City Council, Dover DC, Shepway DC, Thanet DC
Thames Gateway, PUSH	Visitor Economy Southern England	Private sector-led bid submitted by Tourism South East. The bid is supported by the TSE's 54 local authority members.
Source: DC Research 2010, adapted from http://www.lgcplus.com/5018558.blog (accessed on 27th Sept 2010)		

- 4.6 More generally, there is continued potential for Priority Place activity to influence national policy and thinking, especially with the shift to locality based priorities driven by local demand as being the key agenda for government.
- 4.7 This potential for Priority Places is best exemplified by the December 2009 meeting of Chief Executives and other senior partners from each of the Priority Places, which was followed up by a joint letter to the DCMS Permanent Secretary, and was highlighted in the Phase 1 Report as a significant development. Whilst there has been a general election, a change of government, and a focus on budget cuts and structures, a number of Priority Place consultees are disappointed that **there has not been a response** to this letter to date. It should be noted that DCMS have replied to say that they wish to brief ministers before committing to any further engagement.
- 4.8 Partners are aware of the challenges in engaging with LEPs given cultural agency budget cuts and restructuring, and also the fact that there will be more individual LEPs to engage with compared to RDAs – something which will further stretch capacity for engagement. As a result the cultural agencies may well need to prioritise engagement, and this may well lead to focus on localities where culture and sport is already a priority in place based development and regeneration.
- 4.9 In terms of evidence base, the revised and revamped Living Places website is increasingly viewed as a one-stop shop pointing to evidence of key research and toolkit style information.
- 4.10 Further to the website, the evidence base has been broadened as a result of the completion of a number of studies and research projects that have been noted in previous evaluation reports. Moving forwards, it is expected that the DCMS CASE (Culture and Sport Evidence) Programme will become the route for all joint research and evidence across the cultural agencies, and Living Places will need to ensure that any communication of evidence is well linked to this in the future.
- 4.11 Since the March 2010 Phase 1 report, additional evidence related activity has included the completion of Community Archives research in Corby (Corby Community Archive Project, Our Corby, which was accompanied by an evaluation framework) and Pennine Lancashire (Valley of Stone), and the London Living Places CSPT Grants Fund and CSPT seminars, as well as ongoing work in Canning Town, and more recently in Woolwich.
- 4.12 **Pennine Lancashire** has developed an increasing sub-regional influence, with the establishment of the culture, sport and leisure sub group of PLACE allowing culture and sport to be better engaged with the local authorities in Pennine Lancashire through this group. The current development of the Cultural Investment Plan in Pennine Lancashire is involving key stakeholders and partners, including local authority representatives thereby ensuring the engagement of local government in the development of the Plan.
- 4.13 In addition, since the Phase 1 Interim Report, a Pennine Lancashire Living Places Manager has been appointed and is now in post, and it is anticipated that this post will provide additional capacity and capability to enable culture and sport to be even better engaged and influential in key local government and place shaping agendas across the sub region.
- 4.14 Partners are more optimistic about the **South West**, with place shaping being a significant agenda item for the South West Cultural Officers Group, where CABE and SWRDA are regular attendees in addition to the cultural agencies. Nevertheless, the jury is still out in terms of Living Places related evidence and

impact in the region, and whilst there has been some project specific activity (for example, the Our Place Empty Shops project in Taunton) some consultees have commented that this often lacks sustainable impacts beyond the project lifetime.

- 4.15 In **Corby**, the swimming pool has recently celebrated the first anniversary of its opening (with three times as many people using the pool in comparison to the old facilities), and the Cube is nearing completion. As a result, partners are looking to see evidence of ongoing programming in Corby as the core physical infrastructure development nears completion.
- 4.16 Corby also represents a powerful example of the 'mainstreaming' of Living Places activity, because whilst the Corby Priority Place Partnership meets infrequently (and has not met formally since October 2009), there is plenty of evidence of Living Places related activity on an ongoing basis. For example, in addition to the Pool and Cube work, there has been the completion of Community Archives research, the development of shared theatre management in readiness for the opening of the Cube (with the Royal & Derngate in Northampton - an interesting development that could be replicated elsewhere if successful), as well as a range of related activity.
- 4.17 With regard to **PUSH**, the Cultural Coordinator role is being increasingly successful at making connections and linking activities and projects together. For example further CSPT/design guidance related work has been delivered, and the Quality Places work plan has included engagement with the Portsmouth Harbour redevelopment, and the new Southampton arts centre. There are expectations that PUSH will become an early LEP, providing an opportunity for Living Places thinking to operate inside these new structures.
- 4.18 The **North Kent** cultural partnership has developed an agreed action plan with substantial place shaping elements supported by case study evidence and 'killer facts'. The partnership includes local authorities, and is funding the cultural coordinator paid for by the partnership.
- 4.19 In **South Essex**, progress is being made in Southend, with East of England work ongoing on eco-towns, MKSM, and with Peterborough as a regional priority place.

Looking forward, consultees expect that the Priority Place Partnerships will add to the evidence base, and will continue to make the case for the involvement of Culture and Sport in development and regeneration to Government and to emerging economic development structures.

In this context, it is vital that Priority Places are supported in initiatives such as the joint letter sent to DCMS in December 2009.

5. DEVELOPMENT OF A EVALUATION FRAMEWORK FOR LIVING PLACES

- 5.1 Part of the remit of the Year 2 Evaluation of Living Places has been to develop an Evaluation Framework for Living Places. The Evaluation Framework aims to provide an ongoing means of evaluating the achievements of Living Places – focusing on the achievements at Priority Place level, although it has been developed in such a way that it should be applicable to any locality/place. The Framework therefore focuses on identifying the contribution of Living Places (culture and sport) towards regeneration and growth in the Priority Places.
- 5.2 The Evaluation Framework has been developed using the project logic chain approach (such as that outlined in the Logic Model Development Guide by the WK Kellogg Foundation⁶, and the Off-PAT Project Advice Note 2/06⁷) and is structured around the core elements of this approach (i.e. resources/inputs, activities, outputs, outcomes and impact).
- 5.3 Adopting this logic chain approach is appropriate for the development of an Evaluation Framework for the Living Places Programme, and it is an approach (the project logic chain) that has underpinned recent frameworks developed and evaluations being carried out within culture. For example, this approach underpinned the development of Cultural Impact Frameworks for leisure and culture services (e.g. in Wigan for the Leisure and Culture Trust and in Knowsley for the local authority), the draft Culture and Sport Outcomes Framework from Local Government Improvement and Development (formerly I&DeA), as well as the evaluations of the Sea Change Programme and other programmes.
- 5.4 The Evaluation Framework has been developed throughout the latter stages of the Living Places Year 2 evaluation process, and in order to achieve engagement and buy-in from the key partners about the development of the Evaluation Framework, a combination of group discussions have taken place (or are forthcoming) in each Priority Place (with the exception of Thames Gateway). In addition to which, the one-to-one discussions carried out for this evaluation have also sought the views of partners about the applicability, focus, development and content of the Evaluation Framework. These consultations have helped to influence the structure and content of the Evaluation Framework, as well as helping to ensure that the framework is useful to Priority Places and builds on the role and purpose of Living Places in their area.

Aims of Living Places / Previous Evaluation Framework

- 5.5 An important first step for the development of any evaluation framework (or impact framework) is identification of the key aims of the Programme.
- 5.6 As currently stated (<http://living-places.org.uk/about-living-places.html>), the aim of living places is to *“ensure that all communities, particularly those experiencing housing-led growth and regeneration, can benefit from cultural and sporting opportunities. By working together, the partners will ensure that culture is embedded in the development of our villages, towns and cities alongside other key areas of provision such as healthcare and transport”*.
- 5.7 More precisely, the aims of the Living Places Programme are to:

⁶ <http://www.wkkgf.org/knowledge-center/resources/2010/Logic-Model-Development-Guide.aspx>

⁷ Project Advice Note 2/06 – A Project Logic Chain (PLC) Approach, Off-PAT, 2006

- Align investment from the sporting and cultural sector across organisational boundaries so it can be used more efficiently for people and places.
- Provide information, advice and support on the use of culture and sport in sustainable communities to people working in local government, housing, property development, planning and a host of other fields who take the day-to-day decisions that shape communities of the future.
- Build the capacity of communities themselves so people can be empowered to bring cultural and sporting activity and infrastructure to their communities.

5.8 Whilst recent documents have highlighted or restated these aims in slightly different ways, these three statements are thought to represent the clearest articulation of the aims of the Living Places Programme. It should also be noted that a previous Evaluation Framework has been developed for Living Places. This previous framework was developed by MLA in January 2009 and focused on Year 1 of Living Places.

5.9 Seven success criteria were outlined in the original framework and these are the success criteria that have underpinned the Year 1 and Year 2 Evaluations of Living Places. The seven criteria, which were used to show how programme success could be measured were:

- Criterion 1: A strategy to respond both geographically and thematically to tackle our agreed challenges and opportunities.
- Criterion 2: A clear plan for supporting effective cultural provision in the Priority Place areas.
- Criterion 3: Effective partnership working by the key delivery agencies to the agreement.
- Criterion 4: Influencing progress on developing an evidence base for culture within communities.
- Criterion 5: Influencing progress in influencing the issues of access to cultural opportunity in strategically selected places.
- Criterion 6: Influencing new policies and programmes relating to sustainable communities to ensure they contain appropriate provision for culture.
- Criterion 7: Best Practice and Learning: Share good practice & identify learning opportunities emerging from new ways of working.

5.10 The version of the Evaluation Framework presented below gives due recognition to this previous framework, whilst ensuring that the new framework captures not only the process mechanisms and partnership development, but also considers the impacts and achievements of Living Places.

Evaluation Framework - Perspectives from Stakeholders

5.11 As part of the evaluation process, partners and focus group discussions considered the issues and factors relating to the development of a Living Places Evaluation Framework. In broad terms, partners were receptive to capturing Priority Place evidence and impacts although **many struggled to pin down what specific activities and outcomes could be measured**. In addition, some partners were sceptical as to the extent to which added value from Living Places related activity could be differentiated from pre-existing priorities and commitments. These partners strongly advocated the role of leadership, relationships, local ambition, and the ability to make the most out of

opportunities as the key factors contributing to the successful contribution of Living Places (culture and sport) in development and regeneration.

- 5.12 A number of consultees commented that the framework must not over focus on process mechanisms and partnerships, as this element of the Living Places story is already regarded as having been well covered through the Year 1 and Year 2 Evaluations. This was slightly contrasted by those stakeholders who suggested the Evaluation Framework should ideally capture the influencing factors that make places and localities receptive to the inclusion of culture and sport in place shaping, thus allowing NDPB to spot these factors and include them in future decision-making approaches (**receptive places and receptive people**). These factors were also described as 'enabling factors' or 'enabling conditions'.
- 5.13 Others felt that the focus should be what has happened or been delivered in localities and should exclusively be about the Priority Places (and not about national and regional partnerships). In addition, partners suggested that the Evaluation Framework needs to attempt to outline ways for assessing the extent to which being a Priority Place has made a difference in terms of what would have had happened anyway.

Elements of the Evaluation Framework

- 5.14 Bringing these views together, it can be surmised that the evaluation framework should set out the elements that need to be measured in order to judge the success of Living Places. However, many partners acknowledge the **difficulty in ascribing quantitative measures** to some of the outcomes from culture and sport - for example it will be very difficult to judge whether quality-of-life has improved in place as a result of the inclusion of culture and sport thinking in planning and design.
- 5.15 There are some key **enabling factors** that have been mentioned by consultees – these need to be reflected in the evaluation framework, as the simple counting of some of the inputs, activities (and outputs) is not able to reflect these appropriately – e.g. strength of partnership working, delivery of the elements of a strategy that relate to culture).
- 5.16 As a result, the best short to medium term success measures are thought to remain being those around the awareness of the role of culture and sport amongst planners, developers, and economic development professionals. Such intermediate outcomes (which are influence rather than delivery based) still track valuable activity, and developing an approach around these measures can be a cost-effective approach of assessing success (which is important given the current and future need to deliver on significantly reduced budgets).
- 5.17 One approach for assessing the contribution of Living Places in this way is to develop metrics around both the awareness of, and the use of (and eventually the outcome and impact from) the toolkits, websites, case studies, evidence and research that Living Places has either delivered directly or has contributed towards.
- 5.18 As an example, PUSH's Quality Panel judges progress in quantifiable terms around the development of facilities, partnership, engagement and awareness, and the use of tools such as CSPT, Section 106 culture outcomes, and the Standard Charge.
- 5.19 Influencing and enabling factors to capture in the framework could also include a qualitative assessment of the additional value that 'Priority Place' status and focus

achieved. Furthermore, other influencing and enabling factors that partners feel are part of what Living Places is about, and should be captured as best as possible in the Evaluation Framework include: assessing the level of influence of Living Places on key stakeholders, and the ways in which cultural agency collaboration adds value.

- 5.20 In summary, drawing from the views from the consultations it can be concluded that, if Living Places achieves its objectives, it will be reasonable to expect that in five years time:
- Success will equate to new communities and regenerated communities with cultural provision/offer appropriate to need and demand.
 - There will be evidence of practical examples of Living Places products being used and tangible benefits being derived (standard charge, CSPT etc).
 - There will be tangible examples of financial leveraged as a result of Living Places activity (such as £ invested in particular localities in culture and sport).
 - There will be evidence of a step change in participation rates in culture and sport where investment has been made.

The Evaluation Framework

- 5.21 The evaluation framework is presented in the table below. It follows the project logic chain approach (as outlined by W.K. Kellogg Foundation (2004), Off-PAT (2006) etc.), and is structured around: objectives, inputs, activities, outputs, outcomes and impacts.
- 5.22 The core question for the Evaluation Framework is what difference has Living Places made, and to that extent, the measurement of the inputs, activities and outputs are important (alongside the enabling factors) in showing what the added value of Living Places has been. The extent to which these inputs, activities and outputs can be linked to the achievement of outcomes and impacts will vary from place to place. The Evaluation Framework makes no explicit or implicit assumptions about causality or attribution, but is presented as a logical and plausible approach to showing the achievements and impact of Living Places.
- 5.23 Following the presentation of the evaluation framework, a number of issues around the potential application of the framework are noted.

Evaluation of Living Places Programme Year 2

Table 5.1: Evaluation Framework					
Objectives	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Impacts
<p>Align investment from the sporting and cultural sector across organisational boundaries so it can be used more efficiently for people and places.</p> <p>Provide information, advice and support on the use of culture and sport in sustainable communities to people working in local government, housing, property development, planning and a host of other fields who take the day-to-day decisions that shape communities of the future.</p> <p>Build the capacity of communities themselves so people can be empowered to bring cultural and sporting activity and infrastructure to their communities</p>	<p>Financial resources from Priority Place partners</p> <p>In kind resources (especially person time) from Priority Place partners</p> <p>Skills and capabilities of individual partners to support various Living Places activities</p>	<p>Provision of LP website</p> <p>Development and provision of CSPT resources</p> <p>Development of Living Places case studies</p> <p>Delivery of CSPT workshops and events</p> <p>Priority Place partnership meetings</p> <p>Development of cultural strategy / plans for Priority Places</p> <p>Supporting Priority Place project development</p> <p>Commissioning of Priority Place research and evidence</p> <p>Increasing the national/regional profile of the Priority Place</p>	<p>Number of unique hits on Living Places websites</p> <p>Number of unique hits on CSPT website</p> <p>Level of awareness of CSPT (amongst planners and development professionals)</p> <p>Levels of attendance at Living Places events</p> <p>Levels of attendance at CSPT events</p> <p>Completion of cultural strategy/plan for Priority Places</p> <p>Number of research/evidence reports produced</p> <p>Number of Living Places case studies produced</p> <p>Levels of attendance at partnership meetings</p> <p>Profile visits to Priority Places (e.g. Ministerial and Executive visits)</p>	<p>Number of core regeneration and development strategies with references to culture and sport</p> <p>Use of CSPT by planners and developers (in new developments)</p> <p>Discussion of Culture and Sport at high level development / regeneration agendas and meetings</p> <p>Level of investment in culture and sport from 'non culture' sources into Priority Places</p> <p>Level of additional investment in culture and sport from cultural resources into Priority Places</p> <p>Engagement of cultural representatives in key locality partnerships</p> <p>Creation of cultural/ Living Places partnership in wider mainstream partnership structures (e.g. MAA)</p>	<p>Participation levels in culture and sport (in Priority Places)</p> <p>Percent of population within x distance/x time from a cultural/ sport facility</p> <p>Percent of GDP that is culture and sport related</p>
Source: DC Research 2010					

Issues for consideration in the application of the evaluation framework

- 5.24 Table 5.1 sets out an Evaluation Framework for Living Places based on the Kellogg Foundation's Logic Model Development Guide. Firstly, it should be noted that the Evaluation Framework does not cover general culture and sport provision and participation, with outcomes for culture and sport generally being captured in the Culture and Sport Outcomes Framework, currently in draft form being developed by Local Government Improvement and Development (formerly I&DEA).
- 5.25 Furthermore, a number of points should be noted about the Evaluation Framework's potential to be fully implemented which were raised/acknowledged by partners during the consultations about the development of such a framework. These points include:
- Whether the data/evidence required is collectable, and who is responsible for its collection.
 - The frequency of data/evidence collection.
 - Issues around data/evidence quality and consistency, and in establishing a baseline and outcome position.
 - The need to accept that in many cases longitudinal evidence is needed to properly evaluate priority place impacts.
 - Assessing the level of awareness of CSPT (amongst planners and development professionals) with different groups assessed. For example variances between Priority Places, CSPT event attendees and local authorities in general.
 - The extent to which the counterfactual scenario for each Priority Place (including how the Living Places and Priority Place priorities could have been delivered differently) can only be understood on the basis of qualitative judgement.

6. CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY

- 6.1 Living Places remains a programme that is driven by a number of key individuals in places who are passionate advocates about the role of culture and sport in successful communities, and the importance of embedding culture and sport in regenerating existing communities, and planning and delivering future communities.
- 6.2 At the end of Year 2, there is an emerging consensus that Living Places is no longer a programme, but a focus for activity at the national level, and in five Priority Places. In essence, regional activity is now mainstreamed through regional cultural arrangements and could be seen as **a series of sensible responses to local circumstances through collaborative mechanisms**. Through Living Places alongside a range of other mechanisms, collaboration on culture is now much better established at national, regional and locality levels than was the case at the start of the programme.
- 6.3 Therefore at the end of Year 2, Living Places has clearly played an active role in influencing thinking about culture and sport in place shaping, and has delivered much through the five Priority Places (to varying degrees), and through regional partnership arrangements. However, it is also fair to conclude that Living Places has not reduced the number of separate funding streams, or embedded in the notion that services are more important than buildings. Nevertheless Living Places Partnerships can be confident that culture and sport will be well provided for in localities with good local cultural leadership.
- 6.4 Living Places was established as programme in a very different set of circumstances, and with quite different relationships between the cultural NDPB's. At the time it was announced, the Living Places approach was innovative and in retrospect it was prudent to take a collaborative approach.
- 6.5 In this context, it is fair to conclude that the key products (CSPT, web based resources and evidence to support the Standard Charge) would not have happened without Living Places, and that the Programme has contributed towards improved engagement (and understanding of priorities) between NDPBs, and between NDPBs and CLG and other public sector development bodies (such as the HCA and some RDAs). In addition, Living Places has broadened NDPB understanding of wider development and regeneration agendas, especially at the regional and place based level.
- 6.6 From a Priority Place perspective, the Living Places NDPB's have delivered a higher level of time resource-based investment than might otherwise not have occurred, as well as convincing wider national partners as to the value of cultural investment in development and regeneration.

At the end of the second year of Living Places, the notion that culture is important part of place shaping is largely accepted, and it is reasonable to attribute a proportion of this acceptance to the Living Places Programme.

Legacy and Next Steps for Living Places

- 6.7 In terms of legacy, there is consensus that the Living Places Programme has coincided with significant improvements in dialogue and partnership working between the cultural agencies in localities, in regions, and at the national level. Whilst Living Places is by no means solely responsible for this development, it has

provided an agenda and a set of place-based priorities through which enhanced partnership working can work towards tangible outcomes.

- 6.8 There are mixed views and perspectives as to the future of Living Places, with consensus being split around continuation in the consolidated form, and a cessation of programme activity:
- Living Places in a consolidated form could include the Living Places website, the CSPT and signposting; support to the regional partnerships in the provision of mainstream activity, support to eco-towns; and the fostering of a collective Priority Place network to track long-term outcomes and capture this practice.
 - A contrary perspective set out by some consultees is that Living Places should not exist a separate programme, and all activity should be mainstreamed (this might include approaches around partnership working or technical planning processes).
- 6.9 Moving forwards, there may well be value in positioning Living Places as an example of programme work in the future. Given its history and future budgetary constraints, approaches to support collaboration and mainstreaming in localities to add value to local priorities are likely to be well received. For example:
- Corby, Pennine Lancashire and PUSH were places that had already placed significant emphasis on culture and sport in regeneration, and in the context of the locality choice driven policy direction of the new government, there is an opportunity to positively showcase the successes of Living Places – especially at the locality level.
 - This could be reinforced by an argument that suggests that regional and pan regional approaches to place-based development are not appropriate or deliverable based on the experiences of the South West and Thames Gateway as Priority Place models.
- 6.10 Nevertheless, there is potential for LEPs to be developed in PUSH and Pennine Lancashire, and the existence of Priority Places means that Living Places thinking is well-placed to exert influence. Furthermore LEPs in North Kent, Milton Keynes and Northamptonshire will benefit from the influence and legacy of the programme.

Aligning Living Places to emerging locality based approaches

- 6.11 Critically, it can be argued that there was demand for culture and sport based place shaping in Corby, Pennine Lancashire and PUSH, and that Living Places was able to help meet that demand. Such arguments can help Living Places align with a policy focus based on locality demand (i.e. what communities actually want). This suggests therefore that Living Places activity should focus on supporting localities to develop their 'ask' for culture and sport investment (as opposed to NDPB's developing their 'offers'). In short, national and regional partners should not be looking to directly influence activity delivered in places, but to support it.
- 6.12 Moving forwards, it is important that the underpinning rationale of Living Places is appropriately positioned by the NDPBs in the context of the coalition Government's policy priorities, and both CLG and DCMS are keen to see such a repositioning. It is clear that this approach must have decentralisation, locality working and local decision-making as its focus, and must not be prescriptive. Put simply, such approaches have got to be useful to local government, and need to

be focused on connectivity, sharing of good practice, and the use of evidence that recognises what works and what does not.

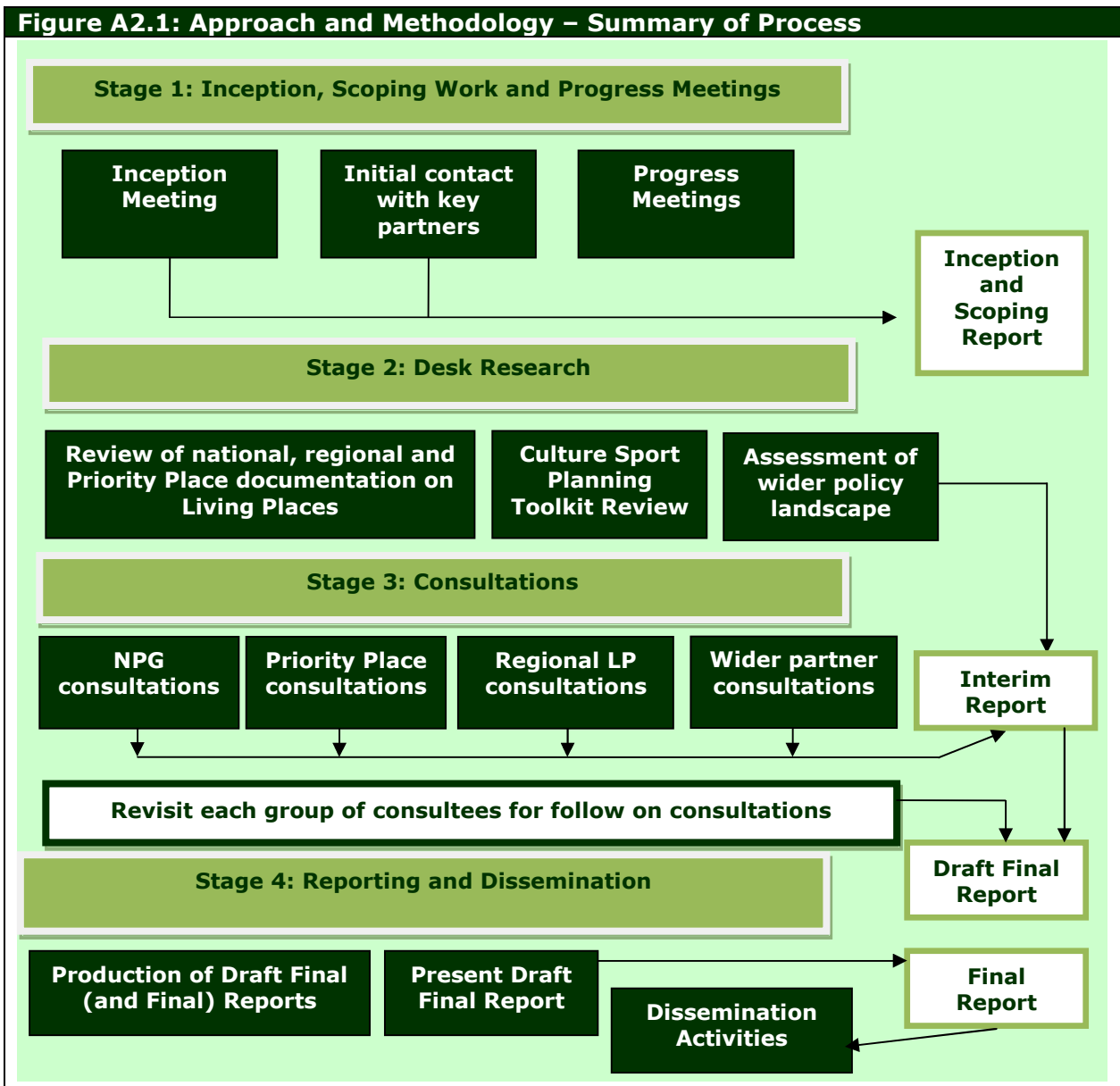
- 6.13 It is therefore important that Living Places partners quickly establish what elements of the programme can support the thinking of the new government, and sit well with clear priorities about localism and local choice, and which do not. Consultees have suggested that Living Places activity has potential to be very transferable if the focus of argument and advocacy is based on Priority Place activity, and related products (such as CSPT). The progress that has been made in terms of agency place partnership working would be best presented in a mainstreamed context.
- 6.14 Finally, a number of consultees made reference to the preventative (e.g. health) and supportive (e.g. community development and education) role of culture and sport. This should be considered / further developed in any policy repositioning of Living Places and the role of culture and sport in place shaping to include location, place based budgeting and investing to prevent long-term problems.

APPENDIX 1: CONSULTEES

Name	Organisation
Ruth Alleyne	Sport England
Brian Ashley	MLA
Jim Barrett	Sport England
Sam Bestwick	MLA
Paul Bodenham	English Heritage
Tom Bolton	CABE
Tim Brennan	English Heritage
Paul Bristow	MLA
Andy Brown	English Heritage
Roy Clare	MLA
Liz Clare	English Heritage
Jo Clark	Regenerate Pennine Lancashire
Caroline Corfe	ACE
Russell Coughtrey	DCMS / Government Office East Midlands
J Devereux	Corby Borough Council
Frances Downie	Regenerate Pennine Lancashire
Karen Durham	Arts Council Yorkshire
Simon Eden	Winchester City Council
Jon Finch	MLA
Charles Freeman	PUSH
Frank Gordon	DCLG
Trevor Gough	MLA
Caroline Hack	MLA
Veronica Howe	MLA
Sue Hughes	MLA
Liz Johnson	MLA
Nathan Lee	MLA Council
Rose Lubega	DCMS
Chris Mallender	Corby Borough Council
Louisa Moore	English Heritage
Mark Pearson	CABE
Guy Purdey	MLA
Richard Russell	Arts Council England
Julia Stuckey	SWRDA
Russell Turner	Sport England
Claire Tymon	Regenerate Pennine Lancashire
David Waterhouse	DCLG
Sue Wilkinson	MLA

APPENDIX 2: SUMMARY OF APPROACH

The approach and method being adopted for this Evaluation Study is summarised in Figure A2.1 below. The method is effectively a four stage approach, covering early inception and scoping work; desk research and document review; consultations with partners – including face to face meetings, as well as the use of two surveys; refreshes of these consultations, and development and presentations of reports.



Stages 1, 2 and the first elements of Stage 3 were completed ahead of the finalisation of the interim report in March 2010.

This report comprises of the findings of Stage 4, involving further consultations with key Living Places Partners, a refresh of the CSPT Survey of both of the e-survey tools, and engaging with Priority Place Partnerships on the development of the Evaluation Framework.

For the interim report (March 2010) a total of consultations (primarily by face to face meetings, supported on occasion by telephone discussions) were undertaken, with a further 39 undertaken in June and July 2010 for this report (most of which were one – to –one discussions, with some being group based. The June and July discussions focused on the Evaluation Framework in addition to discussion on a wide range of aspects of Living Places, with the specific issues discussed being those most relevant to the individual consultees. The list of consultees is provided in Appendix 1.

In addition, the February CSPT Survey was re-run for this report in July 2010. Both surveys focused on gathering the views of relevant individuals on a range of aspects of the CSPT – including general awareness, attendance and perspectives on the regional events, awareness and use of the CSPT website, usefulness of the CSPT, and any examples of use and early impact of the Toolkit. As in the CSPT survey for the March interim report, the second the CSPT survey was sent to all those that attended, or expressed an interest in attending, the regional (and other) CSPT events. This resulted in a total of around 400 emails being sent out (a number of which bounced back due to email address issues).

A total of 91 usable replies were received for the February 2010 survey, and – equating to a response rate of close to 25% (once the failed emails are removed from the original list). 97 usable replies were received for the July 2010 survey, a similar response.

APPENDIX 3: SUMMARY OF CSPT SURVEY FINDINGS

Which sector do you work in?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Public sector	87.4%	83
Private Sector	9.5%	9
Other (please specify)	3.2%	3
answered question		95

Which of the following best describes your remit/role?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Planning	36.3%	29
Arts	6.3%	5
Sports / Leisure	17.5%	14
Housing	0.0%	0
Museums / Heritage	2.5%	2
Green Space	0.0%	0
Communities	3.8%	3
Libraries	2.5%	2
Regeneration	5.0%	4
Other (please specify)	26.3%	21
answered question		80

At which geographic scale does your role within your organisation primarily operate at:		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Local	70.1%	61
Sub regional	10.3%	9
Regional	8.0%	7
Pan regional	2.3%	2
National	3.4%	3
Other	5.7%	5
If you have ticked 'other', please specify below:		6
answered question		87

Are you aware of the CSPT?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	91.3%	84
No	8.7%	8
answered question		92

How did you originally become aware of the CSPT? Please tick ALL that apply.		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Living Places Website	10.3%	8
Living Places Newsletter	3.8%	3
From my professional organisation (e.g. TCPA, RTPI, Planning Institute, etc.)	14.1%	11
Trade press	2.6%	2
General press/media	3.8%	3
Invitation to the regional CSPT Events/seminars	35.9%	28
Attendance at the regional CSPT Events/seminars	43.6%	34
From a colleague	15.4%	12
Other (please specify)	11.5%	9
answered question		78

Who do you think are the main intended user(s) of the CSPT? Please rank each group in terms of their importance as intended users of CSPT.							
	1 – first	2 – second	3 – third	4 – fourth	N/A	Rating Average	Response Count
Planner - local authority	43	8	6	1	0	1.40	58
Planner – other public sector	15	24	7	3	0	1.96	49
Planner – private sector	9	21	14	5	1	2.31	50
Developers	9	29	9	8	0	2.29	55
Regeneration professional - local authority	29	11	10	2	0	1.71	52
Regeneration professional – other public sector	12	22	9	2	0	2.02	45
Regeneration professional – private sector	8	15	19	3	0	2.38	45
Cultural professional - local authority	33	13	6	2	0	1.57	54
Cultural professional – other public sector	12	23	8	4	0	2.09	47
Cultural professional – private sector	9	10	17	8	0	2.55	44
Other	3	0	0	2	4	2.20	9
If you ticked 'Other' please specify below							3
answered question							60

Did you attend any of the CSPT Regional Events/Seminars that took place in late 2009?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	73.5%	50
No	26.5%	18
<i>answered question</i>		68

How useful was attending the event from your perspective?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Very useful	27.7%	13
Moderately useful	29.8%	14
Mildly useful	40.4%	19
Not at all useful	2.1%	1
Please briefly describe the most useful aspect from your perspective		25
<i>answered question</i>		47

Please rank your awareness of the CSPT on the scale below, for each of the three key points:				
	Awareness before the regional events	Awareness immediately after the regional events (late 2009)	Awareness now (July 2010)	Response Count
Very high	5	10	5	11
High	3	19	5	21
Medium	11	11	13	28
Low	7	5	20	25
None	17	0	2	19
Don't know	0	0	0	0
<i>answered question</i>				45

For non attenders at events only:

Were you aware of the regional events?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	61.1%	11
No	38.9%	7
<i>answered question</i>		18

For non attenders at events only:

What were the main reason(s) that you did not attend? Please tick ALL that apply.		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Local of event(s) not close enough to me	0.0%	0
Did not have time to attend	18.2%	2
Clashed with other meetings/work	63.6%	7
Did not see the relevance of the events to me	0.0%	0
Felt I was already sufficiently aware of the CSPT	18.2%	2
Other (please specify)	9.1%	1
answered question		11

For non attenders at events only:

How far would you be willing to travel for further training on the CSPT?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Locally only	18.2%	2
Anywhere within wider sub-region	54.5%	6
Anywhere within the region	36.4%	4
Anywhere in the country	0.0%	0
Other (please specify)	0.0%	0
answered question		11

Are you aware of the CSPT website (http://www.living-places.org.uk/culture-and-sport-planning-toolkit)		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	91.0%	61
No	9.0%	6
answered question		67

For those not aware of website:

Now that you are aware of the website, how likely is it that you will visit it?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Very likely	14.3%	1
Quite likely	14.3%	1
Not very likely	42.9%	3
Not at all likely	28.6%	2
I will not visit it	0.0%	0
answered question		7

Have you visited the CSPT website (http://www.living-places.org.uk/culture-and-sport-planning-toolkit)		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	80.0%	44
No	20.0%	11
answered question		55

When did you first visit the website?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
January 2009	16.2%	6
February 2009	2.7%	1
March 2009	8.1%	3
April 2009	2.7%	1
May 2009	2.7%	1
June 2009	8.1%	3
July 2009	8.1%	3
August 2009	0.0%	0
September 2009	13.5%	5
October 2009	10.8%	4
November 2009	10.8%	4
December 2009	13.5%	5
January 2010	2.7%	1
February 2010	0.0%	0
answered question		37

When did you most recently visit the website?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
January 2009	5.7%	2
February 2009	2.9%	1
March 2009	2.9%	1
April 2009	2.9%	1
May 2009	2.9%	1
June 2009	2.9%	1
July 2009	2.9%	1
August 2009	0.0%	0
September 2009	2.9%	1
October 2009	8.6%	3
November 2009	2.9%	1
December 2009	8.6%	3
January 2010	2.9%	1
February 2010	8.6%	3
March 2010	8.6%	3
April 2010	8.6%	3
May 2010	2.9%	1
June 2010	2.9%	1
July 2010	20.0%	7
answered question		35

Approximately, how often have you visited the CSPT website in total?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Only once	31.1%	14
2 to 5 times	51.1%	23
6 to 10 times	6.7%	3
More than 10 times	11.1%	5
answered question		45

Did the website provide you with what you were looking for?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	78.6%	33
No	21.4%	9
answered question		42

How user-friendly do you find the website?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Very easy to use	6.4%	3
Easy to use	44.7%	21
Fairly easy to use	40.4%	19
Not very easy to use	6.4%	3
Difficult to use	0.0%	0
Very difficult to use	2.1%	1
answered question		47

How useful do you feel each of the five stages of the CSPT (and the overall CSPT) has been so far for you?							
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5	Overall CSPT	Response Count
Very useful	6	5	7	5	4	6	10
Moderately useful	6	11	9	9	9	11	16
Mildly useful	19	15	15	15	15	13	20
Not at all useful	6	6	6	7	7	6	8
Don't know	6	6	6	7	8	7	8
answered question							44

Looking forward, how useful do you envisage each of the five stages of the CSPT (and the overall CSPT) may be in the future for you?							
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5	Overall CSPT	Response Count
Potentially very useful	8	9	8	8	7	10	13
Potentially moderately useful	13	13	13	13	13	12	18
Potentially mildly useful	14	13	14	13	15	12	17
Likely to be of no use at all	4	4	4	3	4	3	5
Don't know	4	4	4	4	4	5	5
<i>answered question</i>							44

Have you used all or part of the CSPT already?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	23.1%	12
No	76.9%	40
<i>answered question</i>		52

How aware are you of the EXISTENCE of the Living Places Programme?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Very aware	27.4%	17
Moderately aware	38.7%	24
Slightly aware	22.6%	14
Not at all aware	11.3%	7
<i>answered question</i>		62

How aware are you of the AIMS of the Living Places Programme?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Very aware	17.7%	11
Moderately aware	30.6%	19
Slightly aware	29.0%	18
Not at all aware	22.6%	14
<i>answered question</i>		62

How aware are you that the CSPT is part of the Living Places Programme?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Very aware	27.9%	17
Moderately aware	29.5%	18
Slightly aware	23.0%	14
Not at all aware	19.7%	12
<i>answered question</i>		61

In summary, will the CSPT help you in delivering / influencing the role of culture & sport in planning, development and regeneration?		
	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	35.0%	21
No	21.7%	13
Don't know	43.3%	26
<i>answered question</i>		60