

LONDON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Full Commission Meeting
Friday 23rd November, 10am-3pm, City Hall, Committee Room 3

Present: John Plowman (Chair), Adrian Gurney, Karen Lawrence, Richard Stephenson, Paul Toyne, Nicky Gavron, Harpinder Singh, Sue Riddlestone, Samantha Heath, Paul de Zylva, Andy Wales, Alison Barnes,
Secretariat: Patrick Feehily, Nusrat Yousuf, Martin Jones
Guests: Matthew Pencharz (agenda items 3/4), Richard Walker (agenda items 5/6)
Apologies: Ed Gillespie, Howard Davidson, Chris Church, Paul Edwards, Shaun McCarthy, Andrew MacAskill

1. Welcome & Introductions

JP welcomed the two new commissioners Nicky Gavron – London Assembly Rep; and Harpinder Singh – London Councils Rep.

2. Focus of today's meeting – 'Setting future LSDC priorities to support Jobs and Growth': Summary of process to identify, including Summary of QoL Indicators

KL detailed the aims of the meeting:

- Refocus LSDC work around the jobs and growth agenda.
- Align with Mayors 2020 vision.
- Evidence base provided by the Quality of Life indicators.
- Last full commission mapped out the project ideas with commissioners taking lead on developing these into project plans.
- At present the LSDC does not have complete clarity on the Mayor's priorities.
- Today will shortlist the project plans - taking into account the GLA priorities and what the QoL indicators are showing.

PT presented the details of the QoL indicators report:
(See attached presentation)

Commissioner comments:

- PT detailed some new work being carried out by Prof. Chris Rogers at Birmingham University with funding from the EPSRC for 5 years on liveable cities. This work will focus on city wide analysis and methodology. This will be a 2 year programme and a 3 year trial. Cities taking part are Birmingham, Lancaster and Southampton.
- PT suggested that this is something that London might want to take part in or find out more about. Meeting on the 7th Dec. **AG agreed to attend meeting on behalf of Commission.**
- NG mentioned that the World Bank is also undertaking some work on a core set on indicators that they want all cities to monitor and report on – NG to pass on details to Secretariat.
- AW asked if the report provided any correlation between various indicators and whether we had analysed these linkages and as a result what indicators are predictive of performance of other indicators. And so are key to take action on.
- PT described the bundle / basket indicators analysis undertaken: but this didn't seem sufficient to satisfy the Commissioners. Is there a nexus of indicators? Could this lead to the LSDC identifying the key indicators and recommending more regular tracking and very prescriptive actions, or are the data sets not comprehensive and therefore further outcomes of further analysis would be inconclusive?

- PT suggested that this could form the basis of a follow up piece of research on the QOL indicators - to be followed up with CAG as an extension of the existing contract. LSDC might consider describing the outcomes of it at the Report's launch on 30th January. So ideally work would be commissioned in next 10 days and work conducted in Dec/January.
- SR mentioned the Eco-City event at the University of Westminster. PAS2070 work could be incorporated into future reports
- AB raised concern that volunteering data was not up to date reflecting upturn due to Olympics. PF described how the text reflected this and did incorporate the latest data available.

Actions:

- **AG to attend 7th Dec event.**
- **NG to pass on details of World Bank work to Secretariat.**

3. The Mayor's Environment Agenda and implications for the Commission

Matthew Pencharz detailed the Mayors Environment agenda:

- Last year was challenging as well as being a good year: Jubilee, Olympic and Paralympic games etc.
- Mayor's priority is jobs and growth for this term, which has particular linkages to climate change and transport. QOL issues are also often compared between world cities and the mayor sees this as a driver to where businesses locate in the world.
- Pleased to see that the QOL indicators report is going in the right direction but will look at why the low carbon and green jobs indicator is showing little change.
- The Mayor's 2020 vision will be published next year – i.e. what the mayor thinks should have been achieved by 2020. It is now apparent that the London Plan population figures were incorrect so this will have an affect on the 2020 vision.
- Crossrail took 40 years to reach consensus. The Mayor wants to use the 2020 vision to build consensus across London.
- Thanked SH for LSx work on the 2020 vision event.
- Climate change: a number of issues and initiatives are being looked at.
 - Renew programme and the New Deal. Homes are now 5 degrees warmer - what are the impacts of this?
 - Commercial sector – really need to focus on SME's.
 - Electricity summit – This clearly shows that demand has increased between 1-4%/year. As coal powered stations closed, Mayor doesn't want London to be held back by this but at the same time will be focussing on decarbonisation.
 - Decentralised energy programme will focus on planning, energy consumers, small energy suppliers, waste to energy plants.
- Greening the City: particularly linking to sustainable urban drainage. Thames tide way tunnel – controversial but no other solution available at present.
- Air quality: Important to remember that this is not just a London problem but Europe wide. 22/27 countries have incurred EU directive infraction.
- Thanked LSDC for all their work over the years.

4. Questions/Discussion

- PT asked how the Commission is perceived by the MO in terms of their approach – policy consultation, research on challenges and issues, facilitating others to deliver. MP answered that the collective brainpower of the LSDC on how these challenges can be addressed by research was

valued. Convening power and getting others to deliver and also breaking down silos are all seen as useful.

- SR raised the issue of how to make the Green Deal a success in London and how SME's can be encouraged to pick up the business rather than large companies? MP responded by saying that Richard Blakeway leads on this in MO. Recent negotiations and conversation make him more optimistic that London will get most of funds and benefits related to green deal. Up to now haven't properly engaged with SME's. SR wants to feed back information that she has on this to GLA – SR to contact Jake Ronay.
- AB asked if there were opportunities to champion the results of the Sowing the Seeds report by the MO? Are there greater partnership opportunities on this? MP answered that the GLA is building on their Pocket Park scheme and there is some investment for this. Mayor will focus on these when they are launched.
- SR raised the issue that evidence produced by South Bank University on renewables, planning and jobs shows that there is a potential for growth in the economy and a reduction in carbon. Asked how we maintain dialogue on this issue? MP answered by saying that differences in language could be used.
- AG raised the issue that the LSDC often comments on strategy documents and polices but it would be useful to have the dialogue earlier in the process. MP replied that the strategies are largely done and are now in their implementation stage. There will be a new Mayor in three years time so it may be useful for the LSDC to decide what they will say to any new mayor.
- JP mentioned that the LSDC is also an incubator of ideas.
- NG raised the issue of population growth and using planning to decide where the growth should be located. There appears to be a job to be done in terms of water and SUDS in London. Could LSDC have a role in monitoring e.g. London Plan making sure polices are happening and that they are being monitored.

5. Mayor's 2020 Vision for London

Richard Walker, Policy Analysis Manager, GLA summarised the Vision:

- Diverse stakeholder engagement for 2020 vision - Similar events held with LA's, SME's, London first, London council etc.
- Designed to drive future work streams. 1st draft now with Mayor.
- Vision is about developing a consensus around what we want London to be like in 2020. The best big city as Mayor describes it. Document is very much written in a vision style and will have a delivery plan annexe. (but largely based on strategies that exist already)
- The Vision has 5 chapters – 1) London as a global power house 2) connections & world class infrastructure (digital, airports, crossrail etc); 3) new communities (planning, housing, transport, etc); 4) city of the senses; 5) city to learn, work and achieve.
- Environmental concerns underpin all chapters, volunteering features in the last 2 chapters.
- The vision recognises policy threats such as immigration, taxation, airports, as well as external challenges such as the growth of competition from other financial centres.
- Delivery will be largely through existing strategies, London Plan, etc – this is a vision to bring it all together.
- Timetable – draft now with the Mayor, aiming to go to print in December, publish mid-January – there may be a draft for those involved in the visioning event (agenda item 8d.) to comment on, although this is not confirmed.

6. Questions/Discussion

Commissioners commented:

- Sustainability should underpin the vision (rather than being limited to environmental concerns).
- More should be made of London as a hub of action on sustainability – it can both learn from and contribute to challenges facing the world – growing middle classes and urbanisation (India, China, Africa, etc), aging populations (developed countries).
- London should focus on future sources of growth – benefit from links to Africa for mining/energy/resources.
- Commissioners offered their support to deliver the vision – for example free advice.
- Success depends on how the vision is launched and implemented - LSDC could convene an event to investigate how each of the areas could be developed.
- Housing is especially challenging – 80% of carbon emissions come from buildings but replacement is only 1% per year, combined with the population growth of London requiring more housebuilding – this adds to transport challenges.

Action: Secretariat to keep in touch with Richard Walker and offer help where possible.

Project Selection

7. Introduction

8. Inputs

a) Project Plans

- 'Long List Project Plans' were circulated prior to the meeting.

b) Quality of Life Indicators

- 'Quality of Life Indicators Report version 10' was circulated prior to the meeting.

c) 2020 Vision & Environment Agenda

Earlier presentations had highlighted:

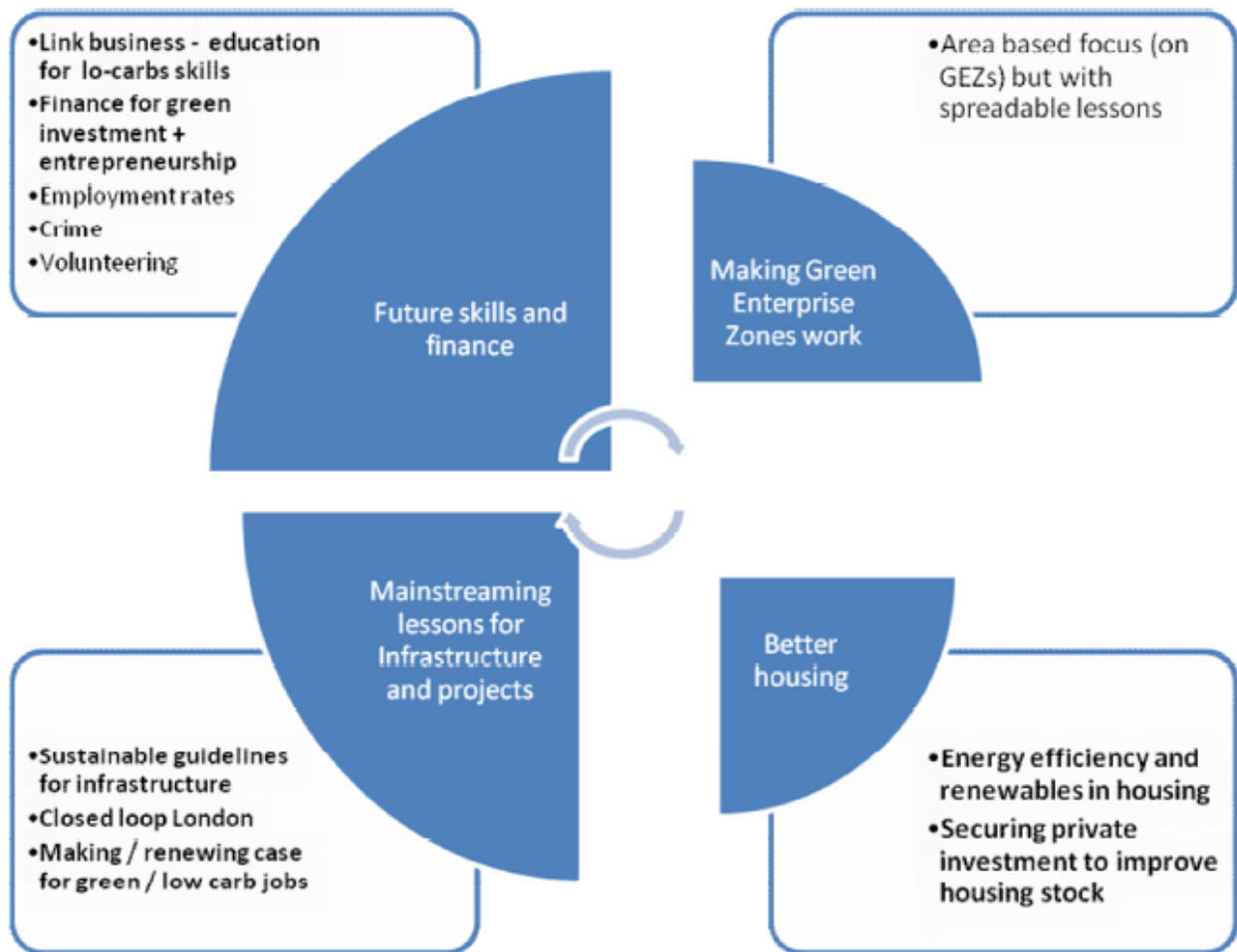
- Jobs & growth – convergence of...
- SMEs.
- Connectedness & infrastructure.
- Housing (affordability, sustainability, availability) and planning.
- Population growth challenges.
- Transport.
- Education.
- Water.

d) Findings of LSx hosted 2020 Vision event

- 'Vision 2020: Generating ideas for a sustainable London' was circulated prior to the meeting.

e) Suggested clustering of project ideas

- 'Suggested clustering of project ideas - sustainable routes out of recession to jobs & growth' was tabled at the meeting;



9. Prioritisation of Project Plans and Identification of Project Champions

Items in boxes indicate possible future project work – ongoing and new (with 'champion Commissioner(s) - who may not necessarily lead the whole project).

It was noted that in whatever areas LSDC pursues, it must provide additionality.

The following items were identified as LSDC work that should continue:

Quality of Life Indicators – correlation between indicators, city assessment methodology
(PT/QoL Steering Group)

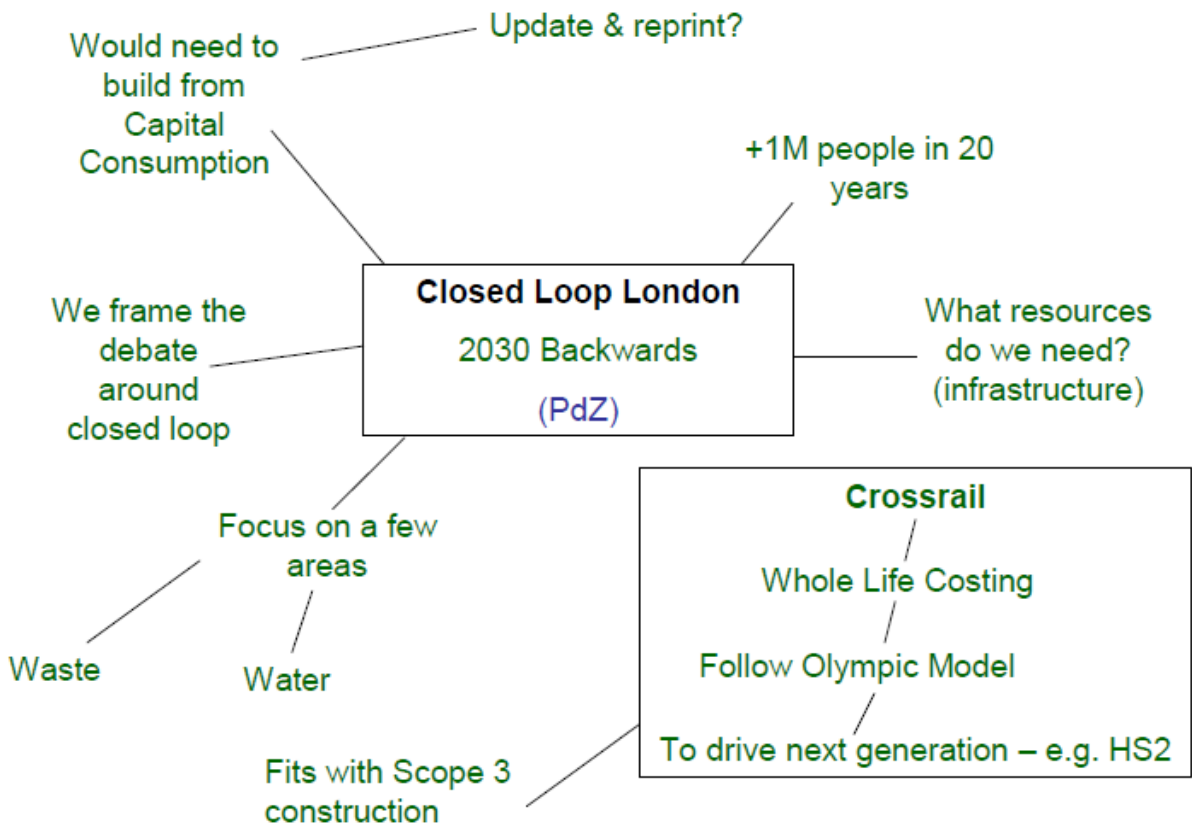
Sowing the Seeds – 'supercharge it'
(AB/PdZ)

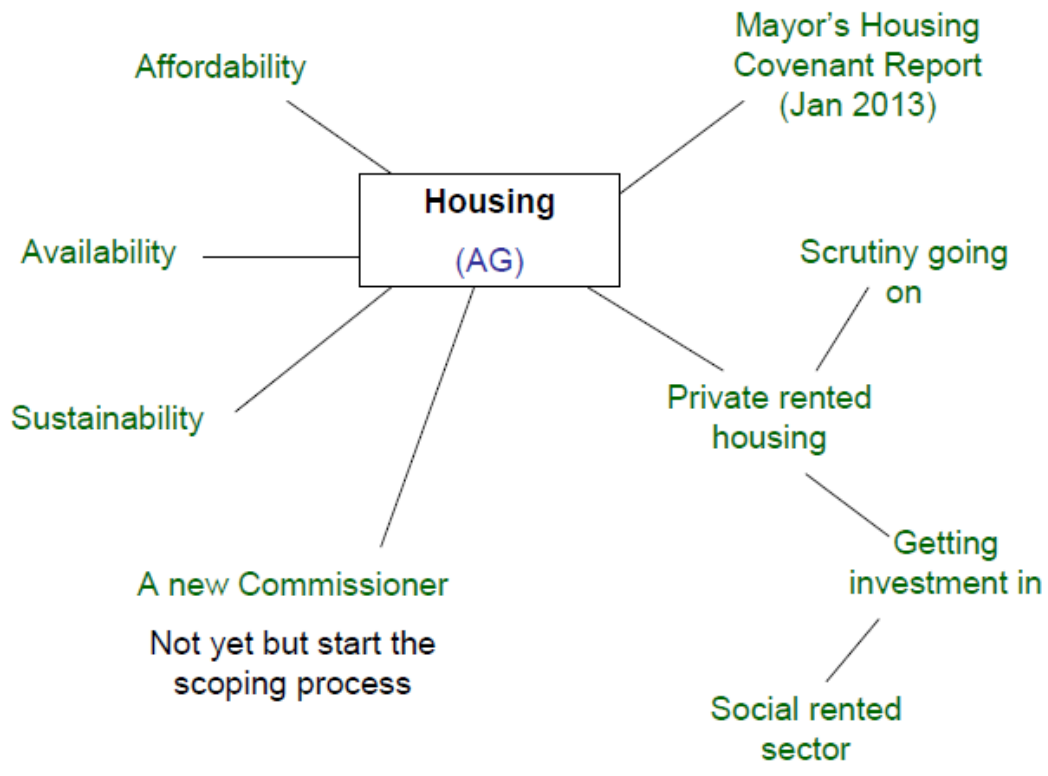
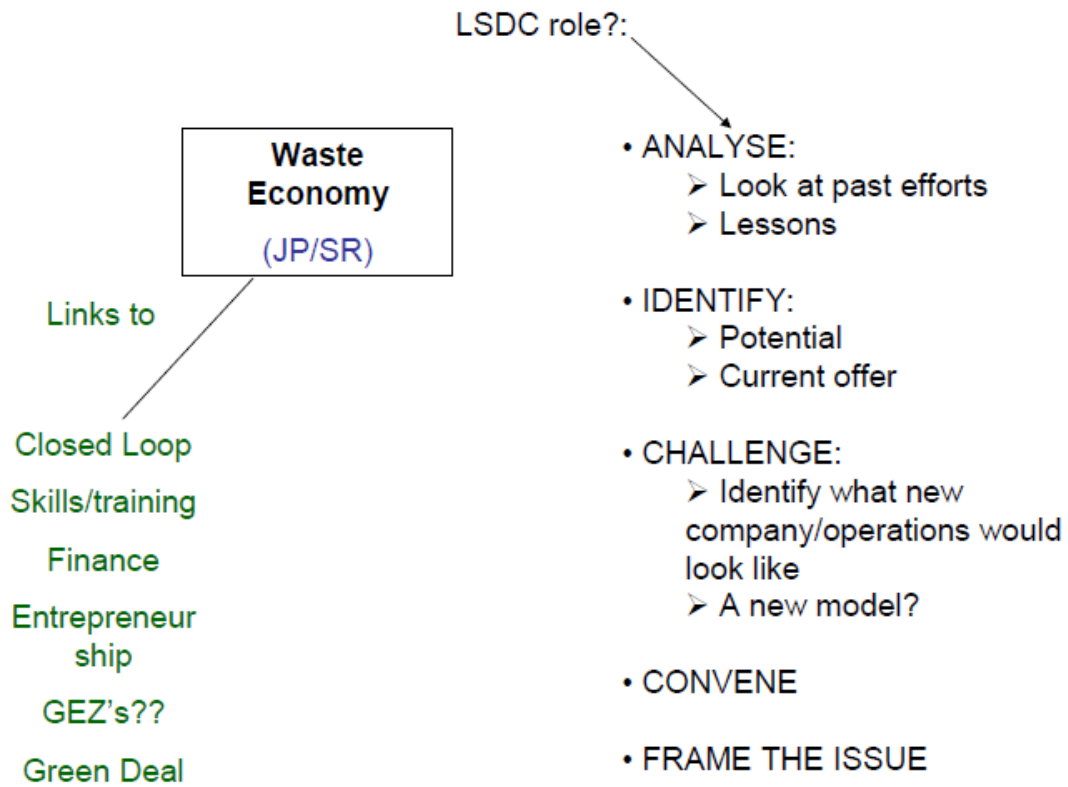
PAS 2070 (& integrate into QoL)
(PT/SR)

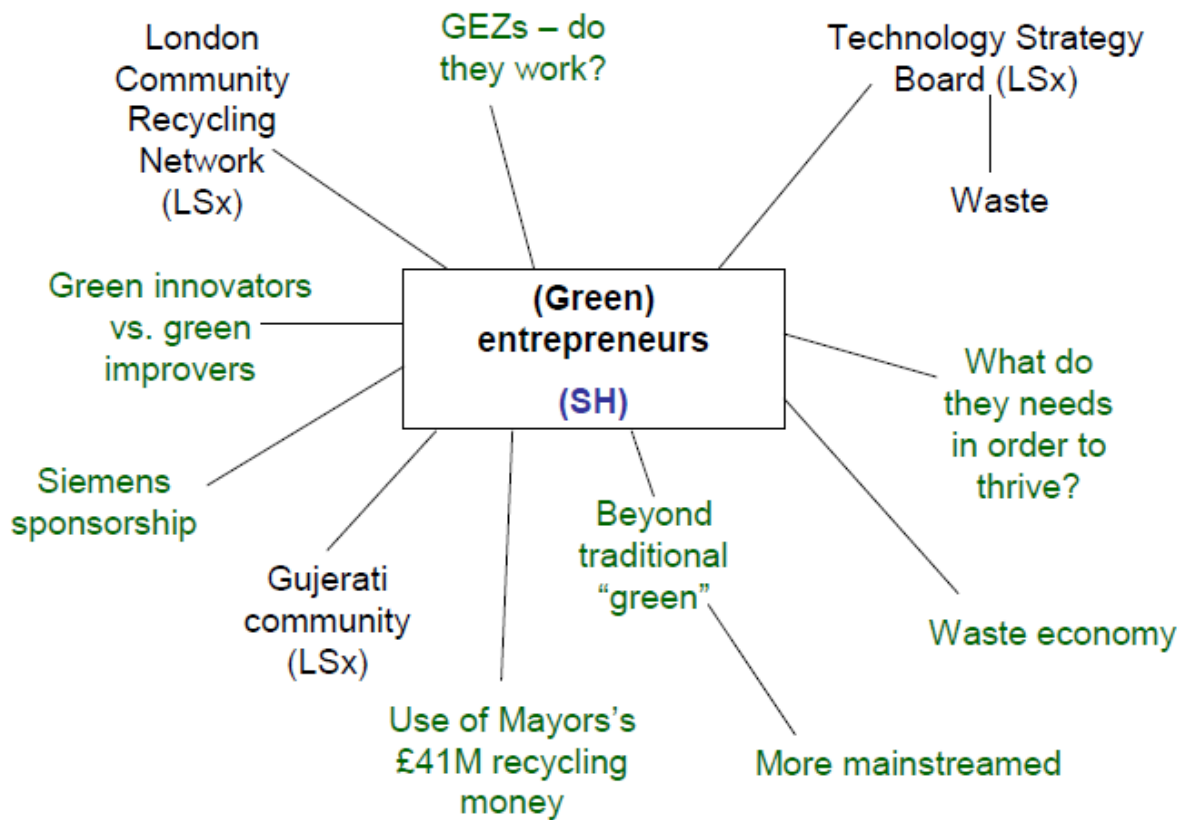
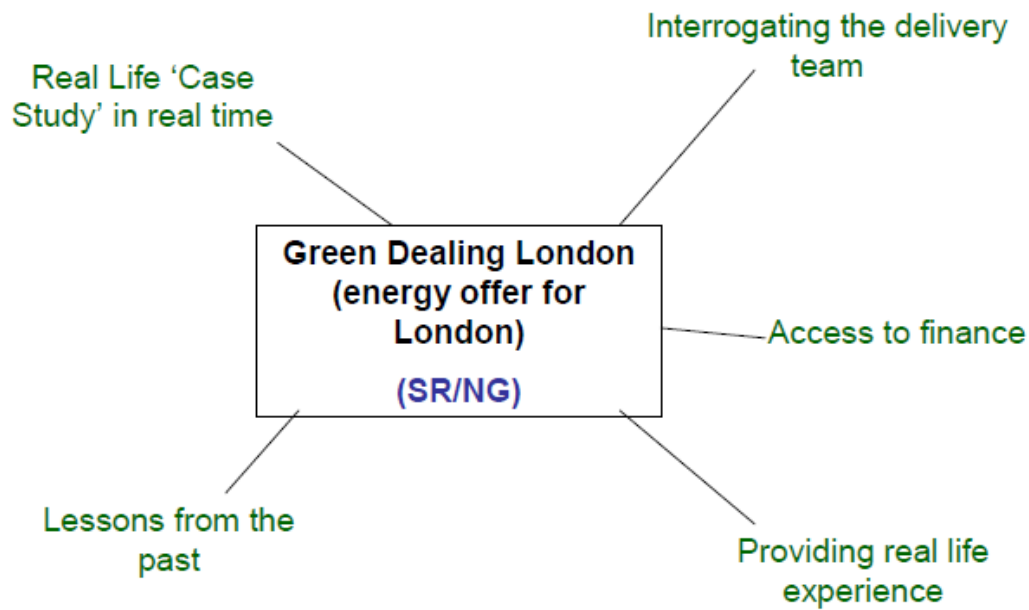
Scope 3 Construction Guidance (launch)
(PT/SR)

London Leaders
(Comms/London Leaders Sub-group)

The following items were identified as possible new project areas:







Action: SR to progress with 'Green Dealing London' project idea.

Action: PT/NY to investigate idea of further QoL Indicators work with CAG consultants.

Action: KL/JP/PdZ/PF to progress ideas for further discussion before January Exec meeting.

Action: Secretariat to develop timeline and process for recruitment of new Commissioners (or on short term co-opt project basis) with housing and finance entrepreneurship.

Action: Secretariat to consider process to invite existing Commissioners to re-affirm position.

Action: NY to consider how to use ideas for future work at the QoL Indicators launch for discussion at 4th December Comms Sub-group.

10. Future LSDC/LL Sponsorship

- Time did not allow this item to be discussed.

Action: Commissioners to provide any comments to NY.

11. AOB

a) Minutes from previous Full Commission meeting.

b) Minutes from Executive Sub-group meeting.

- Time did not allow this item to be discussed.

Action: Commissioners to provide any comments to MJ.

Next meeting: Friday 25th January, 10.30am-2.30pm, City Hall