

# LONDON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

## Full Commission Meeting

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2013, 2-5pm, City Hall, Committee Room 1

### Minutes

**Present:** John Plowman (Chair), Karen Lawrence, Richard Stephenson, Nicky Gavron, Harpinder Singh, Samantha Heath, Paul de Zylva, Shaun McCarthy

**Secretariat:** Patrick Feehily, Nusrat Yousuf, Martin Jones

**Apologies:** Adrian Gurney, Paul Toyne, Sue Riddlestone, Andy Wales, Alison Barnes, Ed Gillespie, Howard Davidson, Chris Church, Paul Edwards, Andrew MacAskill

#### 1. Welcome

- JP asked all Commissioners to note that attendance is being monitored and 70% attendance will be the requirement from now on.

**Action: Secretariat to continue to monitor and report attendance to the LSDC Executive.**

#### 2a. Minutes from previous Full Commission meeting

- 'Minutes from the 23<sup>rd</sup> November Full Commission meeting' were circulated prior to the meeting.
- It's thought that the Mayor's 2020 Vision for London has been absorbed into the work of a new 'Finance Commission', chaired by Tony Travers, which has delayed its publication. The Mayor's Mansion House speech says something about this.
- LSDC needs to take account of the 2020 Vision in its future work and offer of help to the Mayor.

**Action: PF to investigate the new 'Finance Commission' and report back to LSDC.**

#### 2b. Minutes from Executive Sub-group meeting

- 'Minutes from the 16<sup>th</sup> January LSDC Executive meeting' were circulated prior to the meeting as requested.
- Information subsequent to the meeting indicates that LSDC will need to bid for its budget for 2013/14:
  - Amounts less than £50K to be judged by a monthly Steering group chaired by Edward Lister.
  - Bid documentation not yet available.
  - A departmental bid for catering, including LSDC, is likely to be submitted.
  - Bids for Green Entrepreneurs, Closed Loop, and London Leaders are likely to be required, all will need to include appropriate communications activities.
- The latest Quality of Life Indicators launch programme was tabled at the meeting:
  - 125 delegates are registered.
  - A briefing has been provided to the Mayoral Advisor for his speech.
  - The press release emphasises the positives but does not ignore negatives.
  - ITV had contacted the GLA Press Office about volunteering statistics, who had asked the Secretariat if those in the report could be used ahead of release – all present agreed to this.

**Action: PF to investigate budget bidding process and advise LSDC.**

**Action: PF to advise Press Office that volunteering statistics can be released to ITV.**

### 3a. Green Entrepreneurs Workshop

- 'Green Entrepreneurs Discussion Framework' was circulated prior to the meeting.

How do we define 'Green Entrepreneurs'?

- It was recognised that there's lots already going on with social entrepreneurs, so a focus on 'green' would be useful, while recognising that social entrepreneurship is important.
- The project plan should recognise that all 3 areas are important but the focus should be on 'green'.
- The distinction between 'social entrepreneur' and 'social enterprise' was recognised, although the project should cover both.
- The different policy context was recognised for large corporates, who may assist small start-ups or be early adopters; and individual entrepreneurs who invent/innovate.
- The focus of the project is on barriers – barriers such as finance are not generally a problem for large corporates – the project needs to recognise the different barriers.
- Could include a range of sectors/industries – e.g. food.
- The project should focus on encouraging new entrepreneurs/enterprise, and encouraging smaller entrepreneurs/enterprise, including SME's.

Project focus - barriers to finance or other barriers?

- Most funding that is available is from public sources, which is declining in the current climate – the project should focus on non-public sources.
- However the project should not forget public funding – it should map what is currently available – e.g. ERDF, Technology Strategy Board's SBRI programme:  
<http://www.innovateuk.org/deliveringinnovation/smallbusinessresearchinitiative.ashx>
- Demand for finance is also a problem - demand for start-up funding is less than it should be - reasons for this should be investigated.
- Perhaps public funds should be used to create demand - a new product/service could be technically proven but financially unviable – there's a spectrum of difficulty in creating demand.
- Regulation/policy could be used to create demand.
- The way that large business interacts with small business should also be considered (small often sell into large).
- The Institute for Sustainability are doing work on demand, mostly relating to the built environment, and could be included in the project.

What are the outcomes/outputs?

- The project needs to excite interest in order to engage the key players – it needs clear benefits for them – perhaps engage with Harvey McGrath – promote funding that entrepreneurs could bid into; but also provide access to people who've been through the process, and can share relevant skills/experience – networking opportunities are very important.
- Links to Mayor's jobs and growth priority should be made – the project's vision is to encourage the growth of the green economy, although it should recognise that this is a small part of the green economy (GLA definition of green economy is very wide).

Project approach:

Action	Content	Lead	By when
1. Scoping Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Literature review</li> <li>What's going on already.</li> <li>Who are key players - current Green entrepreneur networks.</li> <li>LSx, EST experience.</li> <li>What's best practice – include UK, Europe, etc.</li> <li>What are the gaps.</li> <li>Finance barriers – likely to be complex (European experience suggest a lack of specialist banks).</li> <li>What sectors/organisations have an interest and which should be involved in the project.</li> <li>Budget may be required for intern expenses.</li> <li>[Consultant may need to be commissioned – at what stage TBC.]</li> </ul>	KL/SH – intern (expenses need to be covered)	Mid February
2. Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include key players – to be identified</li> <li>Scoping paper = input.</li> <li>To bring people together, discuss, comment, and develop further.</li> <li>Budget available £4-5K (to be spent pre 31st March).</li> </ul>	TBC	TBC
3. Task Force	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To investigate the barriers.</li> <li>Could develop specific recommendations.</li> <li>Where can LSDC add value – if cannot then need to issue a 'state of play' document.</li> </ul>	TBC	TBC

**Action: KL/SH to take project forward initially (co-ordination of Scoping Paper). Secretariat to organise first meeting of sub group**

### 3b. Closed Loop London Workshop

- 'Closed Loop London Discussion Framework' was circulated prior to the meeting.

Project focus:

- Developing a secondary materials economy - most London boroughs are moving away from sorting waste to co-mingling, meaning that London is missing out on jobs and growth opportunities such as paper mills.
- London is the only major capital city that does not control the collection and disposal of its waste.
- This was the aim of the Mayor's Waste Strategy and the GLA Waste team would be supportive.
- Pitch any work as about 'resources', rather than 'waste' – and make the link to one of London's strengths – design.
- Work on this could make recommendations on waste, which could be applied more broadly to closed loop.
- Design angle – e.g. buildings designed for 40 years but demolished after 10 years.
- The project should focus on 'Better use of materials', including in design, waste, etc – exact title to be confirmed.

- The work needs to provide economic analysis and state the business case for dealing with waste in London differently – what are the opportunity costs?
- In parallel, a connected but separate piece of work should be undertaken with a wider focus on closed loop, including:
  - What's Ellen MacArthur Foundation saying about closed loop, as well as chartered institutions, royal institutions, etc
  - Lessons from construction and other industries.
  - Experience in other European cities.
  - Olympic examples, including compostable waste.
  - Domestic waste.

Project approach:

- A similar approach to 'Green Entrepreneurs' stated above was recommended.
- NG to develop Scoping Paper with Secretariat guidance for 'better use of materials' project - an industrialist is likely to be required to conduct the subsequent research.
- SM & PdZ to develop ideas for a wider piece of work on Closed Loop.
- SM to retain leadership of this working group (including both projects) for the time being.

**Action: NG to develop 'Better use of materials' Scoping Paper.**

**Action: SM & PdZ to develop ideas for a wider piece of work on Closed Loop.**

**Action: NY to set up Closed Loop Working Group meetings when project timetable known.**

**Action: PF to confirm date of meeting with Matthew Pencharz and invite JP, KL, SH, SM, NG – confirmed for 13<sup>th</sup> Feb**

#### **4. LSDC Ways of Working**

- 'Membership, focus and schedule of LSDC meetings in 2013' was circulated prior to the meeting.
- Finance entrepreneurship expertise need is pressing although it is currently unclear exactly what is required.
- It was decided to delay recruitment of new Commissioners until the outcome of the LSDC bid for funding is known.
- The new structure is project driven rather than theme driven but LSDC still reserves the right to comments on Mayoral strategy/policy if they consider it appropriate.

**Action: MJ to add NG & HS to both LL/GE and Closed Loop Working Groups.**

#### **5. LSDC Ethical Sponsorship Policy and Procedure**

- 'LSDC Ethical Sponsorship Policy and Procedure' was circulated prior to the meeting.
- Under point 4 'nuclear' should be removed.
- It was agreed to adopt the policy and review it in a few months time.

**Action: MJ to amend policy as above.**

**Action: NY to monitor use & effectiveness of policy**

#### **11. AOB**

- It was suggested that LSDC may wish to consider becoming a charity.

**Action: PF to investigate LSDC becoming a charity.**

**Next Full Commission meeting Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2-5pm, City Hall (or Commissioner may host)**