

**Letters sent from the Deputy Chair of the Economic  
Development, Culture, Sport and Tourism Committee  
following the publication of its report into:**

## **The ticketing arrangements for the London 2012 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games?**

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**9 March 2011**

Boris Johnson  
Mayor of London  
City Hall  
The Queens Walk  
London  
SE1 2AA

Dear Mayor

On Thursday 10 March, the London Assembly's Economic Development, Culture, Sport and Tourism Committee is publishing its report into the ticketing arrangements for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. I enclose an embargoed copy of the report.

In the report, the Committee expresses concerns about the volume of tickets that are being reserved for sale to public bodies and considers that the numbers being allocated to the Government, GLA and local authorities seem excessive.

The Committee urges restraint and argues that there should be public accountability and transparency for each ticket purchased by all public bodies. We conclude that you have the opportunity to set the standards for transparency and accountability in relation to Olympic tickets and to encourage other public bodies to apply the same standards. We therefore make the following recommendation:

"We recommend that the Mayor adopt the principles we have set out in this report. He should publish a register that accounts for any tickets he receives. It should state to whom each ticket was allocated and the reason for the allocation. Where the cost of the ticket is not to be met by the individual attending the event, the case for meeting the cost from public funds should be made. The Mayor should make a public commitment to this approach in his response to this report and we further call on him to join the Committee in making a similar request to central government."

I would be grateful if you could respond to the Committee's recommendation by 6 April 2011.

Yours sincerely,



**Dee Doocey AM**

Deputy Chair of the Economic Development, Culture, Sport and Tourism Committee

**For further information contact Tim Jarvis, Scrutiny Team Manager on:**  
020 7983 4390 or [tim.jarvis@london.gov.uk](mailto:tim.jarvis@london.gov.uk)

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Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP  
Secretary of State  
Department for Culture, Media and Sport  
2-4 Cockspur Street  
London  
SW1Y 5DH

**9 March 2011**

Dear Secretary of State

On Thursday 10 March, the London Assembly's Economic Development, Culture, Sport and Tourism Committee is publishing its report into the ticketing arrangements for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. I enclose an embargoed copy of the report.

In the report, the Committee expresses concern about the volume of tickets that are being reserved for sale to public bodies and considers that the numbers being allocated to the Government, GLA and local authorities seem excessive.

The Committee urges restraint and argues that there should be public accountability and transparency for each ticket purchased by public bodies. We call on each public body to publish a register which sets out how many tickets, if any, have been purchased; to whom each ticket has been allocated and why; and how the cost of each ticket has been met.

We have also asked the Mayor to take a lead on this issue. Our specific recommendation to him, which sets out how we consider such a register should work, reads:

"We recommend that the Mayor adopt the principles we have set out in this report. He should publish a register that accounts for any tickets he receives. It should state to whom each ticket was allocated and the reason for the allocation. Where the cost of the ticket is not to be met by the individual attending the event, the case for meeting the cost from public funds should be made. The Mayor should make a public commitment to this approach in his response to this report and we further call on him to join the Committee in making a similar request to central government."

We understand from LOCOG that central Government is bidding for 9,000 tickets to cover Government Departments, Government agencies such as UKTI, and host venue councils but that the figures have not been finalised.

I would be grateful if you could reply on behalf of government to this letter by 6 April 2011 responding to our proposals.

**For further information contact Tim Jarvis, Scrutiny Team Manager on:**  
020 7983 4390 or [tim.jarvis@london.gov.uk](mailto:tim.jarvis@london.gov.uk)

I am writing in similar terms to the Mayor and each of the 32 London boroughs.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Dee Doocey', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Dee Doocey AM**

Deputy Chair of the Economic Development, Culture, Sport and Tourism Committee

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London Borough

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We understand from LOCOG that up to 100 tickets have been made available to each London borough. I would therefore be grateful if you could reply to this letter by 6 April 2011 responding to the Committee's proposals.

**For further information contact Tim Jarvis, Scrutiny Team Manager on:**  
020 7983 4390 or [tim.jarvis@london.gov.uk](mailto:tim.jarvis@london.gov.uk)

I am writing in similar terms to the Mayor and Secretary of State for the Department of Culture, Media and Sport.

Yours sincerely,

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**Dee Doocey AM**

Deputy Chair of the Economic Development, Culture, Sport and Tourism Committee