

London Sustainable Development Commission
First Annual Report



June 2003

contents

foreword by Ken Livingstone, Mayor of London	3
a new commission for London	4
Message from the Commission Co-Chairs	4
work programme 2002-2003	5
A London Sustainable Development Framework	5
The draft London Plan	5
Energy and CO₂ emissions	6
Sustainability Appraisals	7
Air Travel	7
what you can do	8
Putting sustainable development at the heart of decision making	8
Sustainability indicators	8
Reducing London's CO₂ emissions	8
Information on local action	9
How to contact the commission	9
membership	10
Commission members in 2002-2003	10

© Greater London Authority June 2003

Published by

Greater London Authority

City Hall

The Queen's Walk

London SE1 2AA

www.london.gov.uk

enquiries **020 7983 4000**

minicom **020 7983 4458**

ISBN 1 85261 489 7

Cover image:

TfL Visual Image Service



This document is printed on recycled paper –
100 per cent de-inked post consumer waste

foreword by Ken Livingstone, Mayor of London

When I set up the London Sustainable Development Commission in May 2002, my intention was to create an independent advisory body that would help London become an exemplary sustainable world city. I also issued a challenge to the Commission to become a 'critical friend' and let me know when my policies missed opportunities to be as sustainable as possible.

This first Annual Report demonstrates that the Commission has been active in tackling many of the difficult issues we associate with moving London towards a more sustainable future. In particular, the production of a London Sustainable Development Framework, the Commission's input into the important debate on the draft London Plan and its work on energy and CO₂ targets shows that the activity of the Commission is relevant to all Londoners, businesses and residents alike.

The development of sustainability indicators will be critical in showing how well we are progressing but, just as importantly, will help us to understand the integrated nature of sustainable development. I want to emphasise that sustainable development is not an environmental issue. It is about securing economic, social and environmental benefits at the same time and prioritising this win-win-win approach over other proposals that fail to deliver such integrated benefits. We need to adjust our mindset to appreciate this wider view of sustainability and put it at the heart of policy making.

Two of my priorities as Mayor – sorting out London's transport problems and tackling crime – are both examples of important sustainable development action. The successful introduction of congestion charging will bring economic, social and environmental benefits and looks likely to be copied in other cities. Putting more police on the streets will also have across the board benefits – in addition to reducing crime. But this Report highlights that there are many other challenges, not least in relation to poverty and reducing the number of children living in low-income households.

The year 2002 will be remembered for the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg and as Mayor I am keen to maintain the impetus from the Summit. With the launch of the Commission last year, I hope that 2002 will also prove to be a watershed for sustainability here in London. I look forward to working with the Commission in the future and commend their Annual Report to all of us with a stake in a healthier, happier London.



Ken Livingstone
Mayor of London



© Liane Harris

a new Commission for London

The London Sustainable Development Commission was set up by the Mayor in 2002 to advise on how London can become a sustainable city. It comprises key figures from the economic, social, environmental and governance sectors in London and is jointly chaired by Ian Coull and Pamela Castle.

‘The London Sustainable Development Commission (LSDC) works to develop a coherent approach to sustainable development throughout London, not only to improve the quality of life for people living, working and visiting London today and for generations to come but also to reduce London’s footprint on the rest of the UK and the world. The LSDC recognises that this requires co-ordinated action to identify key priorities for London and to focus on unsustainable trends, policies and practice that will not be reversed on the basis of current or planned action.’

More information on the Commission’s terms of reference can be found on: http://www.london.gov.uk/mayor/sustainable-development/sustainable_development_commission.jsp



Message from the Commission Co-chairs:

We are very honoured to have been invited by Ken Livingstone to co-chair the Commission. We both feel passionately about London and its critical role in the wellbeing of the UK. It is a world city and the leading city in Europe and as such must provide leadership in many areas including in particular, sustainable development. But this is not an easy challenge for London given its population pressures and the need to fulfil the vital commercial role that it serves regionally, nationally and internationally. We believe that integrating the economic, social and environmental agendas is possible and we believe that the Commission can set an agenda that will help our political leaders achieve a level of integration that will provide world leadership. It will take great commitment from everyone who cares about London but we have made a start and we hope that the people of London will support the challenges that are being set.



Pamela Castle

Ian Coull

work programme 2002-03

A London Sustainable Development Framework

One of the key tasks for the Commission in its first year was to produce a London Sustainable Development Framework, which was launched on 5th June 2003.

The London Framework provides the Commission's vision for a sustainable London and sets out thirteen high level objectives for delivering this vision. It provides the context for the development of strategic policy in London enabling planning, transport, social inclusion, economic development and environmental policies to all move in the right direction towards a more sustainable future.

But the London Framework is more than just a high level visionary document. It is a tool that can be applied to any project or strategy to assess how it contributes towards sustainable development. The Commission has already used a draft version of the London Framework to undertake sustainability appraisals of the Mayor's draft strategies. Over the coming year, we intend to use the London Framework to review the consistency of all the Mayor's strategies.

Finally, by the inclusion of indicators, the London Framework will also be used to monitor how well we are doing towards making the capital a more sustainable city.

In February 2003 the Commission launched a twelve week consultation asking Londoners to suggest which indicators should be used in the London Framework to measure sustainability. The results of this consultation will be incorporated into a revised version of the London Framework and be reported in our next Annual Report.

The draft London Plan

The Commission set up a working group to comment on the Mayor's draft London Plan. It reported to the Mayor with recommendations concerning transport, social housing, creating successful neighbourhoods, the Plan's impact on London's environment and the importance of achieving buy-in from Londoners. In addition, the Commission commented on the need for appropriate sustainability indicators to be used to measure the implementation of the Plan.

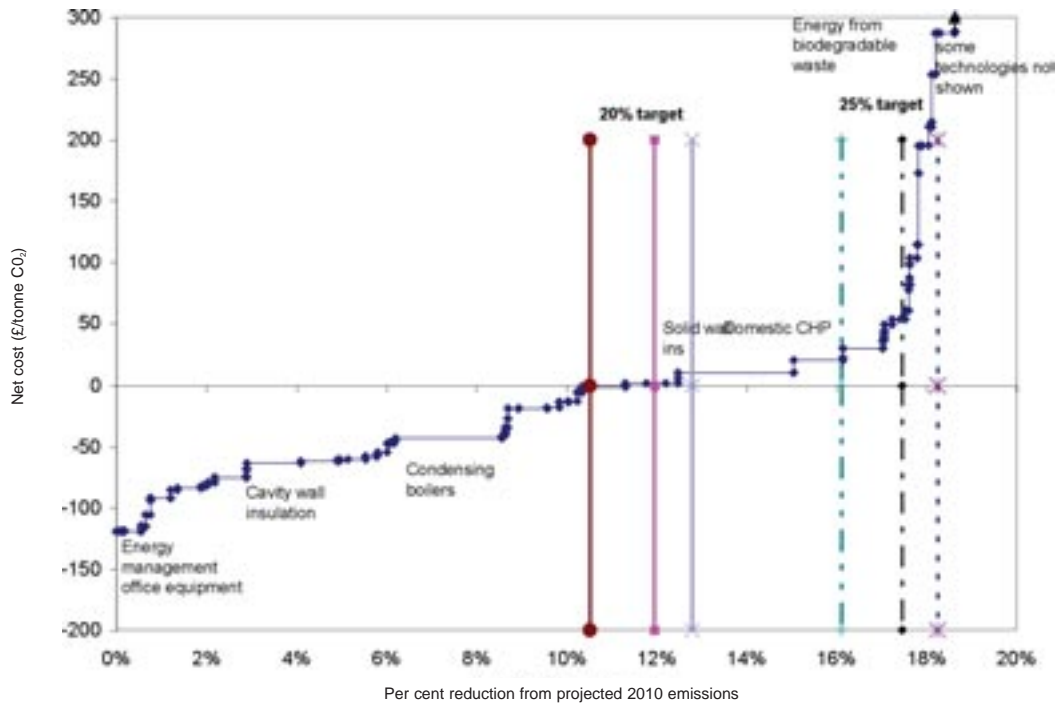
Commissioners held a meeting with the Mayor and his advisors to discuss these and other points and also participated in the Examination in Public in March 2003. The Mayor has agreed that the Commission should have an early input into the wide-ranging Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) documents that are being produced, including the Sustainable Design and Construction SPG and this will form a major part of our work in the coming year.

Energy and CO₂ emissions

The Commission set up an energy sub-group to consider the Mayor’s draft energy strategy. The sub-group commissioned modelling work from AEA Technologies to identify cost-effective measures to reduce CO₂ emissions in London. This work also looked at the projected CO₂ emissions for London under different scenarios to see what level of emissions reductions targets could be possible. The chart below shows the cost abatement curve, with both a 20 per cent and a 25 per cent CO₂ emissions reduction target from 1990 levels marked, depending on the proportion of renewable energy in place in 2010, and based on the predicted emissions for 2010.

Using this work, the Commission recommended that the Mayor include a target of 20 per cent reduction from 1990 levels of CO₂ emissions by 2010 in the draft energy strategy. This was included in the public consultation version of the draft strategy. At the same time the Mayor requested that the LSDC assess the reaction to this target amongst key stakeholders in London.

Net cost of reducing CO₂ emissions by the progressive introduction of the most cost-effective technologies



Note: Two possible target levels are illustrated, 20 per cent and 25 per cent reductions from 1990 levels of CO₂ emissions. For each target, three lines are shown demonstrating the sensitivity to the achieved level of renewable generation. The line on the left corresponds to achieving 15 per cent of generation from renewable energies, the middle line to 10 per cent and the line on the right to 7 per cent.

Responding to this request, the Commission held a series of breakfast meetings, facilitated by London Remade, to assess the degree of support for the CO₂ emissions reduction target. As a result, the Commission was able to report a high degree of stakeholder support and recommend that the Mayor include the target in the final version of the strategy.

During this consultation process, the LSDC also devised mechanism that could use the Mayor's Green Procurement code to help deliver some of the CO₂ emissions reductions needed. This concept has been presented to the Mayor and is likely to be pursued.

Sustainability Appraisals

The Commission has undertaken sustainability appraisals of the Mayor's draft Waste, Culture, Noise and Energy strategies, by applying the London Framework. Copies of the Commission's comments can be found on our web pages. Working groups have been set up to input in the forthcoming reviews of the Mayor's Transport and Economic Development Strategies.

Air travel

The Government's national consultation on the future of air travel in the UK ran for most of the year. Air travel is a challenging issue in terms of sustainability and the Commission is undertaking work towards understanding its impact. A response to the South East consultation will be submitted by the end of June 2003 and will be posted on our web pages.



Commission visit to Beddington Zero Energy Development (BedZED)

what you can do

Putting sustainable development at the heart of decision-making

The World Summit held in Johannesburg in 2002 projected sustainable development into the public consciousness and political mainstream. Perhaps for the first time, the concept of sustainability became front-page news.

The Commission is determined to build on the impetus generated in Johannesburg and to position sustainable development at the heart of London decision-making as *the* organising principle. To achieve this, the Commission would like to see the London Framework becoming a routine tool to guide our decision-making and policy development in London.

Therefore, we urge all sectors, businesses, public bodies and community groups, to use the London Framework:

- to provide the context for policy development and decision-making
- as a working appraisal tool to assess whether we are really doing our best to deliver mutually reinforcing economic, social and environmental benefits
- to monitor how we progress towards a more sustainable future.

In particular, we urge the Mayor and the GLA group to use the London Framework to undertake sustainability appraisals of all strategies and corporate plans. We look forward to working closely with the GLA group and using the London Framework as the basis for formal sustainability appraisals of the London Plan, Economic Development Strategy (Review) and Transport Strategy (Review).

Sustainability indicators

The Commission has been active in consulting Londoners about how sustainability should be measured. We intend to maintain a database on a wide range of indicators that can be used by organisations and individuals in London to show how well we are progressing. In particular, we will be selecting a 'barometer' set of indicators for London that we will report on annually. When published, we encourage others to use our indicators and to assist in data gathering.

Reducing London's CO₂ emissions

Reducing CO₂ emissions will be a challenge for London, but the Commission's work over the past year has shown that it is possible if businesses and others lend their commitment to meeting a London target. All organisations and individuals have a role to play and we urge people to pledge support for the CO₂ reduction target developed by the Commission in association with London ReMade (for details please contact the Commission Secretariat).

Information on energy auditing and energy efficiency can be obtained from a wide range of organisations including Action Energy and the Energy Saving Trust. Please see their websites for more details: www.est.org.uk and www.actionenergy.org.uk.

Information on local action

We can all make changes to the way we live which will contribute to making London a more sustainable city. Examples of good practice on sustainability can be found on the web site of the London Sustainability Exchange:

<http://www.lsx.org.uk/resourcecentre>

How to contact the Commission

The GLA provides the Commission Secretariat, which can be contacted at the address below:

Niall Machin
London Sustainable Development Commission (Secretariat)
4th Floor
City Hall
The Queen's Walk
London SE1 2AA

Tel. 020 7983 4304

Email: niall.machin@london.gov.uk

Web pages: http://www.london.gov.uk/mayor/sustainable-development/sustainable_development_commission.jsp

membership

Commission members in 2002/03 were:

Pamela Castle Co-Chair (Environmental Law Foundation)
Ian Coull Co-Chair (Chief Executive, Slough Estates plc)
Professor Shirley Ali Khan (Director, Sustainability First)
Victor Anderson (Greater London Authority, Mayor's Advisor on Environment and Sustainability)
June Barnes (Chief Executive, East Thames Housing Group)
Professor Nigel Bell (Imperial College, Centre for Environmental Technology)
Chris Birks (Director, Thames Region Environment Agency)
Tom Burke (Council Member, English Nature, London)
Dinah Cox (Head of Strategy, London Voluntary Services Council)
David Fell (Director, Brook Lyndhurst)
Peter Head (Corporate Development Director, FaberMaunsell)
Samantha Heath (Greater London Assembly, Chair Environment Committee)
Reverend Dick Johnson (Industrial Chaplain)
Eddie McDermott (Regional Secretary, T&G Region1)
Cllr Gavin Moore (Association of London Government)
David Quarmby (Transport for London and South London Economic Development Alliance)
Sue Riddlestone (Deputy Director, BioRegional)
Luna Frank Riley (Director of Equalities, London Development Agency)
Penny Shepherd (Chief Executive, London Sustainability Exchange)
Dr. Robin Stott (Physician)
Joanne Wade (Research Director, Association for the Conservation of Energy)
Paul de Zylva (London Regional Campaigns Coordinator, Friends of the Earth)

In addition, the Commission had the following official observers:

Penny Bramwell (Government Office for London, Sustainable Development Unit).
Peter Brittain (Government Office for London, Sustainable Development Unit).
David Goode (Greater London Authority, Head of Environment)

Our thanks to London First and BedZED who both hosted Commission meetings during 2002/03.

Vision for London

London has retained its position as one of the World's great cities over many centuries because of the quantity, quality and diversity of its people, businesses, infrastructure and natural resources. However, the downside of this pre-eminence has been the associated social division, pollution and increasingly wasteful use of resources.

Our vision for the 'World Class' London of the future is a place where all Londoners and visitors feel the greatest possible sense of physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual well-being. Our thinking and decision-making will be long-term, meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. This means ensuring that the ways in which we live, work and play will not interfere with nature's inherent ability to sustain life.

We will achieve this by taking responsibility for the regional and global impacts of city life. With our commitment to inclusion and cooperation, we will build upon and celebrate London's diversity, in all its forms. Resources will be used efficiently and fairly and the natural and built environment protected. Our reward will be a prosperous, vibrant and healthy city, one in which we all make the most of opportunities for fulfillment.

All of us have a part to play in achieving this vision. Each step will be supported by clear objectives and targets and will be sustained by learning from success.

(Extract from the London Sustainable Development Framework)

Other formats and languages

For a large print, Braille, disc, sign language video or audio-tape version of this document, please contact us at the address below:

Public Liaison Unit

Greater London Authority
City Hall
The Queen's Walk
London SE1 2AA

Telephone **020 7983 4100**
Minicom **020 7983 4458**
www.london.gov.uk

You will need to supply your name, your postal address and state the format and title of the publication you require.

If you would like a copy of this document in your language, please phone the number or contact us at the address above.

Chinese

中文

如果需要此文檔的您的母語拷貝，
請致電以下號碼或和下列地址聯係

Vietnamese

Tiếng Việt

Nếu bạn muốn bản sao của tài liệu này bằng
ngôn ngữ của bạn, hãy gọi điện theo số hoặc
liên lạc với địa chỉ dưới đây.

Greek

Αν θα θέλατε ένα αντίγραφο του
παρόντος εγγράφου στη γλώσσα
σας, παρακαλώ να τηλεφωνήσετε
στον αριθμό ή να επικοινωνήσετε
στην παρακάτω διεύθυνση.

Turkish

Bize telefon ederek ya da yukarıdaki
adrese başvurarak bu belgenin
Türkçe'sini isteyebilirsiniz.

Punjabi

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਦੀ ਕਾਪੀ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਆਪਣੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ
ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਹੇਠ ਲਿਖੇ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ ਜਾਂ ਹੇਠ
ਲਿਖੇ ਪਤੇ 'ਤੇ ਰਾਬਤਾ ਕਰੋ:

Hindi

यदि आप इस दस्तावेज़ की प्रति अपनी भाषा में चाहते हैं,
तो कृपया निम्नलिखित नम्बर पर फोन करें अथवा दिये
गये पता पर सम्पर्क करें।

Bengali

আপনি যদি আপনার ভাষায় এই দলিলের প্রতিলিপি
(কপি) চান, তা হলে নীচের ফোন নম্বরে
বা ঠিকানায় অনুগ্রহ করে যোগাযোগ করুন।

Urdu

اگر آپ اس دستاویز کی نقل اپنی زبان میں چاہتے
ہیں، تو براہ کرم نیچے دیئے گئے نمبر پر فون کریں
یا دیئے گئے پتے پر رابطہ قائم کریں۔

Arabic

إذا أردت نسخة من هذه الوثيقة بلغتك، الرجاء
الاتصال برقم الهاتف أو الكتابة الى العنوان

Gujarati

જો તમને આ દસ્તાવેજની નકલ તમારી ભાષામાં
જોઈતી હોય તો, કૃપા કરી આપેલ નંબર ઉપર
ફોન કરો અથવા નીચેના સરનામે સંપર્ક સાધો.

GREATER **LONDON** AUTHORITY

City Hall
The Queen's Walk
London SE1 2AA

www.london.gov.uk
Enquiries **020 7983 4100**
Minicom **020 7983 4458**