



Application Guidance: London Leaders 2010

London Leaders brings together London's leading lights in sustainability, to deliver real, change, and inspire others to do the same.

Background

The London Leaders programme is an initiative of the London Sustainable Development Commission (LSDC), an independent advisory body to the Mayor of London. London Leaders is a 'world first' award programme designed to inspire and catalyse positive change, demonstrate sustainability in action and support leadership for sustainable development.

Sustainable development is about delivering a better quality of life for everyone, now and in the future and the LSDC's vision is for London to be a global benchmark for sustainable cities by 2020.

The LSDC promotes an integrated approach to delivering this vision, rather than a single issue based approach. Through its work the LSDC looks to engender long-term, joined up thinking, and support effective leadership and delivery that is based on sound evidence and the highest levels of community engagement and participation. Therefore finding joined up solutions that deliver social, economic and environmental benefits underpin the London Leaders programme.

Catalysing and accelerating the pace of change is vital for London to meet its ambition to be a global benchmark for sustainability. Therefore the London Leaders programme aims to inspire and deliver change by:

- Demonstrating sustainability in action by showcasing innovative solutions;
- Showing the benefits of joined up thinking and cross-sector partnership working;
- Supporting and developing leadership for sustainable development.

Since 2007 the LSDC has worked with over 30 London Leaders, developing new projects, forging new partnerships and stimulating innovation in fields as diverse as design, fashion, food, climate change, construction, health and the cultural arts.

The LSDC is now looking to appoint the next group of London Leaders for 2010.

More information on the London Leaders programme and the work of past Leaders can be found on the website: www.londonsdc.org/londonleaders.

'A Year in the Life of the London Leaders 2007-08', the first programme annual report can be downloaded here: <http://www.londonsdc.org/lcdc/research.aspx>

The London Leaders programme principles

The London Leaders programme was developed following international research on best practice urban sustainability initiatives. The findings of this research are summarised in the LSDC publication, 'A Greater London: making it happen'¹. Importantly the research crystallises a number of success factors for a sustainable development approach. These success factors have become the principles that underpin the individual projects and actions that are undertaken by the Leaders as part of the programme.

- *Leadership* - inspiring others to take action through leading by example;
- *Capacity building* – empowering ourselves and others with the skills and experience to take positive action;
- *Partnership working* – developing strong, successful partnerships with other communities and organisations to deliver change that cannot be achieved by one organisation alone;
- *Community participation* – engaging and working with stakeholders and communities to deliver meaningful and long-lasting change;
- *Innovation* – going beyond business as usual; forging new partnerships, exploring new ideas and finding innovative solutions.

Who are 'London Leaders'?

Leadership at every level is crucial if we are to deliver the scale and speed of changes necessary to tackle London's sustainability challenges. Leadership comes in a variety of forms - you may not even consider yourself a leader in sustainability, but if you are already taking action to improve the quality of life of Londoners now and into the future, and are willing to play an active role in encouraging others to join this movement – we consider you a potential London Leader.

London Leaders are the public face of the LSDC's programme and have the opportunity to showcase their approach and commitment to sustainability.

The LSDC is looking for a diverse group of sustainability leaders who are involved in a range of projects across the capital. Whether it's a pan-London business initiative or a small-scale community project, inspirational and practical actions that deliver tangible benefits is the key.

The LSDC is looking for dynamic individuals from across London and welcomes applications from people from all backgrounds - business, public, academic and the third sector and individuals from local communities within the Greater London area. By joining the London Leaders programme you will have access to innovation and strategic thinking in the heart of

¹ http://www.londonsdc.org/documents/research/Making_it_happen_scn_12Oct07.pdf

London. Working together we can tackle some of the challenges facing London and raise the city's performance so we can call London a global benchmark for sustainability.

London Leaders are appointed for 18 months (the 2010 programme runs from January 2010 to June 2011). During that time each London Leader will deliver a project that demonstrates sustainability action and will receive bespoke support from the LSDC and London Leaders programme team.

London Leaders retain their status beyond the first 18 months of their participation and are encouraged to play an active role in the London Leaders Network. Members:

- Retain their profile on the LSDC website
- Receive the bi-monthly London Leading e-newsletter
- Are invited to London Leaders networking sessions and events; and
- Are encouraged to collaborate with and support new London Leaders.

The London Leader pledge

We ask that each London Leader:

- Participate actively in the programme for 18 months and over that time commit to and deliver a project that, however big or small, goes beyond usual practice and delivers practical, positive change;
- Work with the programme team to develop a project plan to fulfil their commitment;
- Attends programme/project/networking sessions with the LSDC, programme team and other London Leaders – approx. 12 meetings over 18 months;
- Play an active role in the London Leaders Network and inspire and motivate others to make sustainable change happen;
- Participate in an evaluation of their involvement in the London Leaders programme after the first 18 months.

What's in it for you?

- The opportunity to be part of a pioneering programme and play a key role in the development of sustainability thinking in London;
- The chance to work with others to deliver solutions to real problems;
- Access to innovation and strategic thinking in the heart of London;
- Access to the wider London Leaders Network;
- Brokerage support to facilitate meetings, make contacts and implement your project plan;
- The opportunity to showcase your personal and organisation's commitment to sustainability - each Leader will be profiled at the Annual Event, in publicity material and your story will be featured on the programme website;
- Provision of associated media coverage through LSDC and GLA mechanisms.
- Access to leadership and other training.
- Additional opportunities for involvement, including speaking at conferences and events; supporting/mentoring other Leaders; contributing to other GLA/LSDC policy as a key stakeholder.

How to apply

The application form for the 2010 London Leaders programme can be downloaded on the London Sustainable Development Commission website:

http://www.londonsdc.org/londonleaders/how_to_apply.aspx

Applications will be judged on a the basis of the following criteria:

- Commitment to integrated, joined up thinking (encompassing the environmental, social and economic components of sustainable development and quality of life) and evidence of past performance;
- The proposal for the London Leaders project and evidence that it responds to key sustainable development challenges facing London and delivers improvements in quality of life.
- Sustainability aspiration and ideas for action;
- Support for the programme principles and agreement of the London Leaders pledge;
- Ease with public profile and willingness to participate in the promotion of the London Leaders programme and project success;
- Capacity for participation.

There are a number of publications that you may find helpful in preparing your application:

- London Sustainable Development Commission's Quality of Life Indicators Report, 2009: http://www.londonsdc.org/sustainable_development/monitoring.aspx
- Leading to a Greener London: an environment programme for the capital: <http://www.london.gov.uk/mayor/publications/2009/07/greener-london.jsp>
- London Sustainable Development Commission, Framework for a Sustainable London: http://www.londonsdc.org/documents/lcdc_framework.pdf
- A Greater London: What are you doing: http://www.londonsdc.org/documents/What_are_you_doing_scn_12Oct07.pdf
- A Greater London: Making it happen: http://www.londonsdc.org/documents/research/Making_it_happen_scn_12Oct07.pdf

Complete the London Leaders application form and return by the deadline: **5pm Monday 26th October 2009** to london.leaders@london.gov.uk or post to:

London Sustainable Development Commission
London Leaders programme
PP18, City Hall
The Queen's Walk
London
SE1 2AA

Successful applicants will be notified by the end of November and will be expected to liaise with the programme team in preparation for the Annual Event and formal announcement of the 2010 London Leaders in January 2010, to which all Leaders are asked to attend.

If you have any questions regarding the London Leaders programme or the application process, please contact the programme team at london.leaders@london.gov.uk or you can speak to Bryony Mathie, on 020 7983 4638.