

**London Sustainable Development Commission
Meeting 5 March 2004, 13.30 pm to 16.00 pm
LDA Head Office, Conference Room A**

Present:

Pamela Castle	Environmental Law Foundation, Co-Chair
Ian Coull	Slough Estates, Co-Chair
Victor Anderson	Mayor's Environmental Adviser
June Barnes	East Thames Housing Group
Nigel Bell	Imperial College, Centre for Environmental Technology
Chris Birks	Environment Agency
Tom Burke	English Nature
Rachel Crossley	Insight Investment
Dinah Cox	LVSC
David Fell	Brook Lyndhurst
Paul Greenwood	London Development Agency
Peter Head	Faber Maunsell
Samantha Heath	London Assembly
Sidney Kallar	ALG
Sue Riddlestone	BioRegional
Penny Shepherd	London Sustainability Exchange
Robin Stott	Physician
Joanne Wade	Association for the Conservation of Energy
Simon Woolley	Operation Black Vote
Paul De Zylva	Friends of the Earth
Rev. Dick Johnson	Industrial Chaplin

Observers:

Penny Bramwell	GOL Sustainable Development
David Goode	GLA Head of Environment

Secretariat:

Simi Awosika	GLA Administrative support
Matthew Chell	GLA Policy Support Unit
Paula Hirst	GLA Policy Support Unit
Niall Machin	GLA Policy Support Unit

1. Welcome and introductions

Pamela Castle welcomed new commissioner Sidney Kallar from the Association of London Government and Paula Hirst, Greater London Authority, who was attending the Commission meeting for the first time.

2. Apologies

Received from Shirley Ali Khan and Aleyne Friesner.

3. Declaration of interest

None.

4. Minutes of 17 December meeting and matters arising

4.1 Minutes agreed

4.2 Matters Arising

(i) London Sustainable Construction Initiative
Peter Head reported that the project had reached the end of its scoping phase. Funding is being sought from GOL (Objective II). Project has received support from LDA and ODPM.

(ii) Black Londoners Forum Report
Simon Woolley agreed to forward this report to Commissioners.

(iii) Register of interests
This had now been placed on the Commission's web pages. Some commissioners are yet to complete in their details and were urged to do so.

5. Event on 21 April 2004

Paula Hirst gave an update on plans for the Commission event at City Hall on 21 April 2004. The event will celebrate and highlight the work of the Commission. Commissioners supplied ideas on invitees for the event. Paula is liaising with the GLA Press Office over media input.

Action

- Paula will circulate invite list to Commission. Commission will make suggestions on other people and stakeholders to invite.
- Commissioners email suggestions to Paula for title for the event.

6. Current Commission Work

(i) Olympics

Peter Head reported back on the Olympic Sub Group's 'Framework seminar' on the 19th February with the London 2012 team: there had been positive feedback and any further action would be followed up via email. Pamela Castle had also met with David Stubbs, Environmental Project Manager London 2012. She asked that David be consulted over the Sustainability Guide.

Pamela raised the suggestion of holding a seminar on the Olympics and sustainability in the autumn, also involving the national Sustainable Development Commission. This was favourably received. She also reported on a successful presentation to the London Health Commission who are keen to work with LSDC on the Olympics.

Robin Stott reported back on the inaugural meeting of the Olympic Forum, set up to engage Londoners in the Olympic bid. The Forum will meet once every quarter and will have smaller meetings around the country. Sue Riddlestone had met David Stubbs and WWF on 19th Jan. There had been considerable interest in a 'zero carbon/zero waste' development. Penny Shepherd has been invited to sit on an environmental advisory group convened by David Stubbs. Chris Birks reported that flood risk was a major issue for the Environment Agency in relation to the Lower Lea Valley masterplan.

Action

- LSDC input should continue to sell sustainability as a winning issue for the Bid.
- Secretariat to consult David Stubbs on Sustainability Guide.

(ii) Framework

(a) *Draft Guide*

Paula Hirst presented a draft version of the Sustainability Guide due to be launched on the 21st April.

Action

- Secretariat to draft a new front section encouraging people to use the guide. Draft will be circulated to Commissioners for comments and then signed off by co-chairs.
- Commissioners to send comments to Paula by 10th March.

(b) Draft Indicators Paper

Ian Coull reported on progress with the indicators. The indicator on child poverty had been promoted from the wider menu into the headline set, following discussions with the Mayor's office. It was agreed that the report should present baseline data – London's first quality of life profile – but with some analysis of priorities for further action (clarion call) for second term. Need to identify sound bite/party line on the report (Co Chairs to agree). In future, it would be better to make comparisons with other world cities rather than the national situation. It was also agreed to say more about black and minority ethnic issues in the indicator analysis.

Action

- Secretariat to redraft taking on board the Commission's views.

(c) Integrated Impact Assessment

The Department of Health has commissioned work from Seahorse Consultants to develop an integrated impact assessment appraisal process in advance of the London East Sub Regional Planning Guidance being published. The Framework subgroup has been involved in this process to ensure the Framework objectives are incorporated into this IIA. The DoH hosted a workshop on the 27th Feb to progress objectives for their Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) tool methodology. Four LSDC commissioners and representatives from the Secretariat attended. Following this meeting the consultants (Seahorse) are continuing to integrate the Framework objectives into this work alongside input from other colleagues. The Sustainable Development team will continue to be involved in this work and will continue to promote the application of the LSDC Framework within this process.

Prompted by the activity noted above, the GLA (Policy Support Unit) now wants to develop an integrated appraisal approach for all three cross-cutting themes for which the GLA has a duty under the GLA Act. The Sustainable Development team will be fully involved in this work and will promote the application of the LSDC Framework within this process.

Some Commissioners who had attended the workshop on 27th Feb expressed concern about an overlap of the impact assessments objectives and the Commission's Framework.

Action

- Note GLA is developing Integrated Appraisal methodology.
- LSDC commissioners to be invited to possible future GLA sustainable development mainstreaming seminars

(iii) London Plan

June Barnes reported on the timetable for Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) production – a number of key SPGs were scheduled to be issued during Spring/Summer 2004. The Commission reaffirmed their intention to comment on SPGs and agreed that Chairs should write to the Mayor. A list of commission 'leads' on SPGs was also agreed:

- *Housing provision/affordable housing- June Barnes.*
- *Renewable energy – Energy Sub Group Samantha Heath, Chris Birks*
- *Diverse communities – Simon Woolley, Dick Johnson.*
- *Sustainable design – Peter Head, Chris Birks*
- *Urban design principles – Victor Anderson, June Barnes*

It was agreed that the Secretariat should make appropriate links with the London Plan team SPG authors, provide them with contact details for the appropriate lead commissioner (above) and request an assessment of their SPG against the Framework. The Commission would like to see the Integrated Impact Assessment for the (first) Sub Regional Development Framework (SRDF), for East London and also be sent a draft copy of the East London SRDF for comment.

It was noted that PPS1 'Planning Policy Statement 1 Creating Sustainable Communities' was out for consultation until 31st May 2004. It was agreed that a Commission response be prepared by Ian Coull, Paul de Zylva and David Goode (Secretariat to liaise with UK Sustainable Development Commission).

Commission also expressed a desire to meet with chair of Thames Gateway UDC when appointed.

Action

- Chairs write to Mayor about SPGs.
- Secretariat to remind London Plan team SPG leads to send pre-consultation drafts to following commissioners (and undertake Framework appraisal).
- IC/PDZ/DAG produce response to PPS1.
- Commission to meet and brief new chair of Thames Gateway UDC

(iv) Economic Development

David Fell briefed the Commission on recent work with the LDA on the economic development strategy. It was agreed that a further meeting be arranged with LDA to discuss the public consultation draft.

Action

- Secretariat to arrange further meeting with LDA

(v) Transport

Peter Head reported that work on the Transport strategy was lagging behind and expressed concerns at the lack of communication between the Commission and Transport for London. Peter had given a presentation on the Framework to a sustainable transport event at City Hall. It was agreed that the Commission should write to TfL seeking discussions in relation to use of the Framework for major infrastructure projects and revision of the Transport Strategy.

Action

- Write to Bob Kiley seeking an initial high level meeting.

(vi) Air Travel

Matthew Chell briefed the Commission on the work of the Air Travel Sub Group. The Sub-group will produce a summary of the SKM findings initially presented to the Commission on 17 December 2003. It is hoped that this will be ready in time for the 21st April event. The report will be circulated to the Commission as soon as it is ready.

Action

- Secretariat to redraft incorporating comments from Commissioners

7. Future of Commission

Ian Coull and Pamela Castle had given a presentation to the Mayor on 2nd Feb, including recommendations for setting up a future Commission. There was a general discussion on the future of the Commission's future. In particular, the Commission were conscious of the continuing work on London's Olympic Bid, as well as its input into the London Plan SPGs and Sub Regional Development Frameworks. It was agreed to write to the Mayor expressing the Commission's desire to continue in its current form and seeking clarification as to whether Secretariat support would still be available.

Action

- Chairs write to Mayor seeking a mechanism for continuation over the next 6 months.

8. Any other business

(i) Energy Partnership

Samantha Heath reported that the first meeting of the Energy Partnership would be on 19th March.

Action

- Commission to write letter to the GLA (Scott Richards/Jeff Jacobs) about the work of the LSDC Energy Sub Group and the launch of the Energy Partnership

(ii) Special thanks

The Commission expressed its gratitude and special thanks to David Goode who had been instrumental in developing the sustainable development agenda in London. David will be retiring from GLA in Summer 2004.

In addition, the Commission thanked the Secretariat for all their hard work and Pamela and Ian for their excellent chairing.