

LONDON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
7 March 2008, 10.30-2pm, Committee Room 3

Minutes

Attendees: June Barnes (Chair), Richard Stephenson, Robert Runcie, Pamela Gardner, Paul de Zylva, Samantha Heath, Penny Bramwell, Maria Lee, Robin Stott, Andrew Pakes, Chris Church, Jeff Jacobs (part), Mike Tuffrey, Andrew Judge, Tony Medawar (part), Frances Mapstone, Nusrat Yousuf, Abbe Marks, Bryony Mathie

Apologies: Dinah Cox, Peter Head

1. Chairs Comments

- Chair Appointment – the advert for a new LSDC Chair was posted in Regen and Renewal magazine on 7 March. Interview and appointment will be after the Mayoral Elections in May. **Action:** advert to be circulated to Commissioners (Secretariat)
- JB notified the Commission that Craig Cordice and Ranjit Baxi have resigned from the Commission.
- Meeting with Mayor and Jonathan Porritt – June attended meeting on 11 February with additional attendees (Nicky Gavron, Mark Watts, Jeff Jacobs, Shirley Rodrigues, Frances Mapstone, Charles Secrett, Andrew Lee, Sarah Samuel and Craig Myers). Positive and constructive meeting, setting scene for effective future joint working. Sustainable consumption and production and leadership two issues of focus.
 - Commission raised issue of greater contact between LSDC/SDC Secretariats, especially on key projects.
- Mayoral candidate briefings – Commission agreed not to meet with Mayoral candidates or actively campaign. Information on the Commission and its work will be available on the LSDC website, based on annex of Effectiveness Paper and highlighting value of Commissioner time. **Action:** Secretariat.

2. TE2100 Presentation

Presentation by Dave Wardle (Environment Agency) and Robert Runcie on TE2100 consultation. Consultation document can be found here: <http://te2100.environment-agency.gov.uk/>

Presentation examined different options at the east and west ends of the estuary for addressing higher sea levels and changing meteorological patterns. Discussed the triggers for various options and providing appropriate lead-in times for any intervention. Funding mechanisms and investment also discussed for large engineering solutions.

PDZ – questioned whether effectiveness of mitigation measures is factored in considering the cumulative impact on development in the Thames Gateway.

Action: Environment Agency would welcome any feedback from the LSDC, deadline 31 March 2008.

3. LSDC Effectiveness Paper

AM presented Effectiveness Paper and recommendations. LSDC strategic direction and Secretariat resources discussed at some length.

Action: Secretariat to arrange half-day session to discuss LSDC strategy directions/resourcing – May/June 08. Preparatory work to be done in conjunction with LSDC Executive e.g. mapping of Commissioner opinion. Need to review Commissioner skills audit in light on this work.

SH – Against the LSDC developing a watchdog role, rather the LSDC adding value to scrutiny activity of London Assembly. Need to better understand how the LSDC compares to other similar organisations to inform strategic direction.

PDZ – Raised issue of promotions framework in conjunction to LSDC future role – positioning of Commission in the longer-term.

FM – Would like to ensure LSDC role in SA/strategy development is acknowledged.

Action: Commissioners to send through any comments on the Effectiveness paper to AM ASAP. Commission agreed to publish the Annex of the Effectiveness Review on the website and to present with key top-line messages. Recommendations will be reviewed internally further.

4. Promotions framework

PDZ presented paper on the LSDC's 'core offer' and communication of the LSDC brand and logo. This was welcomed by the Commission and found to be very useful to determine Commission's strategic direction and scale of ambition.

PG – Commented that the Commission should focus on its achievements and outcomes, would provide a hook for the Promotions sub-group to take the development of this framework forward.

AP – Affirmed usefulness of the document for LSDC advocacy purposes and supported Pamela's comment about focusing on outcomes.

RR – Call for the framework to be action oriented and one that Commissioners can enact. LSDC needs to be heard with authoritative voice to realise ambitions.

5. Sustainable Consumption and Production

AM presented paper on progress of LSDC commissioned research. Commission agreed that the Arup research would be published as a 'technical report' on the website following final amendment. General support for recommendations 1 and 2 but consensus that others may be premature and need further clarity and identification.

SH – Call for further, in-depth, stakeholder engagement on SCP, including NGOs. Need to link to Defra environmental behaviours framework and when considering indicators need

further work to dovetail with other current work in this area. Questioned appropriateness of LSDC/Mayor leading this area of work.

CC – referenced a number of other pieces of work to consider at the next stage: European Scoring framework, UNEP, Global 10 Year Framework, European Task Force, Marrakech Agreement, role of the third sector.

FM – agreed that this SCP work should be taken to next SQOL meeting (14 April) as SCP likely to be key area of interest in Mayoral 3rd term.

Action: Secretariat to arrange half-day discussion on SCP. This will contribute to LSDC summary report reflecting on the technical report's recommendations. Aim to hold session in May.

6. Budget report

NY presented paper, which was approved by the Commission.

Action: Request for more detailed work plan at next meeting.

Discussion regarding sponsorship for the London Leaders programme.

Action: BM to pursue this with GLA Sponsorship team and Promotions sub-group to consider criteria and scale of risk associated with potential sponsorship options.

BM updated Commission on approach by World Business Council for Sustainable Development UK for future joint working relationship. Situation to be reviewed when full proposal received.

7. QOL Indicators

AM presented paper on progress of the 2008 QOL indicators report and outlined outstanding issues and decisions.

One outstanding indicator for confirmation is the Ecological Footprinting indicator, opposed by the GLA Environment team but to date the LSDC has supported its use as a 'communicator' indicator, given its presence as part of a suite of indicators.

SR – Suggestion that a meeting with LSDC, GLA Environment and GLA Economics would be useful to discuss new REAP model and data.

RR – Expressed interest and offered Environment Agency support to support the Commission's work on indicators and taking Ecological Footprinting forward in the London context.

CC – Supported GLA's concerns regarding footprinting but argued that it is still a valuable tool for inclusion.

PB – Emphasised that other regions are using REAP and use by London would facilitate regional comparability and cross working.

TM – Raised the issue of communications and requested a change in name to capitalise on new LSDC brand, suggesting 'London Life', rather than QOL Indicators Report.

Action: Promotions sub-group to take responsibility for QOL report communications and launch.

8. AOB

- London Skills and Employment Board: AM updated Commission. Implementation plans will be open for consultation in May/June.
- Income Inequalities: BM presented paper based on LSDC Away Day in November 2007. Commission discussed proposals for bespoke research and event. Decision to postpone the event and to liaise with the GLA health team on way forward.
- HIS – Commission agreed that the HIS IIA could be signed off by Robin Stott and the Secretariat. Any problems would be referred to June Barnes.
- AJ raised interest in inviting waste colleague to future LSDC meeting. Approved.

Action: BM to prepare short progress review on London Leaders for Commission – circulate via email.

Commission formally thanked June Barnes for chairing the Commission over the last two years. Depending on date of new appointment, this was June's last full Commission meeting as Chair.

Commission formally thanked Frances Mapstone for her involvement and expertise. Frances will be leaving the GLA at the end of May 2008.

Next meeting: 13 June, 10-2pm, Committee Room 2