

LONDON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Full Commission Meeting
Friday 19th June, 10-1pm, CR3

Minutes

Attendance: John Plowman (Chair), Paul de Zylva, Chris Church, Pamela Gardner, Shaun McCarthy, Mike Tuffrey, Peter Head, Richard Stephenson, Sue Riddlestone, Adrian Gurney, Robin Stott, Samantha Heath, Helen Davies, Patrick Feehily, Bryony Mathie, Nusrat Yousuf, Jonathan Gaventa

Apologies: Robert Runcie, Penny Bramwell, Maria Lee

1. Note of Last Meeting

The minutes of the 27 February 2009 meeting were agreed with minor textual revisions.

2. LSDC - proposals for way forward

JP presented a paper on an approach for the way forward for the Commission. Key questions and issues include how to make the LSDC vision sharper and more ambitious, what are the key outcomes needed to realise the vision, what are the priorities for action and where the gaps in activity lie.

There was broad agreement with the approach. Issues raised in the discussion included distinguishing outputs, outcomes and targets (SH); linking contributions from commissioners to particular outcomes (SH); the need to avoid repetition of previous work and reviews of the commission (SM); possible links with the 2012 Earth Summit (SM); the timing of the process and how this links to the revision of the London Plan (RoS); and how to engage at the political level as well as the process level in influencing plans and strategies (PdZ).

Action: Convene a working group of interested commissioners to develop proposals on way forward (JP/secretariat).

Action: Draw up a timeline of critical events including forthcoming strategies (secretariat).

3. Commission for a Sustainable London 2012 – Annual Review

SM presented the conclusions of 'Swimming Upstream', the Commission for a Sustainable London 2012's Annual Review. The Review found no evidence of a reduction in sustainability standards in response to cost pressures, but identified several challenges going forward. These include: addressing the residual carbon footprint of the games once mitigation measures have been taken; temporary materials including plastic; linking waste and energy systems; Games-time energy sourcing; and sustainability assurance of the legacy phase and associated events e.g. the Cultural Olympiad.

Discussion focused on governance arrangements including sustainability assurance and standards of the Olympic village and the Special Purpose Vehicle for the legacy park. SM reported that he had a meeting scheduled with Baroness Ford, the new Chair of the Olympic Legacy Park SPV, to discuss assurance. It was proposed that (pending the

outcome of this meeting) the LSDC should formally press for the SPV to be incorporated into the remit of CSL.

Agreement by the Commission that all should be aware of gaps in CSL remit and consider the role LSDC could play where appropriate. Request from PdZ that any emerging issues should be considered in the context of the LSDC 'way forward proposals'.

Action: Subject to the outcome of SM's meeting with Baroness Ford, LSDC secretariat to coordinate a letter from LSDC to press for independent sustainability assurance of the Legacy Park SPV.

A vote of thanks was recorded in appreciation of SM's work for CSL.

4. **Income Inequalities and Sustainable Consumption and Production**

BM presented the findings of 'The impact of income inequalities on sustainable development in London', an LSDC-commissioned report prepared by Prof Richard Wilkinson and Dr Kate Pickett. The report provides an evidence base on the links between inequality, sustainability and quality of life in the London context, rather than delivering recommendations on how greater equality should be achieved. The report finds that higher rates of income inequality are linked to lower quality of life and poorer sustainability outcomes for all social groups, not just the most disadvantaged. As well as improving physical and mental health, greater equality also leads to lower rates of violence, of teenage births, of drug abuse, obesity, of bullying and lower rates of imprisonment. There are also links between more equal societies and pro-environmental behaviours and attitudes.

Discussion focused on how the Commission should frame and present the report. Given the level of interest in the report and its findings, Commissioners requested a separate meeting to consider the report more fully and discuss how to take it forward.

Action: Secretariat to coordinate separate commissioner meeting to discuss taking forward Income Inequalities report.

JG presented the emerging findings of the LSDC/BioRegional work on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) in London. The report establishes a baseline for CO2 emissions associated with consumption by London residents, proposes an appropriate target trajectory for achieving sustainable consumption in London, and models one possible scenario for achieving a 90% reduction in consumption-related emissions by 2050. The report also considers the economic, social and health implications of the scenario, and identifies opportunities for London as a city to catalyse broader change on SCP.

Discussion focused on report dissemination. A proposal to link the papers on SCP and Income Inequalities in a joint event on developing a sustainable economic recovery for London was considered; however, it was felt that a 'seminar series' of events presenting findings of the Quality of Life Indicators report, the Income Inequalities report and the SCP research would be more effective.

Action: Secretariat to organise 'seminar series' on Quality of Life indicators, SCP and Income Inequalities.

5. Sub and working group updates

London Leaders: RiS reported on progress on the London Leaders programme. Recruitment for the next round of London Leaders will begin in July, with the launch of the next group of Leaders to be held in January 2010. Future funding and staff resources to grow the programme remains a constraint.

Action: RiS/BM to bring forward a paper on options for the future (RiS/BM)

Framework review and Integrated Impact Assessment Guide: PF noted that a draft Guide to Integrated Impact Assessment has been produced: a fuller discussion will follow at the next meeting.

Action: A full discussion of IIA guide to follow at 11 September meeting.

Planning and Development Sub group: the LSDC is preparing responses to a number of draft Mayoral strategies including the London Plan, Economic Development Strategy and Mayor's Transport Strategy. A consultative meeting on the draft London Plan followed the LSDC meeting and a stakeholder meeting for all three strategies is to be held on 29 June. The LSDC Planning and Development Sub Group meeting on 3 July will hear presentations on the Mayor's Transport Strategy; all Commissioners (not just sub-group members) are invited to attend.

6. AOB

JG noted that the LSDC is organising a seminar on 25 June 2009 on the wider sustainable development opportunities presented by Low Carbon Zones.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Friday 11 September 2009.