

**London Sustainable Development Commission
Meeting 12 July 2004, 10.00 am to 12.30 pm**

Present:

Ian Coull	Slough Estates, Co-Chair
Pamela Castle	Environmental Law Foundation, Co-Chair
Chris Birks	Environment Agency
Cllr Sidney Kallar	ALG
David Fell	Brook Lyndhurst
Joanne Wade	Impetus Consulting
June Barnes	East Thames Housing Group
Nigel Bell	Imperial College, Centre for Environmental Technology
Paul De Zylva	Friends of the Earth
Penny Shepherd	London Sustainability Exchange
Peter Head	Faber Maunsell
Robin Stott	Physician
Samantha Heath	GLA
Sue Riddlestone	BioRegional

Observer:

Penny Bramwell	GOL
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Secretariat:

Aleyne Friesner	GLA Head of Policy Support
Niall Machin	GLA Policy Support Unit
Matthew Chell	GLA Policy Support Unit
Paula Hirst	GLA Policy Support Unit
Jane Anson	GLA Administrative support
Simi Awosika	GLA Administrative support

1. Welcome and introductions

2. Apologies

Rachel Crossley, Rev. Dick Johnson, Victor Anderson, Dinah Cox, Simon Woolley, Tom Burke

3. Minutes of 5 March 2004 meeting and matters arising

Declarations of interest – nothing to report.

London Sustainable Construction Initiative (LSCI) – Peter Head reported that the Defra sustainable buildings taskforce has recommended to ODPM the development of a national code of practice just for buildings. ODPM have said they will look to work with LSCI in it's development. The current intention is to pilot the national code in Thames Gateway.

4. Update and Progress on Commission's work

Ian reported on the successful launch of the Commission's Sustainability Guide, Indicators Report, Air Transport Report and second Annual Report. All reports had been well received.

Framework

It was suggested that the Commission promote the Framework by focusing on the London boroughs to consider improvements to planning and building initiatives within the context of sustainable development. It was suggested that the Commission agrees a promotional plan in the use of its Framework. Agreed to respond to ODPM national guidance on sustainable development appraisal.

Agreed to arrange a meeting of the Framework sub group to agree communication programme/strategy for rolling out the Framework and Guide. Commissioners to suggest projects that the Framework can be measured against. Sub group to also consider ethnicity issues in relation to Framework language and invite Simon Woolley to Framework sub group.

Action: Secretariat, Commissioners and Framework sub group.

Economic Development

The sub group had held a series of meetings with the LDA to discuss sustainable economic development for London and David Fell had written to the LDA to offer further work and continued dialogue. The Commission discussed LDA representation and it was agreed to invite Claudette Forbes, the new Director of Regeneration as an observer to the October LSDC meeting.

Action: Secretariat/EDS sub group

Transport

Pamela had not received a response to her letter addressed to Bob Kiley inviting him to a meeting to discuss sustainability and transport. Agreed to chase a response and pursue senior level contact at TfL.

Action: Secretariat/Peter Head

London Plan

The Commission with the support of the GLA could investigate how to encourage local authorities to adopt best practice so that they can deliver sustainable development standards.

Agreed to email the latest timetable on SPGs to Commissioners.

Agreed to invite senior London Plan staff (Giles Dolphin, Debbie McMullen) to the next Commission meeting to discuss how the GLA is taking the London Plan forward.

Agreed that June Barnes should continue to work on affordable housing issues for LSDC.

Agreed that renewable energy SPG should go to Sue Riddlestone and Chris Birks (to be considered by Energy Sub Group).

Action: Secretariat/June Barnes/Sue Riddlestone/Chris Birks/Energy sub group

Air Transport

There had been much debate over the Government's policy on air transport: the Commission should continue to focus on London. It was suggested that the Mayor could be asked to raise sustainable development issues on behalf of the Commission when he next meets with the Minister, Keith Hill MP.

Agreed to ask the Mayor to raise air transport with Keith Hill when they next meet.

Agreed to reconvene Air Travel sub group to decide further LSDC action at this point.

Agreed wider dissemination of report.

Action: Secretariat/Air travel sub group

Olympics

Pamela outlined progress and the assessment of the Olympic Bid using the Commission's Sustainability Guide. It was agreed to continue to keep a monitoring role on the development of the Bid and to continue to work closely with Bid Co and masterplanners at a high level. Agreed to continue to seek to raise the standard of the Bid and masterplan, including gaining reassurance from the most senior people. Consider writing to Lord Coe (await further discussions with David Stubbs)

Action: Secretariat/Olympic sub group

5. GLA work

Mainstreaming

A Project Steering Group has been set up to champion mainstreaming sustainable development within the core GLA. The Steering Group has identified a number of achievable actions and Paula Hirst has been carrying out a programme of awareness raising within the GLA.

Agreed that the secretariat would produce a report on how a future Commission could increase its capacity to do more work of this sort.

Action: Secretariat

Forthcoming strategies

The Commission was asked to consider how it wished to be involved in three significant new London strategies: the Older People Strategy, Adaptation to Climate Change Strategy and the Food Strategy.

The Older People Strategy is to be assessed by the Framework.

Agreed to expand London Plan sub group to address sustainable neighbourhood/communities issues.

Agreed to reconvene Energy Sub Group, and look at the climate change strategy and renewable Energy SPG.

Agreed that David Fell would be the LSDC 'Older People's Strategy' representative.

Action: Secretariat/London Plan sub group/Energy sub group/David Fell

6. National Consultation on UK Sustainable Development Strategy

Agreed to develop an LSDC response following the London consultation event on 13th July.

Action: Secretariat/Chairs

7. Thames Gateway

Agreed that the Secretariat produce a paper for discussion about the role of LSDC (in advance of October meeting) including mapping key players in Thames Gateway. Also to identify the 1 or 2 key bodies with which LSDC should engage.

Action: Secretariat

8. Any other business

i) Ian said that he had written to the Mayor about his decision to leave the Commission.

ii) The Commission was asked whether it would received representations from environmental groups who wish to meet and discuss sustainability issues with the Commission. Agree that groups could write in their proposal to the Commission. (NOTE: The Commission previously agreed that it would not receive such bodies who contacted the Commission speculatively).

iii) Framework and reference to diverse communities in London. Agreed to address inaccuracies at the next meeting of the Framework subgroup.

Action: Secretariat

iv) A budget was available to the Commission during its interim period.

v) ODPM will be organising a three day sustainable development summit starting the 31 January. The Commission was asked to make a note of the date and to consider London's role.

Action: All

9. Date of next meeting

Agreed to email possible dates for latter half of October.

Action: Secretariat

(Meeting subsequently arranged for 18 October 2004 9.30 to 13.00 in Committee Room 2 City Hall)