



Liverpool ONE, a large shopping centre in Liverpool

- A “significant” rise in the numbers completing high-quality skills training across the UK. In England, the target is for 200,000 more doing this, including 80,000 in the lowest skilled areas.
- A narrowing in healthy life expectancy between the UK areas where it is highest and lowest, with the overall average healthy life expectancy rising by five years by 2035.
- An improvement in perceived wellbeing in all parts of the UK, with a narrowed gap between areas with the highest and lowest levels.
- A rise across the whole UK of “pride in place”, defined as “people’s satisfaction with their town centre and engagement in local culture and community”, with a narrowing of gaps between areas with the highest and lowest levels.
- An increase in the number of first-time home buyers in all UK areas. The “ambition” is for a 50% fall in the number of rented homes deemed non-decent, including the biggest improvements in worst-performing areas.
- An overall fall in homicide, serious violence, and neighbourhood crime, focused on worst-affected areas.
- A devolution deal for “every part of England that wants one”, with powers “at or approaching the highest level of devolution and a simplified, long-term funding settlement”.

Peter Walker, *The Guardian*, 2022

3 COMPREHENSION Sum up the content of each of the plans the government has, in no more than three words, and note them down in a list. → ● 13

4 SPEAKING

- a) Rank the items according to their priority. → ● 14
- b) Discuss your ranking with your partner.
- c) Share your results in class and explain your choice.

5 SPEAKING Get together in groups of four. Key point seven (l. 20) states a rise of “pride in place”. Think about aspects or measures which are important to create a sense of belonging in the place where you live. You may focus on opportunities to be creative, to meet each other and to work together. Present your idea in class. → 4, 8

6 LISTENING Listen to a report about the closing of a large steel mill in Port Talbot, Wales. Explain why the steel mill has been so important for the people interviewed. → 15

7 RESEARCH Do similar economic divides like the North-South divide exist in Germany? Compare the region you live in with other parts of Germany and prepare a short presentation using statistical data and appropriate collocations and phrases. → ● 16 → S31, S22

8 EVALUATION Discuss the pros and cons of living and working in an urban area as opposed to living in the countryside.

9 LANGUAGE Take on the role of the figure in the cartoon (Task 1), who lives in the North. Imagine a similar situation in your life. Which city or region do you sometimes wish to live in and why? Start like this:

If I lived in ..., I would ... • If I had been born in ..., I would have ...