

LONDON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Full Commission Meeting & London Leaders Networking Lunch
Friday 11th June, 10-2pm, City Hall, Committee Room 2

Minutes

Present: John Plowman (chair), Adrian Gurney, Chris Church, Ed Gillespie (late), Geoff Raw, Shaun McCarthy, Howard Davidson, Karen Lawrence, Mike Tuffrey, Paul de Zylva (late), Paul Edwards, Paul Toyne, Penny Bramwell, Piers Williamson, Richard Stephenson, Samantha Heath (late), Sue Riddlestone

Secretariat: Patrick Feehily, Rita Singh, Rhiannon Lewis

Apologies: Alison Barnes, Andy Wales, Andrew MacAksill, Sean Brennan

1. Welcome and introductions

Commissioners introduced themselves and welcomed new members of the Secretariat, Rita Singh (Sustainable Development Senior Policy Officer – maternity cover) and Rhiannon Lewis (Sustainable Development Policy Officer – permanent).

2. Minutes from the last meeting

- AG has co-ordinated the response to the first round of submissions to the Examination in Public of the London Plan (see item 4).
- Martin Powell will take on the role of Mayoral Advisor on the Environment while Isabel Dedring is on maternity leave. He will attend the next LSDC meeting.
- It was confirmed that both Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the sub groups will attend the executive meetings – this clarifies the box on page 4 of minutes dated 19th March.
Action: Secretariat to update documents with correct membership of the Executive.
Action: Secretariat to look into setting up an online hub to allow Commissioners to communicate online.

3. Updates from sub-group meetings

- Commission for a Sustainable London 2012 (Shaun McCarthy):
 - 2009 Annual Review distributed. This has attracted much media attention. SM offered to present the full findings at the next Full Commission meeting.
 - Areas of focus include the robustness of the LOCOG environmental management systems, and whether events held away from the Olympic site will adhere to the same strict sustainability standards.
 - The focus is on ensuring a legacy of knowledge going forward.
 - Knowledge sharing is beginning to happen with the Rio 2016 team. CSL is also engaged with the England 2018 bid to host the FIFA World Cup.

- Remit of the Commission's assurance will include the new Olympic Park Legacy Company (OPLC).
- Sustainable Economy and Equal Life Chances for All (John Plowman)
 - Has found the GLA does not apply a single macro-economic forecasting model. Will meet with Bridget Rosewell, GLA Chief Economist, to discuss.
 - Looking at the energy intensity of economic activity, and starting to benchmark with other major cities.
 - Important to define what a sustainable economy looks like.
 - Commissioners suggested the following publications/leads that may be relevant to this sub-group:
 - DEFRA's Local Sustainability Sounding Board (Chris Church/Secretariat to investigate membership)
 - GR to circulate follow-up report to Ernst &Young's paper on Low Carbon Capital
 - Forthcoming publication from Prince of Wales' Business & Environment Programme on their research into Sustainable Economy
 - City of Manchester

Action: Sub-group and Secretariat to follow up leads, and analyse key themes in the literature
 - The Pickett and Wilkinson Income Inequalities work has been published online. A peer review is being undertaken (John Mills, Michael Marmot and Richard Layard have been approached), which will enable an open debate .
- Local quality of life (Adrian Gurney)
 - Possible priority measures include water quality, air quality, and access to nature.
 - Important to compare London against other major cities – the sub-group is looking into existing metrics and benchmarks.
 - Commissioners suggested the following publications/leads that may be relevant to this sub-group:
 - London Housing Design Guide
 - Green Infrastructure by Design – Natural England
 - The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity – UNEP
 - GLA's 'Great Outdoors' Strategy

Action: Sub-group and Secretariat to follow up leads, and analyse key themes in the literature.
 - The Air Quality Strategy Consultation period has been extended until 23rd July. JP is co-ordinating the LSDC response.

Action: Secretariat to circulate LSDC response to Air Quality Consultation.

Action: SM to provide JP with contact of Simon Burkett (Campaign for Clean Air), who has done much work lobbying for clean air in London.

Action: SM to share results of the Commission for a Sustainable London 2012 work on applying the London best practice guidance for pollution from construction, when available, and feed in to the LSDC response

- Climate Change and Resources (Sue Riddlestone)
 - Will be focussing on three priority measures:
 - 38% reduction in CO2 emissions by 2020
 - Stabilisation of ecological footprint - TBC
 - Climate change adaptation/flood risk (focus on surface-water run off and fluvial flooding) - TBC
 - Procurement will also be an area of focus, informed by the Capital Consumption work already undertaken.
 - Need to find creative way to stimulate delivery – utility companies get more reward working outside of London.
Action: SR and CC to discuss the link between consumption and carbon budgets.
- Communications and London Leaders (Paul de Zylva/Richard Stephenson)
 - Sub-group in the process of defining target audience for LSDC/London Leaders communications.
 - Working up guidance for Commissioners acting as advocates, partly addressed through the ongoing induction process.
Action: Secretariat to draft 'rules of engagement' with PdZ, and circulate.
 - Secretariat are in the process of finalising the evaluation of 2009 London Leaders programme.
 - Lack of involvement was an issue with last year's Leaders, but this has not been a problem this year to date.
 - Been active promoting the work of London Leaders – during May/June, had stand at BASE London, hosted visit for Proteus (London Business School), and held networking session for Leaders.
 - Seeking sponsorship for the programme going forward.
Action: Commissioners to feedback ideas for sponsorship.
- Executive (John Plowman)
 - Involved in discussion about who does what – important not to duplicate work.
 - Discussions are underway with the GLA about the remit of the Commission, and future work plan (see item 5).
 - Housing and water are issues of focus, but need to be refined further.
 - Finding out more about the GLA environment policy and programmes.
 - A note on the LSDC budget for 2010/11 was circulated.
Action: CC to provide SR with information on the work of the Environmental Law Foundation.

4. London Plan – Examination in Public

- The LSDC were invited to respond on eight 'matters'.
- Responses to the following matters have already been submitted:
 - Outer London – Vision and strategy
 - Outer London – Transport
 - Strategic Outer London – Development centres
 - Retailing (and local shopping)
- Responses for the following matters are due on Monday 16th August:
 - Strategic approach to transport
 - Improving air quality
 - Open land uses – land for food
 - Affordable housing
- A technical meeting is scheduled for 23rd July to discuss the first three outstanding matters, and 4th October to discuss affordable housing.
- PW queried the governance of the LSDC and how Commission work linked to other GLA work.

Action: Responses to EiP already submitted to be circulated with the minutes

Action: Secretariat to clarify governance and remit of LSDC, and how this aligns with the rest of the GLA

Action: Communications sub-group to generate summary of LSDC policy positions, taken from EiP responses

Action: Commission members responsible for next round of submissions to familiarise themselves with process and provide Secretariat with draft outline of their written responses by Friday 16 July 2010

5. Substantive discussion on work plan and GLA suggestions

- JP has met with the Mayoral Advisors to discuss the remit of the LSDC, and the 2010/11 workplan.
- The Secretariat presented the GLA suggestions, and the overlap with the actions already identified by the LSDC.
- Appears there is significant overlap between several areas, including water demand, procurement and energy intensity of economic activity.
- The LSDC should aim to sign off the work plan within one month.

Action: Secretariat to arrange teleconference week beginning 28/06/10, to discuss GLA suggestions and workplan.

Action: Sub-groups to take on board relevant suggestions, and feedback to Secretariat which they would like to pursue in teleconference.

Action: CC to draft short briefing on London Leaders illustrating how the programme encourages volunteering in an unconventional, and successful, way.

6. AOB

None

7. London Leader's Networking Lunch

A 'speed-dating' style networking lunch was held with 14 of the 15 2010 London Leaders.

Action: All Commissioners to complete and return feedback form (circulated 23/06/10)

Next meeting: Friday 17th September 2010, 10am – 2pm – Committee Room 2, City Hall