

***Legacy Limited?* - Report of the London Assembly Economic Development, Culture, Sport and Tourism Committee**

**Joint response by the Mayor of London and Olympic Park Legacy Company**

**Recommendation 1**

The Mayor should ensure that the regeneration targets included in the Olympic Park Legacy Company's Business Plan will complement the targets in the Strategic Regeneration Framework, and that they are accompanied by a clear implementation plan and performance milestones. The funding that will be available to meet these objectives should also be confirmed.

**Response on behalf of OPLC and the Mayor**

The Olympic Park Legacy Company is strongly supportive of the Strategic Regeneration Framework (SRF) and continues to play an active role in its development, with Company officers represented on the thematic groups for Housing, Economy and Worklessness. The SRF 'convergence' objective is core to the Company's role, and the Company will be defining its contribution to the convergence objective as a priority action in 2010/11. Additionally, the Company has established a Communities Committee, chaired by Lord Mawson, that will work at a local level to promote the Company's engagement and partnership with local communities and the wider east London community. The Committee's aim is to maximise the impact of the Company's work to the benefit of local people and ensuring a lasting and sustainable legacy from the Games.

The Company has yet, however, to confirm its long-term funding situation or work plan. The Company will be working with its Founder Members over coming months to refine its work programme, define its budgets (in the context of a Comprehensive Spending Review) and agree deliverables and targets. These will inform the development of the Company's first full Corporate Plan, and we expect these plans to complement the wider aims of the SRF.

**Recommendation 2**

The Mayor, in consultation with government, should clarify how the decision-making process for the Olympic Park Legacy Company will operate: which decisions will be delegated to the Board of the Company and which will be made by the Mayor and Government. The Committee asks that the Mayor clarify the decision-making process in his response to our report.

**Response on behalf of OPLC and the Mayor**

OPLC's Founder Members have agreed the Company's strategic aims:

- to assist the Government and the Mayor of London in discharging the legacy commitments made in the bid to host the London Olympic and Paralympic Games;
- to secure the timely development of the Olympic Park as a high quality, sustainable mixed community;
- to promote social, economic and environmental benefits for local communities;
- to secure the long term development and management of the Olympic Park site and venues, in ways that provide lasting national and local sporting, cultural, education and leisure value and benefits, and preserve the Olympic heritage;
- to work with partners to contribute to long-term economic growth and prosperity in the wider area;

- to undertake all its functions in such a way as to maximise value for money and promote sustainable development, community involvement and equality of opportunity; and
- to facilitate the orderly transfer of property, assets and liabilities of the ODA on principles agreed by the Founder Members.

The Company has authority to further these aims in line with delivery plans agreed with Founder Members, with its own internal scheme of delegation and with specific financial delegations. The details of the delegations are still being negotiated with Founder Members, although Founder Members will continue to be involved in major decisions such as the future of the Olympic Stadium

### **Recommendation 3**

The Olympic Park Legacy Company should set out in its forthcoming Business Plan what steps it will take to ensure employers on the Olympic Park after the Games provide employment for local residents, previously unemployed people and apprentices. Targets for the employment of local workers and trainees should be much more ambitious than those currently in place for the construction of the Olympic Park. Specifically, the Olympic Park Legacy Company should set more ambitious targets for the proportion of previously unemployed local residents to be employed on the park and for the proportion of local people to be offered apprenticeships on the park.

### **Response on behalf of OPLC and the Mayor**

The Company has identified 'promoting convergence and community participation' in the opportunities that the Olympic Park will offer as a priority theme (together with 'championing equalities and inclusion' and 'ensuring high quality design and sustainability'). In coming months, the Company will be developing its Jobs, Skills and Enterprise strategy which will identify potential benefits to be generated from the physical development and ongoing management of the Olympic Park, including the creation of new jobs, apprenticeships and business space. The Company will work with its Founder Members and Board to agree appropriate deliverables and targets as part of that process.

The strategy will set out the Company's commitment to working as part of a wider regeneration partnership with support and inputs from the Boroughs, the LDA and other service providers, local communities, social enterprises, other landowners and developers to deliver local regeneration benefits. The Company is already working with partners to ensure that it is able to add value to skills and employment projects. For example, the Company sits on the Project Board of the Stratford Retail Academy and will continue to work with Westfield and partners. The Academy has a primary focus on the provision of retail training, however the Project Board is keen to develop the facility's 'offer' to meet the needs of a wide range of future Olympic Park tenants including leisure, hospitality and office based employers. It is important to stress that the success of the Company's Jobs, Skills and Enterprise policy rests on a commitment from mainstream funders of employment and skills provision such as the LDA and Jobcentre Plus to maintain current levels of focussed investment and activity in the five Host Borough area beyond 2012.

### **Recommendation 4**

The Mayor should enter discussions with the Government and the Olympic Delivery Authority to confirm that the priorities of the Olympic Park Legacy Company regarding residential development on the Olympic Park will be reflected in decisions about the future of the Olympic Village. This requires effective co-ordination between the Olympic Delivery Authority, Olympic Park Legacy Company and private sector partners. The Mayor should clarify the scope of the Company's role in these decisions in his response to our report.

### **Response on behalf of OPLC and the Mayor**

The Company recently established a Joint Programme Board, which it chairs, with the ODA to deal with major programme lines that affect the legacy on the Olympic Park. The Olympic Village is a major point for joint working between the two bodies and the Company is playing an active role in deciding the future development of the site, with both private sector partners and bodies with an interest in the local community.

### **Recommendation 5**

The Olympic Park Legacy Company should set out in its forthcoming Business Plan how it will ensure future tenants and owners of the venues make sporting facilities on the Olympic Park accessible for community use, for able-bodied people and people with disabilities.

### **Response on behalf of OPLC and the Mayor**

The Olympic Park Legacy Company has identified 'championing equalities and inclusion', and 'promoting convergence and community participation' as corporate priority themes. Its plans for meeting these objectives are under development, and these priorities are reflected in the Company's current discussions with potential facilities management contractors and stadium tenants. The Company's plans will encourage the widest possible community use of the sporting venues after the Games, as well as full accessibility to disabled and able-bodied people.

### **Recommendation 6**

The Mayor should ask the Olympic Board to review the allocated budget for the initial transformation of the Olympic Park, following the publication of the new Legacy Masterplan Framework by the Olympic Park Legacy Company in spring 2010. The review should set out how the funding will be spent, what it is expected to deliver and what will need to be funded from other sources in the future. The Committee asks that the Mayor confirm plans for this review in his response to our report.

### **Response on behalf of the OPLC and the Mayor**

The Company is undertaking analysis of the funding, over and above transformation that it will need to manage, develop and operate the Park to high quality standards, including capital costs. This will inform engagement with the Company's Founder Members and with the anticipated Comprehensive Spending Review after the election.