

Full LSDC meeting
3 rd October 2024 14.00 – 17.00
The Boardroom, Imperial College London, South Kensington Campus, SW7 2AZ

Commissioners: Ashok Sinha, Leonie Cooper, Jo Blackman, Nick Mabey, Syed Ahmed, David Elliott, Dimitri Zenghelis

Secretariat: Nusrat Yousuf, Jon Emmett, Megan Dalgarno

Apologies: Charlie Wood, Paul Toyne, Malini Mehra, Richard Templer, Maria Adebawale-Schwarte

Agenda:

1. Introduction and round up from the Chair
2. Environmental priorities discussion with Mete Coban, Deputy Mayor for Environment
3. Mayoral mandates - Catherine Barber, Assistant Director, Environment, GLA
4. Growth Plan presentation - Natan Davies, Senior Manager Economic Strategy, Innovation and Industrial Policy, GLA
5. Just Transition Workstream Update
6. Social Value Workstream Update
7. AOB

1. Introduction and round up from the Chair

- Ashok recently represented the LSDC at the London Partnership Board (9th September) and the London Assembly's Environment Committee meeting (19th September).

Agreed: At the end of the current term, there will be a transition meeting (if LSDC renewed) and dinner and drinks to celebrate.

2. Environmental priorities discussion with Mete Coban, Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy

Key discussion points from Mete:

- The Mayor's priority is delivering his manifesto commitments
- As all policies developed, Mete wants to create shared ownership and co-design policies and programmes
- He is looking to align all relevant strategies and documents to have one coherent message on net zero
- Boroughs are seen as a core stakeholder in delivering action, and the Mayor's Office is working to understand how to equip boroughs and support them to deliver on manifesto commitments and key net zero programmes
- Mete has raised green jobs and skills with Howard Dawber, DM for Business. He is keen for just transition to be a key strand throughout the Growth Plan. He is working with the Skills and Education teams and other sectors to understand what skills will be needed over next 10 years.
- Mete has had several meetings with central government and ministers, and notes they are receptive to ideas. Has highlighted difficulties with current bidding process for funding.
- **Ask from Mete to LSDC:** The LSDC should flag any opportunities to engage businesses and different groups of people with climate action in London to Mete (can contact him directly).
- **Ask from Mete to LSDC:** Mete is happy to be contacted directly for follow up discussions with commissioners.

Actions:

- **Secretariat** to arrange follow up calls with Mete Coban for the following:
 - Nick Mabey about London Climate Action Week and the Web Summit
 - Syed Ahmed and Mete Coban on Community energy

- Dimitri Zenghelis on Treasury discussions
- **Secretariat** to plan meeting with Mete Coban to discuss and explore further options for Green Finance, to build on existing LSDC work and highlight areas where LSDC can support work by City Hall (if LSDC renewed)
- **Jon Emmett** to have follow up discussion with Nick Mabey regarding green finance in green infrastructure.
- **Jon Emmett** to brief Mete Coban and Zak Bond on possible LSDC Just Transition webinar with LC.
- **Secretariat** to share Mete Coban's email address with commissioners.

3. Mayoral mandates - Catherine Barber, Assistant Director, Environment, GLA

- Catherine shared confidential overview on the Mayor's new mandates and missions.
- Catherine shared that the GLA is looking for ways to support boroughs to spend more carbon offsetting funds locally, and looking to improve capacity building at local levels to make the most of funding opportunities. Funding will also be targeted at those most in need.
- Nusrat Yousuf and the wider Environment team are responsible for mainstreaming environment and net zero throughout mandates.
- Current London Environment Strategy still contains useful information and the Mayor's Office will be considering options for updating over the next few months.

Actions

- **Nick Mabey** to speak with Catherine on green finance opportunities and support organisations could provide.
- **LSDC Commissioners** to share any thoughts on carbon offsetting policies and practice in London with Catherine

4. Growth Plan presentation - Nathan Davies, Senior Manager Economic Strategy, Innovation and Industrial Policy, GLA

- The slides from Nathan's presentation will be shared with Commissioners.
- The GLA are working to increase private investment in London. Also looking to improve trade with Europe since Brexit.
- The GLA are looking to strengthen London's global position as a leading hub for climate tech business. Currently improving understanding of what start ups need to grow.
- The GLA is aiming to increase access to jobs and entrepreneurship opportunities for under-represented Londoners in the green economy.

Discussion and feedback from commissioners

- The cost of living is highlighting gaps in policy priorities, and Londoner's should be helped to access lower energy costs and reinvest savings into energy efficiency measures – which in turn will help grow the economy.
- There are lots of new technology but existing technologies, such as basic insulation, is still lacking in London's homes.
- Low grade offices are an issue on the horizon and the need to make these energy efficient – need to look at how we use these spaces in the future
- London's clean tech and Low Carbon Environmental Goods and Services sector will continue to help decarbonise all goods and services.

Agreed: Secretariat to keep LSDC Commissioners updated on the Growth Plan to provide further where needed.

5. Just Transition Workstream Update

- The Community Retrofit interim report is due to be launched at an event at the start of November. Commissioners have been invited.

- Commissioners thanked Jon for his work on the Just Transition workstream.

6. Social Value Workstream Update

- The Social Value in the London Plan report was published in August 2024 and a launch event took place mid-September to discuss best practice in the built environment sector.
- Commissioners thanked Megan for her work on the Social Value workstream.

Action: Megan to share social value event slides with commissioners.

7. AOB

Agreed: Commissioners will be invited to a transition meeting in November to discuss future direction of LSDC. There will be dinner and drinks to follow to celebrate the work by the commissioners over the last term and to say goodbye to those stepping down.