

**London Sustainable Development Commission meeting
Committee Room 3 - City Hall 13 September 2017; 14-17:30.**

Attendees: Ashok Sinha (AS, chair), Paul Turner (PTu), Richard Templer (RT), James Cameron (JC), Claudia Webbe (CW), Samantha Heath (SH), Nicky Gavron (NG), Shirley Rodrigues (SR), Patrick Feehily (PF), Cassie Sutherland (CS), Nusrat Yousuf (NY), Denny Gray (CAG, DG), Paul Toyne (PTo), Maria Adebawale (MA), Syed Ahmed (SA), Anna Coote (AC), Julie Hirigoyen (JH), Karen Lawrence (KL), Nick Mabey (NM), Malini Mehra (MM), Dimitri Zenghelis (DZ), Alejandro Colsa (ACP), Amanda Coyle

Apologies: David Elliot, Charlie Wood (EA)

1	<p><u>Welcome and introductions</u></p> <p>Words from the chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introductory comments from the chair and welcome to new commissioners. ▪ AS stated that his intention was for the new LSDC to operate in collegiate basis, with everyone’s views valued and with everyone sharing the workload. ▪ He ran through the agenda stressing that the main purpose of the meeting was to introduce new commissioners and discuss to progress to date in terms of the London Environment Strategy (LES), Quality of Life (QoL) Report 2017, discuss and approve the two draft ToRs for the new potential work streams, and to enable all commissioners to start thinking of the potential areas the Commission could create future work programmes. ▪ He noted that this is not a small committee, with a high number of new commissioners. Therefore, when contributing, everyone needs to be concise and precise. A constructive, and fraternal approach will be needed to create the necessary team environment. A lot is going to happen within the sub groups outside regular commission meetings. AS encouraged everyone to bring what they can to the Commission (resources, network, understanding, etc.).
2	<p><u>Introductions by all</u></p> <p>Welcome and introductions were made. – see commissioner list that was sent with the agenda and papers</p>
3	<p><u>GLA welcome, Mayoral priorities and London Environment Strategy – update by Shirley Rodrigues (SR)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Welcomed new commissioners ▪ LES officially launched for consultation until mid-November. SR invited commissioners to provide comments regarding the strategy.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LES Goal: Make London the greenest global city. But it's not just about the environment; we want to deal with health, social injustice too. The LES sets up a broad level of ambition, sending a long-term signal to investors. ▪ Integral approach: 8 strategies into 1 to ensure that different strategies do not have negative consequences on others. ▪ The LES also features in the other Mayoral Strategies. ▪ The Mayor has limited powers on environment (some on air quality and waste). The Mayor's main delivery power is through other strategies, lobbying and through using his convening powers. The LES therefore sets the Mayor's vision and how it can be delivered. ▪ Key objectives of the LES presented: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Air Quality: key legacy priority (also Mayoral legal duty). Several projects and campaigns are and will continue to be launched allowing climate change, noise, and other priorities to be tackled at same time. ○ Green Infrastructure: Main initiative is to make London the first National Park City (£9m Greener City Fund). Targets will also be set for new developments so that they have a green (and blue) factor included. ○ Climate change mitigation and energy: We are reviewing what has been done / has not been done for missing previous targets. However, we are keeping long-term ambitious targets. We have published two ambitious actions plans on fuel poverty and solar energy. ○ Waste: Improving recycling rates is a priority, as well as the need to embed a circular economy approach. ○ Adaptation to climate change: We are doing a lot of work with relevant UK Agencies to ensure London is prepared for climate-related challenges (heat waves, floods, droughts, etc.). ○ Ambient noise: Important linkages between noise and wellbeing. The link between noise and transport makes GLA (TfL) a major actor for tackling this problem. ▪ Consultations are not online only. We are also talking to people and engaging different stakeholders with relevant engagement strategies (social media, focus groups, interviews, etc.). <p>Action: Commissioners to provide comments, ideas, suggestions to Environment team while the LES consultation is open.</p>
4	<p><u>Quality of Life Indicators report updated</u></p> <p><u>See attached presentation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AS introduced the project to commissioners. QoL Report started in 2004 as a snapshot of London with key indicators enabling the assessment of progress in short-medium-long terms.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DG provided update presentation on the 2017 QoL Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The report is an evidence document aiming to support the London Plan. ○ It is an evolution framework, where indicators are added, removed and/or adapted when needed. ○ Direction of travel – a lot of things have moved in the right direction, others haven't. ○ Key milestones were introduced, with the final report to be launched sometime in November (TBD). ○ Key structure of the report was introduced. Key issues are chosen to highlight a specific area of interest and create a compelling narrative, key for communications strategy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Option 1. Is London fair? In-depth assessment of fairness issues in relation to the three sub-themes. ▪ Option 2: Is London fair, safe, and healthy? Assessment of the three issues but in less depth. ▪ Recommended Option 1 ▪ Questions (and answers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ JH: It is important to find the nexus or integration between the three sub-themes and how they affect each other. (PTo: we tried to do that in the past and had consulted with GLA Policy Leads. The result was that it was too complicated to untangle but can come out in the narrative). ○ SH: Safety and health could be highlighted under fairness. However, it is important to highlight inequality in volunteering, age-related variations on civic engagement (unfairness related to the young needs to be considered). (PTo and DG: We removed the voting indicator and we might be lacking data on volunteering indicators. We will consider how to incorporate youth). ○ AC: Several groups/committees are doing reports on fairness at the GLA. This is the LSDC and should try and focus on assessing whether London is sustainable overall ○ MM: A lot of work has already been done in terms of fairness. It would be interesting to consider how we could repackage this evidence into future work related to SDG Goal 11. (AS: we can keep using this data in subsequent projects. The importance for this 2017 report is to ensure it creates a message that can have an impact on the London Plan. ○ CW: Highlighted also the need to incorporate youth to ensure they belong to the process.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are targets (LES, SDGs) in place. Therefore, rather than just assessing self-progress, the report should also assess how we do against targets and how far we must go. ▪ QoL Sub Group volunteers: JH, AS, MA, PTo, KW, AC, MM, CW, SH <p>Action: QoL Sub Group should meet as soon as possible to agree how to finalise the report and think of the post-report follow-up work using the evidence base.</p>
5	<p>Existing work programmes</p> <p><u>CT&I Sub Group</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RT presented this LSDC ongoing work programme and ToR and invited others to join the sub group. He highlighted this group will be focused on action (e.g. studies, workshops, engagement) ▪ AS open the floor to discussions regarding the circulated ToR. Questions (answers): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. MM, CW, MA: This work seems insular in its focus on London. There's so much <u>good practice around the world</u> to bring to the table and this has not been reflected in the ToR. <u>Gender issues</u> in this sector are very relevant and should also be an area of focus within this sub group. (AS: the ToR could include something on gender and collaboration. RT: about being insular, clusters need to form first and then you can work to enable connections with others and the sub group has been talking to other cluster across the globe). b. SA: where does this sub group sit within GLA? (NY: New role will soon be resourced by GLA (was a recommendation in the Better Futures report) and will sit in the Business Unit. In the meantime, NY is the GLA representative and a 0.5FTE is located in the Environment Team) ▪ AS: Let's get this group up and running. We ratify this ToR for now, ensuring continued discussion. There will be an agenda item on the next commission meeting about this group and ToR. Other ToRs will need to be revised as necessary (e.g. gender issues, etc.). Commissioners agreed with this approach. ▪ CT&I Sub Group volunteers: JC, NG, SH, KL, MM, RT, DZ <p>Action: CT&I Sub Group should meet soon to finalise ToR taking on board these comments and report back in the next Commission meeting.</p> <p><u>Finance Sub Group</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PTu presented this LSDC potential sub group. He highlighted the first phase will involve exploration and will result in a paper with findings and recommendations. ▪ AS open the floor to discussions regarding the circulated ToR. Questions (answers): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. NM: Post-Brexit financial issues need to be considered. b. SA: GLA has the potential to show true leadership, but they need advice and guidance.

	<p>c. AC: Please reverse mitigation and adaptation within ToR.</p> <p>d. MM: There are lots of current initiatives on green finance. The Commission has been talking about this for a long time. We should also use some of the time within the first phase on drawing lessons learned. Currently this ToR does not acknowledge this.</p> <p>e. RT, SH: What type of projects and what’s different from this and previous initiatives carried out here or elsewhere? (JC: we want to be able to provide answers specific to GLA on where the money is and where it can be used. Initially big projects, but it’s also intended to go towards housing and different types of capital).</p> <p>f. AS: This sub group could create something tangible that the Mayor can take as his initiative – potential to investigate a “Londoners Bond”</p> <p>g. JH: Many issuers of green bond finance require impact reporting to be undertaken against specific metrics. If and when GLA or London boroughs access such finance, they may be required to measure the environmental and social impact of the initiatives funded by it. At that stage, the impact metrics could be used in any subsequent QoL reports issued for London as a whole.</p> <p>h. CS: Rachel Cary (new member of Environment Team) could provide support to this group from GLA.</p> <p>i. DZ: It’s important that this group can match the money with the pipeline of potential projects, bridging the “waiting game” between finance availability and policy risks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Finance Sub Group volunteers: AS, PTu, MA, SA, JC, NG, NM, MM, CW, DZ ▪ AS: Let’s get this group up and running. We ratify this ToR for now, ensuring continued discussion. There will be an agenda item on the next commission meeting about this group and ToR. Other ToRs will need to be revised as necessary. Commissioners agreed with this approach. <p>Action: Finance Sub Group should meet soon to finalise ToR and take on comments and report back in the next Commission meeting.</p> <p>Sec: to organise first meeting and invite relevant GLA officers</p>
6	<p><u>Discussion on priority work streams</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ AS introduced this agenda item welcoming commissioners to start discussion and express their interests for new opportunities this commission could develop during this mayoralty. ○ AC and others noted how the commission needs more time to think of areas it could develop. AS highlighted how this is just a starting point in the discussion to allow people to start thinking and discussing with each other what areas they think could be of interest for this Commission.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PTo: Requirement for London to have a Circular Economy, more work needs to be done in this area. ▪ SH: LSDC has been providing the Mayor with advice for many years. We could go through our catalogue and put together the things that have / have not been taken into action. ▪ Question was raised if the LSDC will be putting in a written submission to the LES consultation, other consultations? Danger of spending all time responding to consultations. NM: Important to prioritise and choose the documents where LSDC can comment on providing most added value. We want to be an agenda setting group. ▪ MM: The work of the Commission is not well known. We should do more regarding SDGs as we are the London Sustainable Development Commission. There's a potential for a new sub group on how we can benchmark governance on sustainability (Metropolitan Governance for Sustainability). This group could assess what the Mayor and boroughs can do so that we can force accountability. Another work stream could be Brexit and the implications of the potential departure of the UK for the work we need to do (AS: MM could prepare something for the next meeting and it will be one of the items on the agenda). This was agreed. <p>Action: Commissioners to do further thinking on potential topics to take forward, prepare proposals and submit ahead of next meeting for consideration. - all</p>
7	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DZ: Do we have a mandate to advise Whitehall? AS: our mandate is with London and the Mayor, even if this local advice serves also to influence national policy (as it has been in the past).
	<p>Date of next Meeting: 5th December 2017</p>