

London Sustainable Development Commission

Third meeting held on 10th December 2002 at 10.00 am at London First

Present:

Pamela Castle	UKELA Co-Chair
Ian Coull	Sainsburys plc Co-Chair
Shirley Ali Khan	Independent Consultant
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
David Fell	London First Sustainability Unit
Reverend Dick Johnson	Industrial Chaplain
Eddie McDermott	T&G Region 1
Cllr Gavin Moore	ALG
David Quarmby	Transport for London
Sue Riddlestone	BioRegional
Penny Shepherd	London Sustainability Exchange
Robin Stott	Physician
Joanne Wade	ACE

Observer

Penny Bramwell	Government Office for London, Sustainable Development
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In attendance:

Jane Anson	GLA Administrative support
Aleyne Friesner	GLA Head of Policy Support
Alyssa Gilbert	GLA Policy Support Unit
David Goode	GLA Head of Environment
Niall Machin	GLA Policy Support Unit (Secretariat lead)

1. Welcome and introductions

The Chair welcomed Eddie McDermott and Joanne Wade as new members of the Commission, and Tom Burke who was attending his first meeting of the Commission.

2. Apologies (see above)

Dinah Cox	LVSC
Peter Head	Faber Maunsell
Samantha Heath	GLA, Assembly Member
Luna Frank Riley	London Development Agency

3. Minutes of 12th September meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 September were agreed subject to noting that Cllr. Gavin Moore was present on behalf of the ALG, not L.B. Lewisham.

Matters arising

Secretariat support

An additional £25K for Commission activity has been included in the GLA draft budget for next year, but is subject to final approval by the Mayor and Assembly. Letterhead and website completed. The Commission's web pages can be viewed at www.london.gov.uk/approot/mayor/sustainable-development/sustainable_development_commission.jsp.

4. Terms of Reference

The amended draft Terms of Reference were agreed subject to:

- the second sentence of the first paragraph being amended to 'The Commission's vision incorporates both of these definitions and is set out in its London Sustainable Development Framework ...'; and
- the final line of the terms of reference reading 'To commit to equity, diversity and inclusivity'.

5. Membership

New members had been appointed to represent Faiths, Energy and Trade Unions. There was still a vacancy from the financial sector and the Secretariat would discuss this with Ian Coull.

Action: NM to discuss with IC

6. Report back from Sub Groups

I Framework

6(i)a Draft Framework – vision and objectives agreed subject to some slight amendments including the need to define who 'we' are (Londoners, visitors, workers) and using resources responsibly (not conserving resources). It was also agreed that SR should provide wording concerning using 'London's footprint' as a potential target measure.

Ian thanked the Framework Sub Group and the Secretariat for all their work in putting together a set of indicators for the Commission's agreement. Commissioners commented on the number of new indicators and the need to develop a more concise list. They acknowledged the need to start with a long list, and to use this for consultation purposes. Commissioners were invited to identify to the Secretariat any additional indicators that they would wish to see included and to comment on any that they felt were inappropriate.

It was agreed that the acronyms in the list of indicators should be replaced with full words and checked with the Plain English Campaign. Targets would not be included at this stage and another meeting of the Framework sub group would finalise the consultation document.

Action: all to email details to NM by the 20th December and NM to amend list. IC/Framework sub group to meet.

6(i)b Events for 2003

Commissioners queried whether the Commission's budget was sufficient to meet the cost of the proposals. AF said that subject to detailed planning, the split over two financial years should mean that there was sufficient money.

It was agreed that the report would be the basis for February-June activity and to set up a working sub group, comprising PS, DF and SA-K, to prepare detailed proposals. These would be circulated by email to all Commissioners for agreement.

Action: Secretariat to liaise with PS to agree arrangements

6(ii) London Plan

JB said that the Commission had submitted its comments on the draft London Plan within the consultation period and had requested a meeting with the Mayor which was now being arranged. The Commission discussed the invitation they had received to address the Examination in Public. It was felt that the Commission's role was to make the case for sustainable development at a high level, rather than commenting on details. It was therefore agreed to limit the Commission's input to item 1 a-c and draw in other issues where appropriate to support the presentation, for example CO₂ emissions. It was agreed that the London Plan sub group would meet in February to prepare for the EIP which begins 3rd March for 7 weeks. Other commissioners were invited to join the group if they wished to press for specific items to be included.

In the meantime the Secretariat would liaise with JB to agree a letter to the EIP setting out the areas where the Commission wished to comment.

Action: JB and NM to liaise over the response for 6th January.

JB to arrange meeting of the London Plan sub group in February to discuss preparations.

All to let JB know if interested in attending the meeting.

Secretariat to keep Commission informed over EIP developments.

6(iii) Energy

SR outlined the Energy Sub Group's recommendations that had been submitted to the Mayor to adopt a target for the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions in London of 20% from 1990 levels by 2010. The Mayor had responded that it did not seem clear that there was sufficient commitment by business to the achievement of the target and invited the Commission to undertake further work to gain consensus through consultation with stakeholders.

After discussion it was agreed that the Commission would carry out further work, aiming to identify a work programme that looks at (a) measures necessary to reach the recommended target (including how the Mayor's limited powers in this respect could be maximised) and (b) undertaking a thorough consultation with stakeholders, especially business, to establish some degree of commitment to the target

Agreed to delegate to the Energy Sub-Group to devise a work programme which would be circulated to all Commissioners.

Agreed that joint Chairs would approve further action and budget requirement.

Agreed that the aspirations of the energy sub- group, and perhaps the Commission as a whole, to be issued in press releases.

Action: SR to discuss outcomes of meeting with Samantha Heath. Energy sub-group to discuss with GLA energy strategy team their needs and ideas. Energy sub-group meeting to be held to outline work programme. Secretariat to report on the Mayor's powers.

7. Mayor's Draft Waste Strategy: Commission comments

Niall was thanked for his paper on the draft Municipal Waste Strategy. The paper was agreed subject to a few minor amendments.

Action: NM to submit the amended paper to the Mayor, on behalf of the Commission

8. Work Programme

(i) Timetable – it was acknowledged that the timetable for release of GLA strategies was liable to change.

(ii) Commission work programme

It was agreed to concentrate the Commission's efforts on Mayoral strategies in the short term rather than any specific new work areas or sub groups. This would involve issues of strategy consistency which should be addressed by using the Commission's Framework. Various Commission principles would be identified through this work which could be fed out as statements from the Commission. Agreed to appoint a member of the Commission to lead on each strategy with other Commissioners invited to participate. Views would be developed either by email exchange, or in meetings as appropriate. The Commission would also, in due course, evaluate action taken as a result of its comments.

Action: Joint Chairs and NM to suggest appropriate member to lead on behalf of the Commission. All Commissioners to indicate any areas where they have a particular interest.

Action NM/secretariat.

(iii) Consultation on air travel

Public consultation has been extended. Agreed to comment in detail on the Government's airport strategy. Paul de Zylva had expressed an interest in this work.

Action: NM/Chairs to liaise over the group for this work (to include PDZ).

9. Any other business

Peter Head requested endorsement in connection with his work with the London Construction Industry. In the absence of PH, it was felt that no endorsement could be given at this stage.

Action: NM to respond to Peter Head on the Commission's behalf.

10. Dates of next and future meetings

From 10.00am to 14.00pm in Committee Room 3, City Hall (unless stated)

Thursday 6th March 2003 (invited to meet at BedZed)

Wednesday 18th June 2003

September to be arranged

Wednesday 17th December 2003

Action: JA to arrange date in September and notify Commissioners of the location for the March meeting.