

LONDON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Full Commission Meeting
Friday 9th December, 10-2pm, City Hall, Committee Room 4
Minutes

Present: John Plowman (Chair), Chris Church, Paul de Zylva, Paul Edwards, Adrian Gurney, Samantha Heath, Karen Lawrence, Andrew MacAskill, Sue Riddlestone, Richard Stephenson, Paul Toyne, Mike Tuffrey, Andy Wales, Piers Williamson

Secretariat: Patrick Feehily, Nusrat Yousuf, Martin Jones, Rhiannon Lewis

Apologies: Alison Barnes, Howard Davidson, Ed Gillespie, Shaun McCarthy, Rajwant Sidhu

Past

1. Minutes from 16 September meeting

- Minutes were circulated prior to the meeting. Comments:
- The Mayors Office had indicated that any work on Rio+20 should be linked to C40.
- Air quality – no further information. SH is doing work in this area for the GLA, and will report back.

Action: MJ to contact C40 Secretariat with information on LSDC Rio+20 plans (again).

Action: SH to report back on air quality work with GLA at an appropriate point.

Present

2. Summary of ongoing LSDC work since last meeting

- A summary paper covering London Leaders, Sowing the Seeds and Carbon Measurement had been circulated prior to the meeting. Comments:

Sowing the Seeds

- The GLA had shown a positive response at both GLA officer and Mayor's Office level.

London Leaders

- A meeting had been held with David Kennington of Databuild, who had offered evaluation work on a pro-bono basis. This will initially be taken up for LL evaluation on a 1 day per fortnight basis. This will be especially valuable in helping to demonstrate the value added by the programme, including difficult to measure concepts such as 'building leadership'.
- Measurement of jobs created should be included in the evaluation.
- Funding opportunities may be possible for London Leaders such as the Big Lottery Fund's 'Communities Living Sustainably' and BITC's Business Connectors.
- Press release sign-off is sometimes delayed by GLA press work.

Carbon Measurement

- The Carbon Measurement Steering Group meets next on 19 December. It acts as a 'critical friend' to consultants commissioned by the GLA in the 2 objective areas of the Group.
- Take up of this carbon measurement work by the GLA should be seen as a real triumph for LSDC.
- It was recognised that there's a lot of work going on in this area (the new Green Construction Board, Crossrail) and the Group should act as the link between interested parties.

Action: SH to contact MJ about possible 'Communities Living Sustainably' bid.

Action: NY to progress LL 2010 evaluation with input from David Kennington.

Action: PdZ to incorporate carbon measurement work into Golden Thread for 2012.

Action: MJ to request all Commissioners to provide useful contacts for interested parties in carbon measurement work.

3. Rio+20

- A paper 'Towards Rio+20 and a Green Economy' had been circulated prior to the meeting.
Comments:
- As stated under agenda item 8 below, McKinsey should be invited to present their findings.
- The aim of the event should be to open up debate – what LSDC will do with the outcome needs to be stated in order to engage an audience.
- An output from the event might be a 'roadmap to a green economy'.
- Who are the audiences – business, local authorities, civil society, others?
- Commissioners need to be prominent speakers at the event, demonstrating thought leadership.
- The event needs to look back and forward – both in terms of LSDC and London.
- Focus on solutions, e.g. Capital Consumption.
- Content – why Rio; what London has done; what LSDC has done; bigger picture on green economy; intellectual stimulation on green economy; final keynote (big name?) speaker.
- A single event of 4 hours maximum, possibly with facilitated table discussions and with a drinks reception after (sponsored by SABMiller).

Action: CC & PdZ to develop programme, speakers, timings further, taking into account the above comments.

- 2 papers 'Base London - Towards London 21' and 'Base London – London 21 in 2112' had been circulated prior to the meeting. Comments:
- LSDC should contribute to the report as stated, however some editorial control should be retained.
- A foreword will only be provided if the content is satisfactory.
- More social/human angles should be reflected.
- This should be reflected in the Golden Thread.

Action: PdZ to incorporate in Golden Thread plans.

Action: PT to discuss with CC and KL and circulate options and responsibilities to Commissioners.

4. Quality of Life Indicators

- A paper 'LSDC – 2012 Quality of Life Indicators Report' had been circulated prior to the meeting.
Comments:
- [SH left the meeting as London Sustainability Exchange may submit a bid for this work.]
- Sowing the Seeds should be taken into account.
- 'Putting the village back into the city' should be included in the tender documentation.
- GLA planners, GLA Economics, GLA Environment team, etc should be consulted when we have a draft list of Indicators, and may also be invited to join the Steering Group for this work (i.e. the QoL sub-group).
- The QoL Sub-group meeting on 25 January should be used as part of the tender process – other Commissioners may want to attend.

Action: NY to take into account the above suggestions (including GLA representation on Steering Group) and circulate ToR and other information to QoL sub-group before Christmas.

Action: MJ to invite all Commissioners to 25 January QoL Sub-group meeting.

5. London Plan

- A paper 'London Plan Team & LSDC Meeting Minutes' had been circulated prior to the meeting. Comments:
- Food was discussed as a potential area for SPG coverage – land for food, as well as access to food.
- GLA Planners had invited LSDC to make suggestions for new Supplementary Planning Guidance and Best Practice Guidance, or amendments to those 'saved' (as listed here):

Supplementary guidance:

- The formally published Opportunity Area Planning Frameworks
- Accessible London: Achieving an inclusive environment
- Sustainable Design and Construction
- Land for Transport Functions
- London View Management Framework
- East London Green Grid Framework
- Providing for Children and Young People's Play and Informal Recreation
- Industrial Capacity
- Use of Planning Obligations in the Funding of Crossrail
- London's Tree and Woodland Framework

Best practice guidance:

- Guide to Preparing Open Space Strategies
- Safeguarded Wharves on the River Thames
- Managing the Night Time Economy
- Health Issues in Planning
- Wheelchair Accessible Housing
- Improving Access to Nature Implementation Report
- London's Foundations (Protecting Geodiversity)

Action: MJ to send links to saved SPGs and Good Practice Guidance.

Action: All Commissioners to supply suggestions for new and/or amended Supplementary Planning Guidance and Best Practice Guidance to MJ before 25 January QoL Sub-group meeting (SH to look at Health Issues in Planning SPG).

Future

6. LSDC Golden Thread for 2012

- A paper 'LSDC Golden Thread for 2012' had been circulated prior to the meeting. Comments:
- Reflection Product 2 (item 3) and Projection Product 2 (item 4) could be difficult to handle politically and may be better to issue after the Mayoral election, possibly in the autumn, or possibly immediately post-election. If Products are produced before the election, the wording needs to be careful – this will highlight the expertise of the LSDC.
- The Annual Report (item 9) should also be produced towards the end of the year, perhaps together with the film (item 10), which would show what has been done during the year.
- Although some key products will not be available until the end of the year, LSDC should be saying it's the 10th anniversary throughout the year.
- In the current economic climate, LSDC needs to emphasise how sustainability can enhance the economy – real life examples needed, making the link to jobs, affordable housing, energy/food security, local economy, green economy, green jobs, etc.
- Items 1-4 should use Commissioners (past and present) perspectives, rather than external perspectives – demonstrating intellectual insights/leadership, connections.
- More work is needed on key messages and target audiences – sustainability experts, the general public, etc? More audiences will require more products so it would be advisable to focus on 1 or 2 key audiences with fewer products.

- To get traction with the GLA, LSDC needs to first argue the benefits for business/City/economy, then link to London lives – so the key audience is the GLA.
- CSL will be producing information on the Olympics and this should be taken account of.
- LSDC website, social media, LL alumni also need to be developed.

Action: PdZ to develop Golden Thread plans further.

Action: MJ to circulate 'Social Media' paper to all Commissioners.

Action: MJ to find out what CSL are producing in 2012.

8. Nexus of water, food, energy, and land use

- A paper 'LSDC briefing note: water-food-energy nexus' had been circulated prior to the meeting. Comments:
- LSDC could be able to influence discussions that are at an early stage.
- Although trade-offs exist and need to be recognised (e.g. environment/economic trade-offs), it was suggested that LSDC should be proposing that they can be avoided with the correct approach.
- Any work should address the economic opportunities that arise.
- Conclusions/recommendations need to make the link to the day-to-day lives of Londoners – taking the emphasis away from climate change and making it relevant to people's lives, and also presenting it in a positive way.
- Information already exists, for example in the Transport Strategy and the London Plan – LSDC could help to bring this together.
- Research would require considerable funding, possibly beyond existing LSDC resources.
- More detail is needed on datasets available, time required, what research already exists and can it be applied to London, possible partners, costs, policy levers at the GLA.
- Alternatively, LSDC could just raise the questions, for example as part of the Golden Thread, and McKinsey could be invited to present their findings at LSDCs Rio+20 event in February.
- The subject could also be approached from the resilience angle – lay out how London would be affected – the resilience team at the GLA does not currently address this issue so could be engaged.

Action: PF to talk to Alex Nickson about what work the Climate Change Partnership has done in this area.

Action: AW to contact McKinsey about presenting at Rio+20 event.

7. LSDC Workplan & Horizon Scan

- A paper 'LSDC Horizon Scan' had been circulated prior to the meeting. Comments:
- Advice to ARUP – AG attended a meeting on 6 December, and a representative from BioRegional had also attended. When available the report will be circulated to Commissioners.
- London House – a response is due from the organisers before Christmas. TCPA may like to be involved.
- BASE London – KL is a member of the advisory group and happy to feed comments in.
- London Leaders sponsorship – only in-kind support is on offer in current discussions, however this could lead to a financial contribution, and/or sponsorship from other sources. All Commissioners should consider possible sources of sponsorship.
- Housing – lots of current activity in this area requiring LSDC response. JP/AG to investigate options with PW and possibly Pamela Gardner (former Commissioner).
- Responsible procurement – PE had produced a paper and presented to Matt Gavin of the Responsible Procurement Team at TfL – an event early next year may be possible. PT involved in Swedish procurement, which could be incorporated. SM has an event planned for 9 February, which may be relevant.

- Green Deal – GLA team are working on how to get money for London.
- Community cohesion/riots – to be considered in next Sustainable Economy Sub-group.

Action: AG to circulate ARUP report to Commissioners when available.

Action: AG to contact MJ about TCPA involvement in London House.

Action: KL, SH, AW, PT, and any other Commissioners to discuss suggestions for BASE London.

Action: All Commissioners to think about potential sources of London Leaders sponsorship and feedback to Secretariat and at future meeting.

Action: MJ to add Mayoral quotes to the sponsorship leaflet.

Action: JP/AG to investigate LSDC housing responses with PW, and possibly others.

Action: PE to contact SM about 9 February event and take forward plans for a responsible procurement event.

9. AOB

- Date of next meeting: **Friday 9 March 2011, 10am-2pm**