

3 December 2003

Michael Ward
Chief Executive
London Development Agency

Dear Michael

Sustainable Development Appraisal of revised Economic Development Strategy

The London Sustainable Development Commission is delighted to have worked with the LDA in commissioning a Sustainable Development appraisal of the current draft of the revised EDS. The consultants ERM conducting the appraisal have now reported.

Key Findings

We support the consultants' conclusion that the EDS needs a clear **Vision** of sustainable economic development to determine what a sustainable economy in London will look like in 2016. We also approve the statements the consultants give in their report by way of examples.

We agree that to have such a vision it will be vital to choose which **economic sectors** to support. The sectors should be chosen to provide balanced integrated development across economic, social and environmental aspirations. Part of this involves including the Londoners currently not benefiting from London's success. The EDS must be clear about why these sectors have been chosen.

We also agree that the EDS must contain a commitment to appropriate Sustainable Development **appraisals of projects and programmes**. We hope that a methodology can be derived from the work of the consultants, based on the Commission's Framework, to enable this. Moreover, we hope that the Framework can help in designing projects and programmes as well as in subsequent appraisal and selection. The Commission is working on a Toolkit which will help with this.

The consultants' report contains many useful suggestions and we commend it to you. Over the same period Commissioners have met with LDA officers to discuss a range of topics, with specific meetings on local economies, diversity and equalities and sustainable construction. A summary of the discussions will be sent to the LDA shortly. We trust both these processes will contribute to the evolution of the document.

We hope that our joint working on this appraisal can assist in improving the public consultation draft of the EDS and look forward to contributing further to make the Mayor's Economic Development Strategy a document which will provide a robust routemap to sustainable economic development for London, taken up by Londoners and the many organisations whose active engagement is needed to turn the vision into reality.

Yours sincerely,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is 'Ian Coull' and the signature on the right is 'Pamela Castle'.

Ian Coull
Co-Chairs
London Sustainable Development Commission

Pamela Castle

cc: Ken Livingstone, Mayor of London

Marc Stephens, LDA
Emma Thomson, LDA