

**London Assembly
14 September 2005**

**Fifty-Fourth Mayor's Report to the Assembly
Author: The Mayor**

This is my fifty-fourth report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period from 7 July –31 August 2005.

London Bombings

London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund

Following the bombings on London's transport network on 7 July, the London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund was set up by the GLA, in association with the British Red Cross, to enable people who want to give money to assist the victims and their families. It was established as a registered charity with the purpose of providing financial assistance to the victims of the bombs as rapidly as possible. On 22 July, John Stoker, who served as the chief charity commissioner of England and Wales from 1999 to 2004, was appointed by the interim Trustees to manage the Fund.

The money from the London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund will provide assistance for the victims and their families as they may be facing a period of prolonged financial uncertainty as well as extra costs. The main source of compensation for victims of the bombings will be the government's statutory Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme.

Many thousands of members of the public have contributed to the fund since it was set up - via the phone, on-line, over the counters of post offices and high street banks, and via collection boxes in shops, London Underground stations and other locations across the UK. London Underground customers gave donations of over £100,000, in the space of one day at over 60 Tube stations across London, with over 250 Transport for London staff helping to collect money on Thursday 14 July - exactly a week after the 7 July attacks.

The Government has pledged £1m to the fund and many companies have also donated. A £300,000 donation from British based international relief and development charity Islamic Relief Worldwide was presented at City Hall by the President of the organisation, Dr Hany El-Banna OBE which was a gesture which underlines the fact that the more terrorists try to divide the city, the more we unite.

Interim grants of £5,000 have started to be paid to families of the bereaved as well as grants of £3,000 to those who were admitted into hospital overnight as a result of their injuries following the attacks on 7 July 2005. These initial payments will be supplemented at a later stage according to the emerging needs of those affected and the resources available to the Fund. By early August the total amount received or pledged to the London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund had reached almost £8m.

The British Red Cross has also provided a telephone support line for those directly affected by the bomb attacks and a Family Assistance Centre for those in need of help or advice following the bombings was also set up at Lindley Hall.

London United: One City, One World

A number of events and initiatives have taken place which have demonstrated how Londoners have united together since the bomb attacks.

On Thursday 14 July, a week after the bombings, London remembered all of those who died as a result of the events on 7 July. I addressed a crowd of thousands in Trafalgar Square and at noon millions of Londoners observed two minutes silence as every bus in the city stopped and businesses stopped. Londoners came out of their workplaces and homes onto the streets of London to remember those who died and to show their complete defiance of the terrorists. Books of condolences were opened in Trafalgar Square and in many other venues across London for people to sign throughout the day, and in the following weeks. City Hall opened books of condolence which were signed over the next few weeks by the Prime Minister, the Home Secretary, the Princess Royal among many others, including many members of the public. The Deputy Mayor received, on my behalf, a delegation of relatives of the 9/11 victims who had come to City Hall to sign the book of condolences and show solidarity with Londoners following the terrorist bombings.

London's response on the 14 July showed why the terrorists have no chance of success. Their attack has driven Londoners closer together not farther apart, and made them still more proud of their city. The remarkable unity showed by Londoners was not only the best way to commemorate those who died, but also an expression of the determination that we will never change our life under the threat of terror.

In the evening on 14 July, thousands of Londoners gathered for a vigil in Trafalgar Square to remember those who died and to show that London will not be moved from our goal of building an open, tolerant, multi-racial and multi-cultural society showing the world its future and to thank the heroes of the transport and emergency services who saved so many lives.

On 16 July, the Rise Festival took on the message of "London United" with more than 80,000 young people and families visiting Burgess Park to enjoy the music and the atmosphere at the London United free festival. The event was another opportunity for Londoners to come together after the bombing to show our determination to defend the multi-cultural unity of the city.

Return to service by Transport for London

I have commended the excellent work undertaken by Transport for London to get London's transport running following the incidents of 7 and 21 July. London Underground moved quickly to return the network to full service, and with the close co-operation between London Underground management and Infracos this was achieved in a relatively short time scale with full services being restored within four weeks. This is a testament to the professionalism demonstrated by Underground staff and the close working relationship between the Infracos and LU management. This work, in addition to sending out the message that we will not be cowed by terrorism, has allowed passenger numbers to recover quickly.

To increase the safety of Tube passengers, the Metropolitan Police and British Transport Police deployed officers in force to provide an extremely visible presence across the whole network. In addition to this the travelling public was also involved through a campaign of posters and public messages encouraging their renewed vigilance and reminding customers of their responsibility in ensuring that their belongings were not left unattended.

One London

The One London campaign, which has been developed over the last few weeks, with a clear and highly visible message showing our diversity and unity – seven million Londoners, one London – has been supported by thousands of Londoners who are wearing badges, displaying car stickers and putting up posters at home and at work. Since the advertising industry and media owners started the campaign on 1 August, the One London message has been featured at 750 sites across the capital and London's local newspapers. The campaign consists of outdoor posters, local press, and cinema adverts – with a value of £2 million – all of which has been donated free of charge.

In addition to this, from 22 August, almost every letter going through London will feature the One London logo, as Royal Mail became the latest company to support the One London campaign. It is the first time that the Royal Mail's franking technology has been used to support a campaign of this kind. 420,000 envelopes per day will feature the logo, meaning around 12 million in total will carry the message.

On 17 August, a multi-million pound campaign – “Everyone's London” – was unveiled which will be taking place through September and is aimed at boosting London's economic recovery. “Everyone's London” promises a series of specially staged public events and one-off promotions backed by myself, Transport for London and Visit London encouraging Londoners to take pride and participate in the very best that London has to offer.

Starting on 1 September we will help put the best of the capital on display with 100 great events and offers in ‘Everyone's London’. The aim is for seven million Londoners and visitors to London to look at the city's offerings with new eyes and see there is something for absolutely everyone, because that is what London is about.

Opening and closing with street festivals in Regent St and Oxford St respectively, September will see over 100 events, festivals and special days out staged across the capital, including an event to celebrate London hosting the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games event in Trafalgar Square and a unique cultural weekend.

These will be complemented by a series of promotions for Londoners; these include a major Transport for London (TfL) promotional campaign involving the bus, Tube, tram and DLR backed by advertising on and off the transport network over the next 3 months. TfL-backed promotions will include a fantastic offer on the British Airways London Eye, the London Zoo, musicals such as Fame and Saturday Night Fever and restaurants including Bella Pasta.

Unique events planned in September include the beginning of preparations for the London 2012 Games, where Londoners will have the chance to mark the historic victory in Trafalgar Square. Also, over 50 of London's cultural institutions will stage backstage tours, workshops and one-off offers across the weekend of 17th / 18th under the banner of ‘The Cultural Revelation’, whilst at the end of the month Oxford St will stage its very own street festival. The Society of London Theatres will also be running a major promotion throughout the month.

21 July Incidents

Following the incidents in on the transport system in central London on Thursday 21 July, I commended the swift work of the Metropolitan Police on their professionalism in putting together a picture of what occurred and in acting to locate and apprehend the suspected bombers.

The shooting of Jean Charles de Menezes, who was killed at Stockwell station on 22 July by armed police, was a terrible tragedy and I have expressed my deep sympathy for the family and friends of Mr de Menezes. The events that led to this terrible incident are still under investigation by the Independent Police Complaints Commission who will make their report at the end of the year.

In the wake of the criticism of the police action on 22 July and the subsequent activities of the MPS particularly that aimed at the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, Sir Ian Blair, I have given my public support to Sir Ian, and stressed that we will not be diverted from the important priority to combat terrorism in our city and promote unity and equality in London's diverse communities.

Response to Government's anti-terror consultation

On 15 August I submitted my response to the Home Office consultation document, 'Exclusion or Deportation from the UK on Non-Conducive Grounds' which follows recent terrorist attacks on London. I have stressed my support for measures to prevent terrorist attacks on this country, including excluding or prosecuting those planning, supporting or carrying out such attacks.

However, my comments particularly address those areas where the proposals appear to be in need of further detail, or where proposed legislation might have led to bans on opponents of despotic regimes such as the opponents of Saddam Hussein. Many significant figures in global politics have at some point been regarded as terrorists - including some of the founders of the states of Israel and the United States as well as the African National Congress - and that there was nothing to be gained in introducing legislation that would have banned such individuals or their supporters.

On 26 August, I joined together with Liberty, the main Muslim and Sikh organisations, MPs, trade unionists and lawyers to launch a campaign to ensure that any measures adopted by Parliament or the government against terrorism do not exclude or criminalise people who condemn attacks like the ones on 7 July and urge communities to work with the police to find those responsible.

The campaign plans to lobby ministers and MPs explaining that there is grave concern amongst the overwhelming majority of the communities whose co-operation is essential to identify and defeat terrorists and their supporters. A lobby of Parliament and a central London rally are planned for when Parliament considers any proposals.

A joint statement was released setting out the need for a 'broad consensus' in the fight against terrorism and expressing concern that parts of the Government's anti-terror proposals may 'risk criminalising or excluding people who condemn terrorist attacks and whose cooperation is indispensable to the work of the police in fighting terrorism.'

2012 Olympics

Mayoral Directions to LDA and TfL

Following London's successful bid to host the 2012 Olympic Games, announced in Singapore on 6 July, and in order to fulfil our commitments, I have issued directions to the London Development Agency and Transport for London requiring that each body does all things necessary to the exercise of its functions to implement to LDA interim projects in relation to the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, subject to the conditions set out in my Direction and

I have issued a statutory direction to the LDA to do everything necessary to proceed with all early preparations for the London Games in 2012. The LDA will be working with TfL to act as the interim Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA) to take forward the work that needs to happen before the ODA is operational. This includes preparing the Olympic Park for development. Key projects include:

- acquiring the remaining land necessary to deliver the Olympic Park
- managing the relocation process
- issuing some tenders for major design and construction contracts
- remediating some of the former industrial land

I can also report that the LDA has now selected the contractor J Murphy & Sons Limited to construct twelve kilometres of tunnels to replace the overhead power lines that currently cross the Lower Lea Valley. The two tunnels will be 20 metres underground, one 2.5m and the other 4m in diameter. The larger 4m tunnel is on the same scale as a London tube tunnel and will have its own monorail running down the centre for inspection and servicing.

This £70 million award, which is subject to finalising the contract, is the first stage in a £200 million project that will see more than 50 huge pylons, some higher than City Hall removed from the area. Their removal will free up over 40 hectares of land for development and therefore will be a crucial step in creating the Olympic Park and preparing the Lower Lea Valley for the 2012 Games.

I have also endorsed the DCMS letter on the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games (LOCOG) interim budget. I have approved funding from the Olympics reserve (£30,000) and the new initiatives reserve (£40,000) to meet the costs of temporary additional staff required in the GLA's Olympics team who will be appointed through the normal approval procedures.

Events

Notting Hill Carnival

This year's Notting Hill Carnival provided another opportunity for Londoners to come together in unity and to show their enjoyment of London's diversity and rich cultural heritage. Tens of thousands of Londoners enjoyed the sunshine over the bank holiday weekend and made the most of the entertainment. I remain committed to the Carnival's continued success as a safe and enjoyable event and, as in previous years, my office supported the stewarding operation.

As part of the overall celebrations, the Caribbean Showcase in Hyde Park took place for this first time, which was organised to complement the main activities in Notting Hill. The event was designed to promote Caribbean arts, culture, enterprise and cooking and was particularly aimed at families and others who want to be part of the weekend's Carnival celebrations and experience the diversity of London's Caribbean culture but want to avoid the crowds in the centre of Carnival. I continue to fully support Notting Hill Carnival, which is one of the key events in the London's cultural calendar, and the Caribbean Showcase has been created to add to the weekend's rich mix of activity.

I approved funding of up to £128,000 to be made available to London Notting Hill Carnival Ltd (LNHCL) in order to enable it to recruit and deploy 350 stewards at Carnival 2005 and deliver an effective and professional stewarding and route management operation. I agreed that payments to LNHCL will only be made in line with the agreed milestones of the Funding Schedule within the Funding Agreement between the GLA and LNHCL. I also agreed that funding of up to £28,000 to be made available to the Notting Hill Mas Bands Association (NHMBA) to provide accredited training for 200 band stewards. I agreed that payments to NHMBA will only be made in line with the milestones shown in the Funding Schedule within the Funding Agreement between the GLA and NHMBA.

I have approved an overall budget of £195,000 to cover the costs of event management, infrastructure, production, marketing and programming and the hire of Hyde Park as the venue for the Caribbean Showcase event at a cost of up to £10,000. I agreed a waiver of the GLA's contracts code of practise in relation to advertising the tender for event management, production and infrastructure services and allowed the proceeding with the process of procurement of event management production and infrastructure services and the appointment of Star Events Group at a cost of up to £100,000. I also agreed to accept of grant funding from the LDA of £95,000 and from the Arts Council of England of £80,000

London Mela

The 2005 London Mela 2005 took place in Gunnersbury Park on Sunday 14 August, supported by the GLA and produced by Ealing Council in partnership with Hounslow Council. The London Mela is a spectacular one-day festival, which celebrates the rich tableau of South Asian culture and creativity from London, the UK and overseas. It is one of the few melas in the country that commissions new work, provides a platform for emerging British artists, and brings traditional and classical art forms to a wider audience.

This year's Mela featured twelve zones, including contemporary and classical music and dance, street theatre, circus, cabaret, comedy, visual arts and spoken word, with something for people of all ages. The day ended with a spectacular finale on the main stage, including drummers, musicians and fireworks.

It is the third year that I have supported the London Mela, which is now a popular addition to the summer's calendar of cultural events, the London Mela is the climax of the Ealing Summer Festival and has previously attracted crowds of up to 75,000.

Liberty Festival

Liberty - the free festival, which champions disability rights and features the work of disabled artists and performers – will take place on 3 September on Trafalgar Square. The festival is being organised for the third year by the GLA, in association with Greater London Action on Disability (GLAD), and with contributions from Attitude is Everything, Shape, Creative Routes and London Disability Arts Forum. Liberty is aimed at everyone and is organised to be inclusive and accessible, with a range of facilities and services being available in Trafalgar Square.

This year's festival will feature a wide range of musical and other live performance, plus family arts workshops, stalls and displays, and an organic café.

New Year's Eve 2005

I have approved the plans for the organisation of the London New Year's Eve celebration on 31 December 2005, which are to include a firework display at the London Eye and other activities, including a reception and Winter Arts Festival on Trafalgar Square which will run from 25-30 December.

I have approved the renewal of a contract, as reported in September 2004, with Central Office of Information (COI) who will in turn renew their contract with Jack Morton Worldwide to design, manage and deliver an appropriate means to mark midnight in London on New Year's Eve 2005 based upon the event organised for 2004 for a total budget of a minimum of £1,000,000. I have also agreed to the GLA sponsorship raising strategy for the 2005 event and to ensure that the sponsorship raising strategy is met, COI will need to amend their contract with Jack Morton Worldwide accordingly.

Thames Festival

My annual Thames Festival takes place on 17 and 18 September and will again transform the River Thames and its surrounding parks and open spaces between Westminster Bridge and Tower Bridge with an extensive programme of free outdoor events over the weekend.

The Festival will close busy streets and will transform the river, parks and open spaces with a rich programme of new creative commissions, a riverside bazaar and night market, family oriented activities, street theatre, and music. There are activities on the river, opportunities to get down onto the Thames beach, all sorts of food and crafts stalls, as well as stalls and displays where visitors can learn more about the river and its environment

I have approved £65,000 funding for the Thames Festival 2005 from the 2005/06 cultural events budget.

Activ8 Festival

On 3 August, I hosted Activ8 in Hyde Park for 20,000 young Londoners, in partnership with the London Health Commission. Activ8 was part of nationwide events to mark national Playday, the biggest annual play celebration in the country. Like national Playday, Activ8 focused on the concept of 'fit for play?', in terms of both the individual and environment.

London's success in winning the bid to host the 2012 Olympics made this year's event particularly relevant. The growing excitement over the next seven years will inspire a new generation to engage in sport. Since many of the basic skills needed for sporting excellence – running, jumping, balancing, throwing, catching – are learned through 'play', it is especially important that children and young people are encouraged and able to do so.

My office and London Health Commission worked closely with events organisers to develop activities that would appeal to children of all abilities and ages, from birth to 18 years. Five zones – teens, under 5s, food, body and mind – covered 90,000 square metres of Hyde Park and included a range of activities designed to improve the physical and mental well-being of children and young people.

In addition to Activ8, I supported four local events including a joint event in Hackney and Tower Hamlets at Victoria Park; in Lambeth on Streatham Common; in Central London at Coram Fields; and at Ravenscourt Park in Hammersmith and Fulham.

Following earlier approval for the procurement for the delivery of an Activ8 event with a core budget of £33,000, the tender specification required contractors to submit proposals in relation to programmes for the total cost of £33,000, £60,000 and £100,000 and a contractor was appointed in accordance with the Contracts code of Practise for advertised contracts. I further approved a variation in the budget for an additional £30,000 from the GLA 2005/06 new Initiatives Reserve.

Festival del Pueblo

For the first time this year my office supported the Festival Del Pueblo in Burgess Park on 6th August. This festival is the largest Latin American festival in the UK, attended by over 60,000 people in the course of the afternoon and enjoying the participation of every significant Latin and Central American community in London.

I worked with the police and other public authorities to deliver the permissions for a longer route for the parade preceding the festival so that more Londoners could enjoy the spectacle. A small amount of funds, £5000, was also made available to improve the stewarding of the event.

Public Spaces Exhibition

In order to communicate the work of the Unit more widely, I have approved that the GLA Architecture and Urbanism Unit will stage a public spaces exhibition covering the range of public space projects with which the Unit has been involved. I have agreed funding for this exhibition to the value of £20,000 from the Architecture and urbanism programme budget. The GLA will enter into a partnership arrangement with New London Architecture as a unique supplier of the exhibition.

The exhibition will take place at the New London Architecture exhibition space, The Building Centre, from 12 September to 8 October.

Transport

PPP Annual Report

London Underground has published its second annual report into the PPP, in which the main findings are that although some progress is being made the Infracos Metronet and Tube Lines are not delivering the promised improvements quickly enough. TfL is paying a premium price for services that are falling short of those that TfL and passengers expect, due to the complex PPP contracts we inherited

British Transport Police

The latest crime figures from the British Transport Police (BTP), running from April 1 2004 to March 31 this year show that although LU carried a record 976 million passengers last year, overall crime levels on the Tube remained virtually the same. My funding of an extra 200 BTP police officers has enabled the introduction of "reassurance policing" on LU which means there is a dedicated team of between two to six police officers focusing on all station groups across the Underground network.

Docklands Light Railway Extensions

Work on expanding the DLR network continues to proceed on time, with test trains now running on the 4.4km extension from Canning Town to King George V stations, via City Airport.

I have also given my consent (as required by section 20(4) of the Transport Works Act 1992 (as inserted by section 168 of the GLA act 1999)) to authorise Transport for London through its subsidiary Docklands Light Railway Ltd) to submit an application for an Order under the Transport and Works Act 1992 for powers to build an extension to the DLR from Canning Town to Stratford International.

The Transport Works Act Order would secure the powers needed to build the extension, which will run from Canning Town to integrate with the CTRL station at Stratford International, due to be finished by late 2009 in good time for a successful London 2012 Olympics. The £110m project will be funded as part of Transport for London's five year £10bn Investment Programme.

Highways Order and Road Traffic Variation Order

I have approved the Highways (Designation of GLA roads) (London Borough of Enfield) Order 2005 and the Road Traffic (Special parking Area) (London Borough of Enfield) Variation Order 2005 following consultation with the London Borough of Enfield. The Order will allow TfL to safely manage diversions from the A406 whenever the Fore Street Tunnel is closed helping to ensure congestion is kept to a minimum.

Community Safety

Domestic Violence Strategy 2005

I have approved the draft Domestic Violence Strategy 2005 for consultation, providing a review of present achievements and setting a development plan for future work. The development plan includes increasing safe choices for women and children experiencing domestic violence, holding individual abusers accountable, promoting actions that undermine the social tolerance of domestic violence and providing children and young people with the knowledge and skills required to build relationships based on respect and mutual understanding.

The draft Domestic Violence Strategy will be circulated to all key stakeholders that include full membership of the Domestic Violence Forum and other relevant agencies for consultation. Following this consultation, the final Strategy, which will be my second Domestic Violence Strategy, will be published in November 2005.

Climate Change

Climate Change Summit

I have agreed to host an international conference entitled "C20: World Cities Climate Change summit) which will take place from 3-5 October.

Key cities from around the world will be invited to attend this high level policy discussion examining the vital issue of global and regional climate change and the key role cities must play in adopting effective adaptation and mediation strategies to combat the damaging impact of climate change. The conference aims to assemble best practices, committed municipal leadership and sustainable energy expertise to build the capacity of large city governments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as well as to adapt to climate change.

London Climate Change Partnership Appointment

On 12 August, I announced that Gerry Acher has been appointed to chair the London Climate Change Partnership. Until December 2001 Gerry Acher was a member of the board of KPMG and the Senior Partner of its London office. Between 1999 and 2004 he was a member of the Government's Advisory Committee for Business and the Environment. He is also a member of the President's Committee of London First.

The London Climate Change Partnership was set up to help ensure that London is prepared to deal with the changes that climate change is bringing to London. The Partnership works with local authorities, planners and developers to ensure homes and infrastructure are designed for higher temperatures and is working on flood risk management and water efficiency. The partnership will be widening its brief to encompass the businesses and people operating and living in London.

Climate change is the issue no government can ignore. As a major polluter London has a responsibility to the world to cut its carbon dioxide emissions. But we also have a responsibility to Londoners to plan for the consequences of climate change that are already happening. Gerry Acher is one of the most highly respected business people in London and his appointment is a major boost to the London Climate Change Partnership and presents a real opportunity to fully engage the private sector in tackling climate change.

Refugee and Asylum Issues

London's Local Press Awards

On 21 July, I announced the winners of the 2005 London's Local Press Awards at a ceremony at City Hall. These awards, supported by my office, the Metropolitan Police Authority, the National Union of Journalists, the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and LBC News 1152AM, recognise balanced and accurate coverage of refugee and asylum issues by many of London's local newspapers.

The winners were: News reports- Highbury and Islington Express; Background and comment material- Wembley Observer; Use of visual material - East End Life News; Comment or visual coverage in a faith or Black, Asian and minority ethnic newspaper - Al-Muntada (Paper of Iraqi Community Association)

I was pleased to see London's local press are demonstrating the media's responsibility to present a fair and accurate picture of London and its communities. Immigration and diversity is one of the city's great strengths and each new wave has enhanced London as a global city. I hope that these papers inspire others to act in a more responsible way, so as not to contribute to making London's refugees and asylum seekers more vulnerable, insecure and victims of hostility.

Other commended entries were the Camden New Journal and Ilford Recorder for their background and comment material on asylum seekers and refugees. The awards scheme follows independent research into media coverage of refugee and asylum issues that my office commissioned. The 'Media Image, Community Impact' report published last year, found evidence among the national press of unbalanced and inaccurate coverage, which was likely to cause fear and tension within communities across London. These community tensions can influence incidents of racial harassment of asylum seekers. The research also found that the local press are more likely than national press to provide a balanced picture on the issues that affect local people.

Consultation

Survey contracts

In line with the agreement to carry out an annual programme of public opinion research to inform decisions making, I have approved the proposal to conduct a series of telephone surveys and one comparable telephone survey in Scotland (in 2005) and one face-to-face survey (the Annual London survey) each financial year from 1 April 2005 until 31 March 2008.

I have agreed the award of the contract to conduct the 2005 Annual London survey to MORI. I have agreed that the telephone surveys and face-to-face surveys can be called off the market research framework.

Appointments

Council for the Advancement of Science and Industry

I have confirmed my approval of the appointment of Sir Richard Sykes as the Chair of the Council for the Advancement of Science and Industry. The Council was formerly the Regional Science and Industry Council and the work is supported by the LDA, to which the Council will report.

Sir Richard Sykes has been the Rector of Imperial College London since 2001 and has extensive and experience of both science and industry and will be a immense asset to the work in this area and I am delighted he will be able to contribute his knowledge and expertise to our city through this appointment. This post is unremunerated.

Stakeholders

London Civic Forum

The London Civic Forum is a non-statutory cross-sectoral organisation, which aims to represent the views of Londoners and address policy issues facing London. The Civic Forum has 950 member organisations and has grown by around one third since 2001 that represent a diverse range of communities in London. The Civic Forum has acted as a facilitator for information provision and policy development around a future vision of the capital, quality of life issues, civic pride, leadership and engagement. In order to take their programme of engagement and consultation forward I have approved the provision of funding for the London Civic Forum of up to £100,000 a year for three years, subject to the conditions in the authorised funding agreement.

The cost of this proposal will be met from the Project Development Fund in each of the three years subject to the Programme budget allocations being approved. I have also agreed to transfer any savings or claw backs from the funding to the general allocation within the Project Development Fund and to be made available for reallocation to other projects in accordance with recommendations by the finance sub-group allocation process and subject to my approval.

DASH Festival of contemporary Jewish Arts

I have made an offer of support to the DASH Festival of Contemporary Jewish Arts in London. DASH 2005 will present theatre, dance, visual arts and music of the highest quality from across the world, playing in some of London's leading cultural venues.

I have approved £20,000 from the Project Development Fund as a contribution to the cost of organising the event. I have approved the transfer of any savings from the project to the General allocation within the Project Development Fund and to be made available for reallocation to other projects in accordance with recommendations by the Finance sub-group allocation process and subject to my approval.

Housing

London Housing Capacity Study (LHCS)

On 26 July I published a new London Housing Capacity Study (LHCS) which shows that from 2007 to 2017 there is capacity to build 31,500 new homes every year across the capital. The LHCS underpins my proposals to alter the housing provision targets in the London Plan.

I intend to raise the target from 23,000 additional homes a year setting a new target of 31,500 a year. The study examined housing capacity across London and included an assessment of the housing potential of over 4,000 sites of over 0.5 hectares. It also included an extensive analysis of the potential housing capacity of smaller sites. I carried out the study in collaboration with each of the 32 London Boroughs and the Corporation of London. The study also tested a number of different policy scenarios and shows that the new housing can be delivered in line with existing Plan policies to protect open space, retain land to support employment growth and ensure the sustainability of new residential development.

London also has a huge backlog of housing need, particularly a need for more affordable housing. Without a dramatic increase in the supply of new homes we face a future where overcrowding gets worse and worse; where high housing costs keep thousands in the housing benefit trap; and where more and more Londoners are simply priced out of the housing market. Delivering this volume of housing will be a major challenge. Substantial levels of central government funding for affordable housing will be a key ingredient in helping us to provide the homes that the city desperately needs and that this study shows we can deliver. I look forward to working with the London boroughs and other partners to achieve this increase in housing output in a planned and sustainable manner.

Culture

Commission on African & Asian Heritage report

On 18 July, I launched the first report from my Commission on African and Asian Heritage, entitled 'Delivering shared heritage' (MCAAH) at an event in the Victoria and Albert Museum. Chaired by Dame Jocelyn Barrow, the MCAAH was established in August 2003 to take forward recommendations in the Mayor's culture strategy. The commission investigated the needs of Black and Asian community-based heritage organisations and assessed the priorities and working practices of key heritage institutions, such as museums and archives, to determine how they are serving the needs of African-Caribbean and Asian Londoners.

The commission's inquiry explored formal and informal aspects of the heritage sector, looking at how heritage is influenced and managed, how heritage workers are trained, and to what extent the educational curriculum is inclusive of the historical contributions of African, Asian and Caribbean citizens. It also looked into how community-based heritage organisations can be supported and resourced more effectively and how major institutions can establish better partnerships and utilise the experience and expertise within African, Asian and Caribbean communities.

Asian Guide 2005

On 26 July, my guide to Asian London was launched, with information about events and activities across the capital throughout the summer and the autumn. This includes melas and other festivals, exhibitions, theatre and dance; nightlife; plus information about places of worship, television, radio, and eating out in the capital.

The cultural opportunities that London offers are now unparalleled. Nowhere is this more apparent than with the diverse range of summer events and festivals that take place throughout the capital, many of which draw their inspiration from the heritage and creativity of London's South Asian communities. The Guide to Asian London 2005 features information about many events including the Waltham Forest Mela (31 July) and the London Mela (14 August), plus the Brick Lane Festival (11 September) and the Banglatown International Curry Festival (4-17 September).

Asian London 2005 is being distributed across the capital

Black History Month 2005

Following my support of activities taking place to promote Black History Month in previous years, I have approved the following events and initiatives to be delivered as part of my Black History Month 2005 programme:

- the BHM launch event on Monday 3 October 2005
- "In their footsteps": the London Black heritage Walking, Bus and River Tours throughout October 2005
- the establishment of the my Black History Scholarship programme including a £15, 000 contribution to the 3Ci conferences and events to develop and implement my Black History Scholarship Programme
- Kulture2Couture: Black Designers weekend (28-30 October 2005)
- the hosting of a series of exhibitions at City Hall throughout October.

I have agreed to establish an overall programme budget of £167,000 to cover the management, administration, contingencies, production and marketing costs of these events and initiatives and have agreed a contribution of £57,000 from the 2005/06 Culture initiatives budget towards the overall programme costs.

The Big Dance

I have agreed that the GLA undertake a project entitled "Big Dance 2006" - a pan London dance activity programme scheduled for 17-18 June 2006 - which is a new strategic initiative that includes a diverse range of communities and participants that represent all London boroughs alongside professional artists. The initiative will be undertaken by the GLA in partnership with a number of cultural organisations in the city.

London Development Agency

Crystal Palace Park

Following a packed summer of events, which have helped demonstrate the potential of the park and the breadth of interest in it, the LDA is putting together its planning framework for the park and its sports facilities. This will go to Bromley Council at the end of September and the proposals will be put to public consultation in October and November.

Wembley

The White Horse Bridge is set to be lifted into place in September following good progress on improvements to Wembley Stadium Station. The bridge and the revamped station are on course to be opened early next year in time for the opening of the new national stadium.

Tourism Strategy

We are now in the third year of the Tourism Action Plan for London, and the LDA is consulting on a future strategy and action plan for 2006-16. The objective is to arrive at a 10 year Vision for Tourism in London and a 3 year Action Plan. A round of consultation will be undertaken at a sub-regional level during September and October 2005 with a first draft of the new Strategy and Action Plan produced for further consultation in December 2005. The new Strategy and Plan will be launched in March 2006

LDA Corporate Plan 2005 – 2008

The LDA published its Corporate Plan for 2005-2008 which outlines how it will use its funds and provide support over the next three years. As part of my Economic Development Strategy (EDS) the LDA Corporate Plan details its contribution to the delivery of the EDS and how they will work in partnership with other organisations to deliver the actions London needs to develop in a sustainable way.

GLA Annual Appraisal Report

In accordance with the LDA Monitoring and Performance Evaluation Framework, which I approved in September 2004, the GLA has produced an annual appraisal report of the LDAs performance relating to the year 2004/05. I have approved the Report for submission to the Government Office for London.

The LDA has had the opportunity to provide comments and agreed with the recommendations in the report, which will be sent to GLA and submitted to Ministers by GOL along with GOL's own assessment.

London Snapshot Report

The LDA and GLA Economics published the first issue of 'The London Economic Development Snapshot' providing a snapshot of the progress made in delivering the objectives set out in my Economic Development Strategy by looking at a range of economic indicators that show the current position of the London economy.

The aim of this report, which to be produced on a 6 monthly basis, is to:

- Identify and review London's progress against the strategic priorities of the EDS - in the context of the UK and global economic environment.
- Provide a basis on which to review the priorities for London's economic development.
- Act as a catalyst for directing economic development activities in London.

The analysis shows that London is doing well across the board but that the challenges identified in my original EDS analyses remain substantial. It also shows that London is succeeding in improving productivity, that the workforce skills-base compares well to the rest of the UK, and that the rise in London's net business start-up rate underlines the fact that London remains the entrepreneurial capital of the UK. However the snapshot does highlight the key challenges that still remain including tackling the barriers to employment that undermine the employment rate, particularly amongst disadvantaged groups.

Trafalgar Square

Trafalgar Square summer arts festival

As part of my programme of events on Trafalgar Square over the summer months, in the first three weeks of August I held an arts festival featuring new and specially commissioned work including dance, aerial displays and song.

The overall theme for the festival is City Rites, looking at the rituals and ceremonies that help create the city's multi-faceted character. The first week (4-7 August) was called The City Dreams, focusing on the inner life of the capital. In week two (11-14 August), the City Speaks reflected on London's diversity and its many voices. The festival was brought to an upbeat and lively close with The City Celebrates (18-21 August).

The 12 events were attended by an average of 7000 each on Thursday to Sunday of each week.

The arts festival formed part of my plans to animate Trafalgar Square as a showcase for the city's diversity and its exciting arts and culture offer, making the Square a real destination for visitors and Londoners alike.

This year marks the second anniversary of Trafalgar Square being refurbished and it is the fifth year that I supported a programme of free events.

Managing Agent Service Contract

I have given retrospective approval to extend the existing Managing Agent Service Contract for Trafalgar and Parliament Squares with EC Harris Ltd for a period of 2 years from 1 April 2005-31 March 2007.

The Managing Agent service has formed an essential part of the framework for management and maintenance of the squares since transfer to the GLA. The Best Value review of the Squares in 2001 considered options for achieving high standards of maintenance on the Squares through contracted services and concluded that the Managing Agent Service was an effective mechanism for managing the maintenance contracts. This contract extension forms the first stage in the process of a wider review of the maintenance contracts for the Squares which are coming to the end of their three-year terms in October 2005.

GLA Budget

LFEPA Authorised Limits

I approved authorised limits for members of the GLA groups as reported in May 2005 following consultation with the Assembly and functional bodies. It is now necessary to increase the limit for LFEPA for other long-term liabilities of £38 million in 2005-06, £36.5 million in 2006-07 and £35 million in 2007-08.

I have now agreed, for consultation with the Assembly and LFEPA, a limit for these other long-term liabilities for LFEPA for the lease for its new headquarters accommodation as required under the Prudential Code. This report was considered by the Assembly's Budget Committee on 27 July 2005.

2004/05 Financial Statements

I have approved the 2004/05 financial statements for the GLA in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulation 2003 and have signed the statement of accounts. I have also signed the statement in internal control within the 2004/05 financial statements.

London Plan

Alteration to the London Plan: Recycling Facilities

On 25 July, I commenced consultation on an early alteration to the London Plan. The draft alteration shows that an extra 208 recycling plants and over 60 composting facilities are needed in London. These new facilities would allow 45% of municipal waste and 70% of waste generated by business to be recycled.

New technologies will be used to dispose of London's waste which will use this waste to produce renewable energy and hydrogen. This will also help to reduce London's contribution to climate change. These new facilities would meet my target that we should manage within the city's boundaries 85% of the municipal waste we create. Currently the majority of London's municipal waste is sent to landfill dumps in the surrounding areas.

The technical study on waste facilities, published alongside the draft alteration to the London Plan, identifies areas in London where these new facilities could be situated. These areas should see a boost to London's growing "green economy" creating jobs in new recycling and reprocessing industries.

We need to be more self-sufficient in the way we manage our waste – currently most of our municipal waste is taken to landfill dumps outside the city, which is completely unacceptable. The lack of London-wide government after the abolition of the Greater London Council has hampered the strategic management of London's municipal waste. London needs a single waste authority with comprehensive powers and resources able to plan and build the new facilities we need for the future.

The transformation in our approach to waste will see an expansion of London's green economy through the provision of new jobs and new opportunities from recycling and reprocessing but it also sees London facing up to its environmental responsibilities. These policies will maximise the amount of material available for remanufacturing, and embrace new technologies that produce renewable energy and renewable hydrogen, reducing London's contribution to climate change.

Safeguarded Wharves

Earlier this summer, the Government gave the go ahead to my plans to protect wharves on the Thames. This means the wharves recommended by myself and the Port of London Authority (PLA) for protection are now legally safeguarded for cargo-handling use.

Extra wharf capacity is needed to handle predicted increases in river borne freight. In particular, wharves all along the river are needed to give industries greater flexibility and help reduce the number of trips by heavy goods vehicles on London's roads.

The PLA and GLA submitted a detailed assessment of wharves in London and their future potential for handling cargo earlier this year. Central to this is use of the 'safeguarding' policy, which protects key riverside wharves from redevelopment into non-port use.

These recommendations have been accepted by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) and the Government Office for London has issued formal planning directions to protect the wharves. This updates existing government safeguarding directions and means:

- 25 wharves east of the Thames Barrier have been 'safeguarded' for the first time
- 25 wharves west of the Thames Barrier are to remain 'safeguarded'

Safeguarding is crucial for the continued expansion of river cargo handling to carry cargoes such as construction materials, and to support green industries and waste handling. It also balances land uses along the river and makes even better use of the Thames - one of London's most precious resources. The government's endorsement of my recommendations on Thames wharves means we can ensure a future for transport by river.

Following the ODPM decision, I have approved the executive Director of Policy and Partnerships sign Memoranda of Understanding on behalf of the GLA with four prospective wharf operators, the LDA and PLA. The Memoranda are designed to be non-binding documents demonstrating a common purpose in reactivating 3 safeguarded wharf sites for river-borne cargo uses.

Draft Sub Regional Development Framework (SRDF) for North London

On 26 July I published for consultation my draft Sub Regional Development Framework (SRDF) for North London. The SRDF provides guidance to boroughs and other organisations on the implementation of policies in the London Plan to help deliver a sustainable and prosperous future for North London.

The North London SRDF brings together a wide range of data and information about this sub-region and suggests issues boroughs should address as they prepare new Local Development Frameworks and other planning policy documents.

The SRDF provides a snapshot of the state of North London's town centres and the potential of its three 'Opportunity Areas' and three 'Areas for Intensification'. These are set to experience significant development in the future. The SRDF emphasises the need to co-ordinate the provision of new housing, transport infrastructure, jobs, schools, shops, local facilities and new or enhanced green spaces.

I have worked with the boroughs, North London Strategic Alliance (made up of the boroughs of Barnet, Enfield, Haringey and Waltham Forest) and other key stakeholders during development of the framework and thank all those who contributed to its preparation.

North London faces considerable pressures for growth. This growth presents both challenges and opportunities. The challenges include accommodating growth in a part of London where development capacity is generally scarce. This will require real partnership working to meet market and community needs and to relate these to existing and future public transport provision.

The boroughs have worked with my team over the past couple of years and have developed a good understanding of key issues. The exercise has assisted in creating a clearer vision of where North London's future lies.

The consultation period runs to 28 October 2005. Final publication of this SRDF is scheduled for early 2006.

The costs of printing and distribution and associated consultation costs will be met from the SDS team budget.

Draft Sub Regional Development Framework (SRDF) for Central London

On 26 July I published for consultation my Draft Sub Regional Development Framework (SRDF) for Central London. The SRDF provides guidance to boroughs and other organisations on the implementation of policies in the London Plan. The SRDF helps to plan a sustainable and prosperous future for central London, and recognises its importance for the rest of London and the United Kingdom as a whole.

The SRDF brings together a wide range of information about central London, which covers the London boroughs of Camden, City of Westminster, Islington, Kensington and Chelsea, Lambeth, Southwark and Wandsworth. It suggests a range of issues that boroughs and other stakeholders should consider in local policy, including the new Local Development Frameworks.

The SRDF assesses the structural economic forces bearing on the Central Activities Zone, which contains many of London's defining activities and features. It also looks at central London's other town centres and its six 'Opportunity Areas' and six 'Areas for Intensification'. Central London is set to experience significant development in the next ten years. The SRDF emphasises the need to co-ordinate the provision of new housing, transport infrastructure, jobs, schools, shops, local facilities and new or enhanced green spaces as development proceeds.

In preparation of this SRDF I have worked with the central London boroughs, Central London Partnership, Cross River Partnership, London First and other key stakeholders including the community and voluntary sectors.

Central London is one of the world's great places. Londoners and visitors identify with the unique mix of business, culture, entertainment and heritage found at the heart of London. It is a place that contains areas of considerable wealth alongside concentrations of deprivation. This SRDF strikes a balance between the needs of central London's residents, workers and visitors as well as reflecting its status as a centre of global business and culture. The SRDF provides guidance on how to accommodate these very considerable economic and residential pressures in a sustainable way, to benefit not just the sub-region but also London and the country as a whole. I thank all stakeholders who have helped develop the SRDF.

The consultation period runs to 28 October 2005. Final publication of this SRDF is scheduled for early 2006.

The costs of printing and distribution and associated consultation costs will be met from the SDS team budget.

Environment

Energy Action Areas

On 23 July, it was announced that New Wembley, Barking Town Centre, Merton and Aylesbury and Elephant & Castle developments in Southwark are being designated as my pilot Energy Action Areas. They will use renewable energy technologies to power developments, improve energy efficiency and become low carbon communities.

My Energy Strategy called for Energy Action Areas in London to showcase the future for energy use in London and I tasked the London Energy Partnership with developing and implementing the Energy Action Areas as a priority project. The London Energy Partnership is working on the ground with developers and local authorities to use renewable technologies in these areas to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide.

We need to implement major energy projects on the ground to forge the way forward in producing more sustainable energy and cutting London's contribution to climate change. The four successful areas announced by the London Energy Partnership represent an exciting mix of projects offering a range of responses to meeting the challenging targets I set out in my Energy Strategy. The experience that we gain in these areas will be used in developments across London and will establish London as a world-class city, recognised globally as a leader in exemplar sustainable energy developments.

New Wembley is a development of 3700 new homes and 137,000m² of retail and leisure facilities, and aspires to produce 37 per cent less carbon emissions than a typical London development. Schools and residential property in the Aylesbury area will have solar panels and wind turbines which will be integrated into buildings to generate energy and reduce emissions of carbon dioxide. Innovation will be demonstrated partly by technology but also finance and partnership arrangements.

I launched the London Energy Partnership in January 2004 to ensure that London takes a leading role in reducing energy consumption in the UK and works to minimise its impact on global warming by transforming London into a world-class city for sustainable energy.

Sustainable Development

Sustainable Development Report

I have agreed the recommendations of the Sustainable Development report subject to any final amendments by the Executive Director of Policy and Partnerships and have agreed the Director - Major Projects and Service Delivery will chair the Sustainable Development Policy Team.

Children and Young People

London Zoo

I have approved a continuation of the scheme to provide free visits and educational opportunities to London Zoo for children in London state schools and develop an outreach scheme targeting some of London's areas of deprivation where experience has shown that schools are less likely to visit the Zoo.

The scheme has been in place since 2001 and during that time 213,000 schoolchildren have benefited from a free visit, including 71,500 in the last year.

The cost of the scheme is £500, 000 for each of the financial years 2005/06, 06/07 and 07/08, making a total of £1,500,000 net of any inflation which may be accrued over the next three years.

E-Government

London Connects and London Portal

I have noted the current position and future vision of the London Portal and approved financial support, as proposed by London Connects, in support of the London Portal and other projects.

I have agreed to support the vision for the Portal in the immediate and medium term. I have also agreed to the proposed mechanism for ensuring the GLA and functional bodies are fully consulted in processes leading to the allocation of the funding including the appointment of a project manager by London Connects. I have also approved the spend proposals for the £500,000 allocated to the Portal project in the 2005/06 GLA budget and authority to enter into a formal funding agreement with London Connects. I have agreed the payment of £50,000 to London Connects for other projects. I have agreed to delegate authority to the Executive Director of Finance and Performance to agree that the GLA be the accountable body when funding is obtained from government sources for sums less than £50,000.

Equalities

Diversity Works for London

Following the launch of the initiative in March, I have approved the high level scope of the Diversity Works for London initiative, which is a joint LDA/ GLA initiative, funded by the LDA. I have approved the provision of continuing GLA officer support for elements of the Diversity Works for London initiative and promotion of this initiative.

I have also agreed to establish joint working arrangements between the GLA and LDA to support the delivery of my Diversity Works for London and Procurement Development Programme Initiatives across the GLA Group and have confirmed the GLA Group Statement of Principles of Supplier Diversity. I have approved the awarding of a contract on how best to implement fair employment and living wage terms in the GLA group contracts with a total budget of £100, 000 subject to reaching agreement on the funding of this between the GLA, TfL and LDA

Engaging Equalities

I have approved the allocation of £35,000 in the 2005/06 Project Development Fund and £65,000 in the 2006/07 Project development fund to provide funding for the 1990 Trust to enable it to undertake and implement its Engaging Equalities project which will seek to undertake mapping exercises of London's diverse communities and the way GLA group services are distributed, and the degree to which GLA group as employers service and reflect London's diverse communities.

It will also review the policies, timetables, procedures and action plans for the GLA group and the public sector in London under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000.

Women and Equalities contract

I have approved the appointment of Anne Kane, by way of a single tender action, for two areas of work. Firstly, a major research project aimed at understanding the role of women in the London economy, the barriers to their being able to play a full and equal part in the economy and the strengths and weaknesses of current anti-discrimination policies and secondly, to support my office in responding to government consultation proposals on equalities issues at a time when these are increasingly prominent in the legislative and policy-making agenda.

I have agreed to waive the GLA contracts code of practise to commissioning Anne Kane to undertake this work on the basis that highly specialised service that is being requested by the Authority the timescale by which the appointment is to be made and the limited number of suitably experienced and qualified consultants available to undertake this work. I have agreed the virements of £9600 from the Stakeholders Programme budget and £9600 from the Strategic projects and policy evaluation programme budget to a new budget line in the private sector programme budget.

GLA Organisation

By-election Insurance

I have noted the action taken to provide adequate financial cover in the event of a Mayoral or Assembly constituency by-election.

Environment Team

I have approved the principle of the proposed changes to the structure of the Environment Team including the net increase of two posts, as the most economic, effective and efficient way of delivering my environment strategies. I have agreed to support the proposal when it is presented to the Assembly's Business Management and Appointments Committee for approval. I have approved, subject to the Assembly agreement to the restructuring, the permanent transfer of resources totalling £132,000 (2005/06 - £81,000) from the Environment Programme budget to the staffing budget.

Audit Plans

I have approved the Strategic Audit Plan to cover the period 2005/06 and 2007/ 08 and the Annual Internal Audit Plan for 2005/06.

Internal Audit Reports

I have noted the contents and assurance levels of the following internal audit reports:

	<u>Assurance</u>
• Mayor's Planning Powers	Limited
• Ordering, Receiving and Payments	Substantial
• Contracts - Norland Managed service	Full

These reports will be presented to the Audit Panel meeting on 11 October.

Off site archive contract

I have agreed to tender and appoint an off-site archive provider for a period of 3 years with the ability to extend for a further 2 years. The contract will run from October 2005 to October 2008. I have approved an extension to the existing contract of 2 months, which may be required dependent upon the successful contractor. This 2-month period will allow for mobilisation of the current contractor, if not successful, because of the time it would take to remove our archives from storage and lodge them with a new provider.

Pay and Grading

I have authorised the inclusion of the post Head of Office - London House Brussels, which is currently a Mayoral Appointment, in the incremental pay and grading structure that was approved by the Assembly's Business Management and Appointments Committee on 29 June 2005.

City Hall

London's Living Room Quarterly report

I have noted the quarterly report for London's Living Room and have agreed to the procurement of a Christmas Tree for the front lobby at the end of the year.

Use of City Hall

I have agreed the following requests to use City Hall free of charge, and to agree a waiver of the fees and charges policy for this purpose, for the following events:

- Fast Track events Ltd to use London's Living Room as the location for a press conference to launch the 2005 London Athletics Grand Prix at Crystal Palace on Wednesday 20 July 2005
- London Play to use LLR to host the 2005 London Adventure Playground Awards on 27 September 2005
- Ensemble Productions to use London's Living Room to support an event promoting the contribution of Russian business and culture in London on 25 August
- The Gandhi Foundation to use the Chamber on 1 September 2005 (6-9pm) to hold the Gandhi Foundation annual lecture to be given by Sir Mark Tully
- "London Cares" a voluntary body which co-ordinates employee volunteering in London to use London's living room on 6 October 2005
- the British American Business Council to use London's Living Room to support a reception that promotes the FDI relationship between London and America
- "Unicorn Theatre" to use London's Living Room to launch a report in consultation with children on 16 August 2005 (11am-3.30 pm)
- the Federation of Student Islamic Societies (FOSIS) to use the Chamber and committee rooms 2, 5,6 and 8 to host a conference for Muslim Students and to authorise expenditure for this conference on 31 August 2005
- DG Environment of the European Commission and the UK Presidency of the EU to use London's Living Room and the Chamber to support the conference "In Motion! Visions for urban mobility and clean air" on 15 and 16 September 2005
- Counsel and Care, a registered charity, to use Living Room to support its annual lecture and AGM on 8 September 2005

Planning and Development Control

Unitary Development Plans

I have asked my officers to send a letter giving my comments about the following Unitary Development Plan representation:

- Barnet Replacement UDP: Post Inquiry Modifications

Local Development Frameworks

I have asked officers to send letters giving my comments about the following draft Local Development Framework representation:

- Kingston Town Centre Area Action Plan, RB Kingston

Stage II applications

Bermondsey Square

I have written to Southwark Council stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application.

Crystal Palace National Sports Centre

I have written to Bromley Council stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application.

Sites 1&2 Poplar High Street

I have written to Tower Hamlets Council stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application.

Tavy Bridge Estate

I have written to Bexley Council stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application.

Site WE5 Royal Victoria Docks

I have written to Newham Council stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application.

Rainham Quarry, Spring Farm Lane

I have written to Hillingdon Council stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application

Land North of Johnson Street

I have written to Ealing Council stating that I have decided to direct refusal of this application due to the loss of designated employment land.

Richard Challoner School, New Malden

I have written to Kingston upon Thames Council stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application

Former Hawker Siddeley site, Fulbourne Road

I have written to Waltham Forest Council stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application.

Karma House, 5757 North End Road

I have written to Brent Council stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application

71 Carmen Street and 134-136 Chrisp Street

I have written to Tower Hamlets Council stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application

Oldchurch Hospital

I have written to Havering Council stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application.

Polar Park, Bath Road

I have written to Hillingdon Council stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application.

2-6 Hardwick's Way and 127-129 Wandsworth High Street

I have written to Wandsworth Council stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application

133-144 Southwark Bridge Road

I have written to Southwark Council stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application.

South Bank University

I have written to Lambeth Council stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application.

Stage I applications

I have asked officers to send letters giving my comments about the following stage one referrals:

- 44-46 Borough High Street, LB Southwark
- University East London Docklands Campus, LB Newham
- Brunel University Osterley Campus, LB Hounslow
- 259 City Road, LB Islington
- Suffolk House, LB Croydon
- Tredegar Estate Regeneration, LB Tower Hamlets
- 133-137 Houndsditch, Corporation of London
- West Hendon Regeneration, LB Barnet
- 22 Marsh Wall, LB Tower Hamlets
- Axe Street Car Park, LB Barking and Dagenham
- Biro House, LB Harrow
- 2 Pier Road, LB Newham
- 40 Victoria Way, Charlton, LB Newham
- Perfume Factory, LB Ealing

- Hayes Station Goods Yard, LB Hillingdon
- Westminster Bridge Road Roundabout, LB Lambeth
- 2-6 Hardswick's Way/Wandsworth High Street, LB Wandsworth
- Honeypot Lane, Stanmore, LB Harrow
- 66 The Ridgeway, LB Enfield
- Highbury Square, LB Islington
- 210 Bishopsgate, Corporation of London
- 100-142 Union Street, LB Southwark

Copies of my planning decisions and background reports are available on the GLA website.

Planning Decisions Database

I have approved the allocation of a further £30,000 from the Planning delivery grant 2005/06 to the Planning Decisions Database project taking the total budget to £90, 000. The timetable for this project has been amended since the original approval for the project in order to enable the deliver of the project in providing a comprehensive system meeting the requirements of the Planning Decisions Unit.

Key Engagements

Among my additional engagements in the last two months were the following:

- I attended the signing of the Book of Condolence ceremony in City Hall on 11 July
- I attended the opening of the London memorial garden at Victoria Embankment Gardens on 11 July
- I attended the VE/ VJ Day reception at City Hall on 11 July
- I visited Edgware Road Tube station on 12 July
- I attended the MISC 26 meeting at the House of Commons on 12 July
- I attended the Rise Festival Photo Competition on 12 July
- I met with Charles Clarke MP, Home Secretary on 12 July
- I chaired the TfL Board meeting on 13 July
- I met with Lord Coe on 13 July
- I visited the Royal London Hospital on 13 July
- I met with the LDA representatives on 13 July
- I visited Kings Cross Station on 14 July
- I attended the London Resilience Forum on 14 July
- I attended the Police Bravery awards and dinner on 14 July
- I met with Bob Kiley, Commissioner for Transport for London on 18 July
- I met with TfL representatives on 18 July
- I visited the London Muslim Centre on 18 July
- I met with Cllr Mike Whitby, Leader of Birmingham City Council on 19 July
- I attended the launch of the Greenpeace report on energy on 19 July
- I met with the Cambourne Youth Band on 19 July
- I met with the Leader of the ALG, Sir Robin Wales on 19 July
- I met with James Purnell MP, Minister for Creative Industries and Tourism on 19 July
- I met with Sikh Organisations on 20 July
- I attended Bureau of Leaders on 20 July
- I met with Sir Ian Blair, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Service on 20 July

- I addressed the London Government Leaders reception on 20 July
- I met with Jamie Oliver on 21 July
- I addressed the London Local Press Awards on 21 July
- I attended the launch of the Southwark Credit Union on 21 July
- I met with tube safety representatives on 22 July
- I attended the London Athletics Grand Prix on 22 July
- I visited the Family Assistance Centre on 26 July
- I met with Matt Wrack, General Secretary of the FBU on 26 July
- I met with Muslim Leaders on 26 July
- I met with Karen Buck, MP Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Transport on 26 July
- I visited Greenwich View Place, Fire Brigade control room on 27 July
- I met with Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero, the Prime Minister of Spain on 27 July
- I met with Lord Rogers on 27 July
- I met with Jules Pipe, Mayor of Hackney on 27 July
- I attended the Olympic Board meeting on 28 July
- I met with John Biggs AM on 28 July
- I met with Froglife on 28 July
- I met with Sally Hamwee AM on 28 July
- I met with Jennette Arnold AM on 28 July
- I attended the Coin Street Lighting Ceremony on 28 July
- I met with Michael Snyder, Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee at the Corporation of London on 2 August
- I met with Major General Henry O Adefope, IOC member on 2 August
- I met with Tim O'Toole, Managing Director of London Underground on 2 August
- I attended the Trafalgar Square Festival on 4 August
- I attended the premiere of The Island on 7 August
- I met with representatives of the LDA on 8 August
- I met with Val Shawcross AM on 8 August
- I attended the MPS internal seminar on 10 August
- I attended the Olympic briefing on 23 August
- I met with Accenture about the Olympics on 23 August
- I met with Lord Coe and Olympic officials on 23 August
- I attended a dinner with Gilbert Felli, the Executive Director of the Olympic Games on 24 August
- I met with John Prescott MP, Deputy Prime Minister on 25 August
- I met with Riley Bechtel, Chair and CEO of Bechtel on 25 August
- I addressed the Muslim Students Forum on 31 August

Ken Livingstone
31 August 2005

Background Documents: Mayoral Decision List
 Director Decision List