



THE BRITISH WHEEL OF  
**YOGA™**

**Four Year  
Development  
Plan  
2007 - 2011**

**Year 1: 2007**





THE BRITISH WHEEL OF  
YOGA

## **British Wheel of Yoga Development Plan 2007-2011**

### **Background to The British Wheel of Yoga**

The British Wheel of Yoga ("the Wheel") was established in 1965 by Wilfred Clark and is recognised by Sport England and the Central Council for Physical Recreation as the Governing Body for Yoga in the UK.

In late 2006 at the time of the production of this Plan the Wheel has:-

- over 8000 Members
- of which over 3000 are Teachers
- of which over 120 are Diploma Course Teachers
- 16 Modules and courses

The Wheel operates as a registered charity, and is managed by a Board of Trustees whose work and activities are regulated by a written Constitution.

For reasons of efficiency and effectiveness the Wheel manages itself in the UK through 11 geographic regions and each region has a management structure headed by a Regional Officer.

The Board of Trustees manages the Wheel through a number of committees and sub-committees all of which report to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee comprises each of the Regional Officers plus the Chair, Vice-Chair, General Secretary, Treasurer, Education Committee Chair and up to 4 Honorary Trustees.

### **The "Last Eight Years".**

The Wheel's first Four Year Plan was produced in 1998 and it set out five broad objectives each of which was achieved at least in part. Similarly, the Wheel's 2003-07 Development Plan identified a number of explicit aims and objectives, though these were more ambitious in their range and scope.

Many of the 2003-2007 objectives by their nature were not easily measurable. In general terms progress was made towards achievement of many of them, but resource availability meant that for some of the objectives progress was limited.

However, what has been achieved is testimony to the effort and commitment of everyone in the Wheel particularly the volunteers. In 2005-06 volunteers contributed over 59,000 recorded hours to the management and operation of the Wheel.

In terms of the two previous Plans what is important, is to learn from the experiences, good and bad, and incorporate these lessons into the 2007-2011 Development Plan and the work which it will generate. Therefore, this Four Year Development Plan is meant to set a framework to drive the work of the Wheel forward while respecting and acknowledging its traditions and history.

### **Purpose of the Development Plan**

This Plan is designed to present an agreed framework and focus to guide the BWY's work in the next four years.

The document should become a touchstone for the prioritisation of the BWY's work, including its financial management, the review and introduction of corporate policies and procedures, and the BWY's aspirations in its role as the Governing Body for Yoga in the UK.

**We are committed to promoting a greater understanding of Yoga through education, study, training and practice.**

To be considered by the Executive Committee – November 2006

## **The Objectives of the British Wheel of Yoga for 2007-2011**

### **1. To embrace the principles of Good Governance**

1. Executive Leadership, Performance, Renewal and Delegation
2. Consider the introduction of Charity Commission Hallmark Principles
3. Consider the most effective legal vehicle for the Wheel as a corporate body
4. Value the contribution of employees, volunteers, contractors and stakeholders

### **2. Strategic Management**

1. Focus on the Wheel's aims and objectives and how it will achieve them
2. Ensure the Wheel's fitness for purpose
3. Manage and use available resources to optimise the Wheel's potential
4. Create a financially strong and viable organisation

### **3. Development and modernisation of the operational management of the Wheel**

1. Review the effectiveness of financial procedures and systems
2. Implement and upgrade the Wheel's IT and database capacity
3. Continually monitor, assess and take action to reduce risk
4. Ensure all aspects of the Wheel's work are ethical, equitable, and transparent

### **4. To fulfil the Wheel's Governing Body responsibilities and obligations as the representative body for yoga in the UK**

1. Marketing of the Wheel and yoga in general to the UK population
2. International, national and regional liaison with yoga organisations and groups
3. Representing yoga to stakeholders

### **5. Wheel Membership and Yoga Practice**

1. Recruit and retain members, teachers and yoga groups
2. To encourage the safe practice of yoga, and the philosophy and traditions which underpin it, throughout the UK population

### **6. Education and Training**

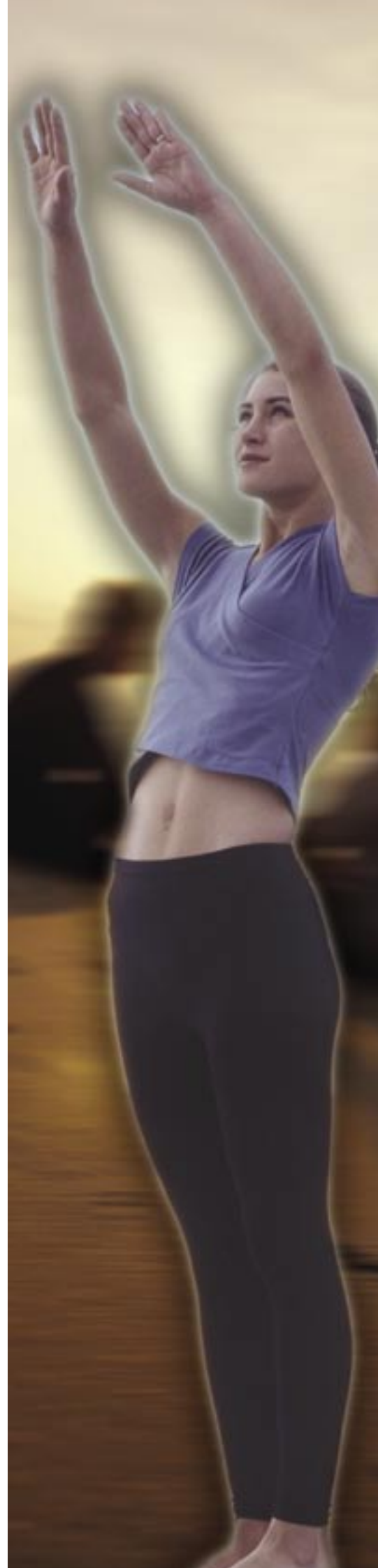
1. Continually review and consider the development of the Wheel's education and training programme
2. Consider the registration of the BWY Central Office as an approved Centre on the NOS framework
3. Develop the accreditation process for yoga groups and provide support to them
4. Introduction of a Yoga for Special Needs Module

## **End of year 2006 Benchmarks**

Below are the general benchmarks against which the progress of Plan will be measured and reported back to the BWY membership year by year, until 2011.

### **1. To embrace the principles of Good Governance**

1. Review the Executive's performance, structure, and the Constitution
2. Report to the Executive for consideration.
3. Review current status and report to the Executive Committee
4. Ongoing – constant review and where appropriate take action.



## 2. Strategic Management

1. Executive and CEO to work together and report to BWY membership via annual Plan review and Spectrum.
2. Ongoing across all objectives.
3. Consider and match current and future strategic development of the BWY against available internal and external resources.
4. Review and report to Executive on investment policy and related areas.

## 3. Development and modernisation of the operational management of the Wheel

1. Review financial and accountancy policy and procedures in a national and regional context and take action as necessary.
2. Current database development project co-ordinated by CEO overseen by Executive.
3. Risk Assessment programme to be introduced January 2007.
4. Ongoing work to be monitored and evaluated by the Executive.

## 4. To fulfil the Wheel's Governing Body responsibilities and obligations as the representative body for yoga in the UK

1. Develop BWY image and profile of yoga generally: monitored and evaluated by Executive.
2. Continue and develop work of pro-active liaison in role as Governing Body.
3. Act as a unifying body to represent the interests of yoga to a broad constituency.

## 5. Wheel Membership and Yoga Practice

1. Create conditions whereby the BWY can continue to grow as a membership organisation .
2. Spread the message of promoting the practice and enjoyment of yoga for all those who are interested, students and teachers.

## 6. Education and Training

1. Ongoing programme of review and improvement through membership, students and teachers.
2. Based upon the achievements to date and the recent appointment of a professional Education & Training Manager, the Executive will consider registration as an approved centre on the NOS framework.
3. Continue the development and support process for accredited groups.
4. During 2007 introduce a Special Needs Module.

**If you have any comments or observations about this Development Plan please contact Pierre Bibby, the BWY's Chief Executive, by telephone, letter or e-mail at the addresses below.**

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to promoting a greater understanding of Yoga through education, study, training and practice.

