

London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games

The Mayor is committed to making the 2012 Games most accessible, inclusive and sustainable games ever, that will provide a lasting legacy of a more inclusive London for visitors and Londoners alike.

The GLA is committed to working in partnership with its London 2012 partners¹ to meet targets in five key areas relating to equality and diversity: businesses, workforce, service delivery, communities and participants. In particular there is an emphasis on ensuring there are improved opportunities for disabled and deaf people in:

- Business opportunities for businesses owned and operated by disabled and deaf people (CompeteFor: registering interest to access contract opportunities provided by the Games)
- Opportunities for jobs and skills
- Accessible tourism, including provision of accessible hotel rooms
- Improved public transport, and provision of quality information on accessible travel
- Provision of smooth, safe and efficient operations to support the Games and keep London moving, through the London 2012 City Operations Programme.

What we have done

The Deputy Mayor of London chairs the London 2012 Equality and Diversity Forum², which champions and monitors progress on equality commitments for the Games. More information about the Forum is available in *Working towards an Inclusive Games, the First Annual Report of the London 2012 Equality and Diversity Forum*, which can be found at: <http://www.london2012.com/about-us/publications/index.php?pubType=&sort=date&keyword=Equality&pubcode=&x=32&y=14>

The LDA has recently completed research into the needs and expectations of disabled visitors to London³. Improving accessibility is a priority for GLA functional bodies, and inclusive design principles, policies and programmes are being planned to remove barriers and improve the level of service for disabled visitors.

The following achievements are those of the 2012 partners, as of March 2009:

- The ODA has a comprehensive inclusive design strategy
- the ODA's Built Environment Access Panel reviews the design of all Games venues against the ODA's Inclusive Design Standards which received an award from the Royal Town Planning Institute
- some 1,438 businesses have received targeted advice and support from the London 2012 Business Network in the year to April 2009. Of these two per cent are owned by disabled people
- between April 2008 and March 2010 a total of 16,837 people have worked on the Olympic Park. The Olympic Park workforce had risen to 6,442 people by March 2010, of whom 1.5 per cent declared disability; this is below the target

¹ These are Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA), London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (LOCOG), Government Paralympic Executive, (GOE), London Development Agency (LDA), Olympic Park Legacy Company (OPLC), including Transport for London (TfL)

² members of the Forum includes the ODA, LOCOG, GOE, LDA and OPLC

³ Is London Ready to Take Disabled Visitors? (LDA, 2010)

set of three per cent. The percentage of respondents who disclose disability suggests under-reporting

- at the end of March 2009, of the ODA's directly employed workforce of 242, five per cent were disabled people. Of the 250 directly employed by LOCOG, five per cent were disabled people
- over 1800 people have received construction training in the five host boroughs in the year since April 2008. In total, four per cent were disabled people.
- in 2008-09 the London Employer Accord gave employment support to 852 people, of whom nine per cent were disabled people
- in 2008-09 the Construction Accord delivered employment support to 1,175 people – against a target of 150. Of these, 11 per cent were disabled people.

What we plan to do

Our plans for promoting disability equality through the 2012 Games include:

- The Deputy Mayor will continue to chair the 2012 Equality and Diversity Forum, which will be meeting bi-monthly from now until the Games. The forum will publish annual reports on progress.
- The GLA Group and its partners, including LOCOG and the ODA, are working together to ensure that all Londoners and visitors have an outstanding overall experience during London 2012, ensuring full accessibility requirements. This work includes customer service and information provision as well as physical improvements to the built environment, and covers the wider city as well as Games Venues themselves. The GLA will continue to sit on the cross-programme Access and inclusion Integration Group to support this.
- The National Skills Academy for Construction (NSAFC) and the Plant Training Centre (both on the Olympic site), and Thames House (the first of three training schools planned for opening) will provide a combined total of 20,000 training places over the next five years and will link Londoners to employment opportunities stemming from the Olympic Park and Village, Olympic legacy and Thames Gateway regeneration projects.
- Up to 6,000 paid staff, up to 70,000 volunteers and about 100,000 contractors will work for LOCOG in the lead up to and during the Games in 2012. To create the most diverse workforce possible, LOCOG is intervening from both the demand side and the supply side of its market for labour, as well as launching specific outreach programmes for potential employees from a number of diverse backgrounds. LOCOG will also develop a series of recruitment action plans to ensure inclusion of target groups in the volunteer workforce for both Games.
- As part of City Operations, the GLA will develop an Accessibility for Visitors workstream that will co-ordinate information for visitors on accessible facilities and services
- Throughout the Cultural Olympiad, the portfolio of projects will be continually measured against diversity and inclusion measures.

For further information visit: <http://www.london2012.com/indexb.php> or <http://www.london.gov.uk/priorities/london-2012>