

## **A contract for young people**

### **Give you better training**

We will:

- establish Technical Academies across England, starting in at least twelve cities, to develop proper vocational and technical education that engages young people;
- provide a huge range of extra training opportunities, with 400,000 apprenticeship, training and college places over two years;
- give small and medium-sized businesses a £2,000 bonus for every apprentice they hire;
- create a range of business-led training places to help young people on the road to employment, with 50,000 places in the hospitality and leisure industry to begin with;
- fund 10,000 extra university places in 2010, paid for by introducing an early repayment discount on student loans; and,
- create a new all-age careers service so that everyone can access the advice they need.

### **Support you to find work**

We will:

- scrap Labour's jobs tax – their increase in National Insurance from 2011 – which would kill the recovery and cost jobs;
- by the end of 2010, create a single *Work Programme* to replace Labour's failed employment programmes – giving unprecedented levels of support to young people looking for work;
- make sure unemployed young people are given immediate help to find a job, as well as intensive support as soon as they need it – immediately for those really struggling to find work, and at six months for the under 25s;
- engage voluntary and private sector providers, who will only be paid in full for getting people into sustainable work, to deliver tailored back-to-work help; and,
- introduce *Work for Yourself*, a new scheme to help unemployed would-be entrepreneurs – including young people – who want to start their own business by giving them access to a business mentor and start-up loans.

### **Help create green hi-tech jobs**

We will:

- create tens of thousands of skilled jobs – including green apprenticeships – through our *Green Deal*, which will deliver energy efficiency improvements to homes across the country;
- establish a superfast broadband network throughout the UK to support hi-tech, digital and creative industries – experts believe this could generate 600,000 additional jobs.
- build a new high speed rail network, boosting green transport and creating a new generation of skilled jobs; and,
- refocus research and development tax credits to help hi-tech firms and start-ups create jobs.

### **Help you get on the housing ladder**

We will:

- raise the stamp duty threshold to £250,000 for first-time buyers, so 9 out of 10 people buying their first home won't pay it;
- introduce a *Foot on the Ladder* programme to offer an equity stake to good social tenants, which can be cashed in when they move out of social rented accommodation; and,
- tackle the shortage of affordable housing by creating new local housing trusts, where the benefits of development go to local people who can't find a good home.

### **Fight back against crime**

We will:

- focus Home Office support on interventions, like mentoring by expert voluntary groups, to tackle youth crime on the 100 most deprived communities across the country;
- introduce a series of early intervention measures, including grounding orders, to allow the police to use instant sanctions to deal with anti-social behaviour without criminalising young people unnecessarily;
- change the rules so that anyone convicted of a knife crime can expect to face a prison sentence, and introduce mobile knife scanners on streets and public transport;
- introduce a system of temporary bans on new 'legal highs' while health issues are considered by independent experts;
- engage with specialist organisations to provide education, mentoring and drug rehabilitation programmes to help young offenders go straight; and,
- stop young people ending up in a life of crime by paying voluntary and private sector providers by results to reduce youth offending.

### **Help you make a difference to your local community**

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;
- establish an Olympic-style school sports competition to give every young person at school or college an opportunity to play competitive sport and help secure a lasting legacy from London 2012; and,
- launch an annual Big Society Day to celebrate the work of neighbourhood groups and encourage more people to take part in social action.