

**Economy, Culture and Sport Committee  
8 November 2011**

**Transcript of Item 6: Disturbances Recovery Funding**

**Dee Doocey (Chair):** Shall I start off and ask in what ways will the funding tackle the root causes of the disturbances?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** In itself it will not. What it does need is to be joined back into the public sector spend and programmes of the local areas so one of the things that we are doing is working hard with boroughs to develop the longer term economic case for our spend so it is not just about painting buildings and it is not just about putting streets back to where they were; it is about making sure that they deal with some of the issues around unemployment and connectivity back into the social problems of the area.

I can give you an example of that. You know that Stuart Lipton has been appointed as the Mayor's Adviser for Tottenham and one of the things he is talking to us about is a three phase process which is how we start the process of engaging with community and the long-term solutions; how we start putting together the plans for physical rebuild; and then how we make sure that the local councils are following through in terms of their core programmes and spend so that it is not lost and is a continuum. Our responsibility will exit on build and we will make sure that the council is ready, hopefully, to carry on and put right some of the social fabric that needs repair.

That is the approach that we are operating wherever those sorts of problems exist. In a lot of areas it was merely physical damage with vandalism in some cases and clearly the local councils will have different plans and different prospects and that is what is taking the time; tailoring the programmes to the individual projects, understanding some of the root problems and putting together individual packages, rather than off the shelf solutions.

**Dee Doocey (Chair):** I think you have almost answered it but can I ask how the ongoing research is going to determine what happens and what is the timescale for all the funding streams?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** Some of the councils have been quite slow in bringing their proposals. We anticipated having fairly quick responses and we have not had them in some cases. The latest submission that we had was less than two weeks ago, despite very early meetings with boroughs. They are obviously putting a lot of thought into this. What we are doing now is using GLA Economics to help with the business case. We are also putting together some proposals which will be subject to local consultation so this is not the council just doing things to the community. We made it clear at the start that would not be allowed.

There will be three critical things that I am interested in, in terms of that evaluation: the number of jobs that are created in the short run; the number of jobs that are there in the long run; and the economic impact on the proposals and developments limiting council spend going forward.

GLA Economics is putting people in to assist in the development of those cases. We anticipate that coming back probably at the end of the month to the first week in December 2011. That should enable us to go forward with early decision making subject to final business case and we are integrating that with the Outer London Fund timetable so that, in effect, it is not a put one submission in and fail; we are looking at the continuum we talked about before from pure Outer London Fund to pure Regeneration Fund and making sure that things are considered jointly. That means we should be in a position to announce decisions across both of those funds on a coordinated timetable, probably in mid-January 2012.

**Andrew Boff (AM):** To an extent you have just about covered my question which was about being concerned that if it is only capital investment all you deliver is tidier deprivation. How successful have you been with the Government about securing some ongoing revenue funding to regenerate some of these areas?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** We have not. This is where there is a real case for London lobbying to change the nature of some of the funding and maybe create an ongoing pot of money to do this. What we have done is look at where we can use European money as a proxy for Government money to do some work around skills. Part of the proposition when we have talked to borough is, if you can find a match we have some European money, and put it together to provide longer term solutions and create some programmes and prospects. Again, we will help with that process.

I do think the issue really arising is, is London getting a fair deal from Government funding. There is currently a debate around the retention of business rates and we need to make that proposition very clear. Again, we have had that conversation. A fairly strong letter has gone in from the Mayor asking for greater devolution of powers and money and, again, we have made the point to London Councils that they should be following a similar regime.

**Andrew Boff (AM):** How can the GLA itself ensure that the funding does deliver jobs and apprenticeships for local people?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** The only way you can do that really is either a very robust business case and validate it before you give them the money - that is where we need to be very clear that that happens. The second is making sure that the contracting arrangement mirrors the bid. That is another thing that occasionally does not go well. If the promise is there but the performance in the contract is not there in the specification you could end up with a Bombardier thing in terms of Siemens getting something rather than a British company; so the specification is really important. Then there is the follow through in the metrics and the reporting. That is why we think it is important that the councils are publicly accountable for their promises, because they are going to deliver this for their communities.

**Andrew Boff (AM):** Is there any way that the GLA can put together an agreement that puts in a guarantee of local jobs?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** I wish there were.

**Andrew Boff (AM):** I knew the answer to that, unfortunately.

**John Biggs (AM):** This is seen as predominantly a capital series of projects. Is there room for revenue applications as well?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** Only at the margin. It is primarily a capital fund and that is why we use European Social Funding, which is revenue funding, to help alongside some of the social impact --

**John Biggs (AM):** A more substantive question then which follows from your opening comments and worries me quite a bit. Clearly we live in a political world where politicians want to get money out the door and be seen to do things. Also there is a whole series of projects going on to understand the underlying causes of the riots. Now we all have our theories. Down the boozer we can explain to each other why it happened. Unemployment is part of it. Training and skills is part of it and so on. There is a tension between, on the one hand, getting money out the door and building things which may have been waiting on the shelf for some time, for example, and, on the other hand, doing things which properly interpret and understand the causes of the disturbances. For example, you might want to spend more on capital which helps to facilitate training and skills to get people into employment - whether it is in Tottenham or anywhere else or in Croydon or anywhere else - as against a landmark shopping centre which gives a bit of sparkle to the area but does not necessarily tackle the underlying problems.

How do you see the tension between getting things done quickly and being seen to do things and being thoughtful and addressing the underlying issues?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** I think it is not necessarily a problem with capital projects because we have time to consider it and deal with it. That is one of the reasons that we put in the consultation period; to make sure that there was broad support for the proposition from local people. It is fine us devising solutions in City Hall, it is much better if local people and local businesses have a view on the investment and whether it is going to create change. That really is why we put in the delay between December 2011 and January 2012, to allow that to happen.

Also, one of the things that we need to be very clear on is, it is always easy to spend money. Spending it well is very difficult. Again, that is why we have put in the economic assessment and why each of the consultation documents will have in the number of jobs in the short run, the number of jobs in the long run and the economic impact which, in effect, are the basis of the borough's promise to the local communities.

**John Biggs (AM):** The Mayor's announcement that he would dedicate a chunk of that money for Tottenham Hotspur's proposals could be seen as pre-empting the consultation. Is that a fair criticism?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** No, I do not think it is.

**John Biggs (AM):** Of course you are paid to say that it isn't.

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** I am not paid to say it isn't. That is probably unfair. It is a bit like saying that you are paid to make those points!

The difficulty in what we are doing in Tottenham is to make sure that spend is focused on wider regeneration and the Tottenham problem is pretty nearly a dumbbell. You have got huge economic potential at one end, if Tottenham decides to do the deal and can raise the finance, £500 million worth of investment in that area. It is nonsense not to exploit that for other leverage. That really is where our money is going. We are validating that through the borough council and our money will go to the borough council against agreed priorities that it will say and consult on for the benefit of Tottenham in the wider round.

At the southern end of the high street there is a similar opportunity and the bar of the dumbbell is the high street itself. Talking to Stuart Lipton what we do think is important is to have a vision which is being developed across all of those areas concurrently and how they fit, rather than just spending money in a football club. None of the GLA money will go to support Tottenham Hotspur's stadium; it will be spent to regenerate the area.

**Joanne McCartney (AM):** I know that a lot of the money is earmarked for transport improvements that, otherwise, they would have to make under a Section 106 agreement but it strikes me that Tottenham has not yet committed to staying formally in the borough. Is that a disappointment and does there become a time when plans have got to move on without its input?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** We are working on Plan B which is working with Haringey anyway and that is really why I have said that our money is almost independent of whether the club stays or not. We will create the environment where the money can be used to regenerate Tottenham as an area and it may well extend into the upper Lea Valley because Tottenham is right on the border of Enfield and Haringey. We are not obligated to give this money for a particular scheme; we are looking at things which will stimulate wider regeneration. I said to Tottenham Hotspur coincidentally on the same evening - Eddie Lister [Chief of Staff and Deputy Mayor, Planning, GLA] said exactly the same - it is inconceivable that this money will be on the table for very long and unless it can raise finance quickly and go ahead with the scheme we will use it for other purposes.

**Joanne McCartney (AM):** Have you given them a deadline?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** I have said I thought it would be - this is not the Mayor's deadline, this is me talking off the record - I said I thought it was inconceivable that that money would be available if it does not come back and commit by the end of November 2011.

**Joanne McCartney (AM):** You have said a lot about accountability, not just in Tottenham but across London before, when previously the taxpayer has given money to schemes often following disturbances. People are seeing groups bid for money and then disappear once the money for the project has been delivered and there has been no long-term benefit. What will you be doing around those that will be bidding for funding to ensure that they can deliver, they come from the community, and they have long-term ongoing proposals once the funding has gone?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** It comes back to the area: the sort of council spend that needs long-term stitching back into the area. We need to validate that there is a commitment in terms of their three year business plan which they will be developing now, that the investment is going to be supported by core council funding and by other funding and, if there is a gap, we need to make the case to Government for money to come to help regenerate that area and support it. If it is pure physical rebuild then we can exit without risk.

Again, it will come back to the nature of the bids, the nature of the problem and the nature of the solution. The one thing that we have done by talking to 14 boroughs is recognise there is not a single problem; there is a multiplicity of solutions.

**Victoria Borwick (AM):** Going back a little bit about this problem about funding for capital projects rather than revenue, many of us received this note from Waltham Forest and other councils writing in about all the other crime prevention and gang prevention work they are doing, community safety and youth engagement work. All of us will have boroughs who are engaged in that sort of work. Although I will come on to the more substantive part of my question we would like to flag up, once again - I know it has been raised in other meetings that you have had prior to this - that there is a lot of other work that goes in, rather than just replacing buildings. For the record.

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** I totally agree, Victoria. We have been very clear on this from day one. This is not about polishing buildings to make them look good so that they are cleaner to put graffiti on in three months. This is really about an integrated solution that goes beyond rebuild and actually renews and restores the entire area including the social fabric underneath it. I think that is taken as read.

**Victoria Borwick (AM):** Good. Working on that, could you be very clear as to how the assessment of bids for the Mayor's Regeneration Fund will vary from the assessment of bids for the Outer London Fund? Perhaps you can just explain that to us a bit more?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** It is about scale and ambition. The way we have separated them - there will be some blurring at the

edges - we have overlaid the potential growth of London against damage for the big Regeneration Fund and the Outer London Fund is a straightforward bidding process. In effect, we have selected the areas for the Regeneration Funding. What we will do is evaluate bids for the Outer London Fund and what we will then do is make sure that there is an opportunity for boroughs who fail in the first to be considered for the second so it is not a you lose and miss an opportunity, it is actually a double chance.

**Victoria Borwick (AM):** So there is going to be information published on the chosen proposals or their expected outcomes which actually takes us back to evaluation?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** We are expecting that to happen by mid-December 2011 and they will go for local consultation. That will close and hopefully we will be in a position to confirm, or throw out the bids.

I think the position will be if we have got bids that are coming through which nobody supports we would be very silly to give them money to spend it on those projects. That is why we have insisted on local consultation.

**Victoria Borwick (AM):** Can you go on about the timetable? When do you think the money will come through? When will they be able to spend it and what about the evaluation?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** The bidding process for the Outer London Fund ends in January 2012 in terms of decisions. All of the stuff on the Regeneration Fund will be coincident with that. Working back from that we think we will have propositions for consultation by mid-December 2011, we will consult over a month to see whether it is the right sort of activity, confirm the business case through that period through proper evaluation and then we will start looking at what is to go. The spend profile then will very much depend on the bids that come through.

You will recall this is not £50 million all at once, this is over a couple of years, and the phasing of it will probably be, for big jobs on regeneration, three months minimum to specify and go through procurement, three months to evaluate, pick up spend probably through the summer so the bulk of the spend will probably be second half of next year and all of the following financial year and our phasing is £25 million in each year.

**Victoria Borwick (AM):** Things worth capital spending it sometimes takes more time. It is not like you say you support a youth group and then you can see straightaway that it is beneficial. This is with capital.

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** This is very hard work but that is also the prize because part of the specification will insist on as much work as possible going to local tradesmen and local businesses, including local apprentices. What we are trying to do is build through the contractual process and beyond.

**Victoria Borwick (AM):** You have certainly set a challenge.

**John Biggs (AM):** Talking about majoring on consultation and involvement of the community but clearly a consideration would be the intervention of the private sector and the leverage to secure through funding so the first question was how important that is? The second question is about equality of the environment and the importance of design in what is happening as well. There is a price attached to that but there is potentially a pay back as well. Something may be less superficially cost beneficial but it may enhance the area.

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** Both of those are very important. Going back to when we said this was not just about rebuilding but this was making better than it was at the start. Design and open space are not just important aesthetically, it is also important because it may design out some of the problems that exist. Again, we have offered Design for London and we have also offered design expertise to boroughs to make sure that the plans are fit for purpose and improve on what was there before.

I will let Debbie run through this because, otherwise, she will just sit here. She runs Design for London and she has been having these sorts of conversations with boroughs. She is also leading some of the pressure from GLA Economics to get the business cases right so that we are in a position to articulate why we have chosen one and, more importantly, why we did not choose another. She will be fronting all of those questions so she might as well start here I think.

**Debbie Jackson (Director of Capital Projects and Design, GLA):** A couple of points. Picking up on that GLA Economics point. Whether a bid for the Outer London Fund or a proposal for the Regeneration Fund, regardless of which one we are talking about, they are both drawing on the same expertise in GLA Economics and the boroughs are being asked to respond to the same guidance in terms of the benefit that the proposals will bring. That will enable us to look at the bids across the piece in the way that Peter has described over December 2011 and January 2012.

The other point I would make in terms of quality of design is not all of the interventions will be completely public realm based; it could be development based. I would say quality of the project with design being one of those.

We are in the fortunate position where we have been through round one of the Outer London Fund so we have been through the process of receiving the bids, evaluating the bids and working with the boroughs and it is possible today we have finished entering into all of our grants for round one. We have been very hands on in that process to make sure that we are not just getting money out of the door and to make sure we are protecting equality of the outcomes that we are getting through there and that is worked really well. We have got some lessons to learn for round two, it is very resource intensive, but we think it is worth it to protect the outcomes that we are trying to get so we plan to continue that with round two as well.

**John Biggs (AM):** On the question of leverage?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** Leverage is really important to me. Not just private sector, public sector is very important as well. The quantum of bids we have had from the boroughs we have approached is roughly 45% more than the amount of funding available. A number of people have put in bids without match funding at all. Clearly that will not score us highly and that will be fed back because if it is important to a borough it ought to be putting its hand in its pocket as well. It is quite an important issue for me. If that leverage comes from private sector and public sector because it rebuilds the area I think it says a lot about the commitment to an area. Spending my money is really easy. Spending its own takes a real choice and that is really where we start looking.

**Len Duvall (Deputy Chair):** I am very supportive of this work. Can I preface my questions. It is almost developing a patchwork of programmes and issues that are affecting each other. The softer side of regeneration funding in the early rounds to outer London to a bit more hard focused in the thinking of where you are going. You mentioned 14 groups. We are almost establishing delivery vehicles at a borough-wide level for future regeneration work, maybe focused around these areas of growth that we are talking about. Should we forget about the riots now and look at another regeneration economic development strategy across London which I think is where you are heading? You have got Tottenham and Croydon as your primary focus. You have got six other local authorities that you have told us maybe a change needs to be made. What is it called? A riot recovery and investment group you are asking boroughs to do. Is that correct?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** Not that I am aware of.

**Len Duvall (Deputy Chair):** You are. You have got the Regeneration Investment Group agreed here centrally and you have got six other boroughs that are not mentioned in my briefing note but where you have established those. Presumably they are in a second wave that may well be established depending on outcomes of discussions. Is that fair to say or not or am I being too ambitious and you are not ambitious enough?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** I think I am probably more ambitious than you. What you have described to me seems to be a recipe for having piecemeal development. If you look at the sort of bidding process that is there a significant amount of money will be going into two areas. We have put groups into those two areas which are private sector validation of proposals coming forward. We have introduced a third element in and Lord Triesman [former Chairman of the Football Association] has agreed to look at Enfield. What I have done is connect Lord Treisman with Stuart Lipton to make sure that the upper Lea Valley is considered in the round, rather than just looking at it as two separate borough developments because the connection is clear in terms of what needs to be done. Through that what we can do is create effective linkages without necessarily having complex delivery arrangements.

What we have insisted on in Tottenham and in Croydon is that we would want to control the spend because of the size of that spend. What we have said is we would like confidence in the delivery arrangements in other areas to make sure that the money is well spent. What there



may be are discussions about how those are going to be governed and administered. I am unaware - it may have happened and Fiona Fletcher-Smith [Executive Director, Development and Environment, GLA] may well have done this - she has evaluated the quality of the delivery and decided that the local borough arrangements are not robust enough and has set up different delivery mechanisms. I am unaware of that. It certainly would not be where I start. If the boroughs are competent, capable and we have confidence in the resilience and delivery arrangements we should leave it to them.

**Len Duvall (Deputy Chair):** The six boroughs that you are working with at the moment - Haringey, Enfield, Croydon, Ealing, Southwark and Lewisham - are meant to be establishing this post-riots steering group led by --

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** Lewisham is the bid that I had two weeks ago. We have not yet met them so some of this is anticipation rather than reality.

**Len Duvall (Deputy Chair):** In terms of the governance issues and the way that you are coming across, that softer side of regeneration has its place, but it does look like some of the early rounds of the Outer London Fund are substitute funding, cut backs that have been made at local level, being replaced by GLA money. Christmas lights, for instance, some of Bromley's Christmas celebrations. It has applied for money from the GLA. It is getting money for it. Then I see their programme and it says that it is it. If you look it has made cuts there. How are you stopping substitute funding?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** Through the business case. Let's talk about example. If you talk about Tottenham High Street there may well be a case for short-term intervention to deal with some of the eyesores that exist. We are not ruling anything out, nor are we saying that everything is in. What we will do is look at the economic business case and we will challenge substitution, which is why leverage is very important because boroughs should be putting their own money into this, rather than just substituting ours for theirs.

**Len Duvall (Deputy Chair):** On governance then, we have a thing called the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). Where do they fit into this?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** They do not.

**Len Duvall (Deputy Chair):** Why not?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** Because they have no money nor is it established. We are moving on to a different subject but it will --

**Len Duvall (Deputy Chair):** Why because with economic development and regeneration, if we look at spheres it would come across their remit. They have no money but there is presumably some skills sitting round the table that might be able to help you with the formula.

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** There may well be but they do not exist --

**Len Duvall (Deputy Chair):** You do not see that?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** I do, but they do not exist in this timetable. What we are doing with the LEP is we are about to go out to recruit. We will be going for sector based experts from the business world. We have got three nominations from London Councils who will be on there. What there will be is an investment process underneath this which largely mirrors the one that we are doing for this process. In fact it builds on the process that existed in the LDA where this was ranked in terms of economic impact and Harvey McGrath [LDA Board Chair] thought that was pretty good and sees it as good enough for the LEP so it ought to be good enough for this process.

**Len Duvall (Deputy Chair):** The governance of this process is coming in with a bit of the outer London process bidding round you to bid for it. This one is where we identify a problem with other partners on the ground. You are chairing that on the governance issues and there may well be other bodies. We know there are two bodies in Haringey and in Croydon. There are some joint discussions which have been established. There may well be some other bodies which you may use depending on what the borough arrangements are. That is the governance structure.

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** It is. There is a decision-making process which is a lot more robust. These proposals will go through the Regeneration Investment Group here which has been established and they will also go to the Investment Programme Board that Edward Lister has established because of the size of the investment. There will be at least two chances in this process for us to look at what is being done and the impact.

**Len Duvall (Deputy Chair):** I know time is short in wanting to get on with these programmes or not. Do you not think it is time that we see some overall strategy now where what I think you were doing was leading to fragmentation but you were saying, no, my approach is leading to fragmentation. I do not think you know my approach! Aren't you in danger, without some strategy now, to see where you are going, how you are doing, how you are developing your workforce, the competency to deal with these issues? We need something on paper now to say these are the things we are going to be doing short-term because of the riots and this is where we want to be long-term.

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** We have got it to some extent with the London Plan and the Economic Development Strategy (EDS) that sets the vision out for London, it sets the growth areas and that should be our bible. That is why, on the regeneration rebuild fund, what we did say was we were not just dealing with riot affected areas, we were linking it to the growth potential of London. It may well be some of the regeneration money goes to areas that are not as affected by riots but offer potential for growth.

**Dee Doocey (Chair):** Perhaps one of the issues that we have discussed here before is that there is not an implementation timetable for the EDS and that is the bit that is missing from the jigsaw.

**Andrew Boff (AM):** I am taking up Len Duvall's point about a strategy. Isn't it the case that we are going to have to have different solutions in different areas to reflect the difference of those areas?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** I think it is. That is why we think it is important to involve local councils, local businesses and local people. A one-size-fits-all approach does not work across London.

**Tony Arbour (AM):** My initial question relates to something that Peter said in reply earlier. You said you were 45% oversubscribed.

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** It was something like that percentage. I would not like to say --

**Tony Arbour (AM):** Is that oversubscribed in all of the funds available, ie --

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** It is against the Regeneration Fund.

**Tony Arbour (AM):** How is it going on the Outer London?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** We do not know yet.

**Tony Arbour (AM):** You have only got a week to go haven't you; are you oversubscribed already?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** I would imagine we will be.

**Tony Arbour (AM):** Already?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** We have not got to a closing date yet so I do not know the value of the bids but the first round was oversubscribed and I will be amazed if this one is not.

**Tony Arbour (AM):** It could be quite important for my patch. My patch was extremely fortunate. We had almost no trouble during the riot. That was not an accident - I would say that was preparedness. They fear that it is possible, because they were untouched, that that may count against them in allocating monies in the next round of the Outer London Fund. Can I be assured that it will not?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** If they prepare their bid on the basis of fear then they should be worried. If they prepare their bid on the basis of economic potential they will get a fair chance.

**Tony Arbour (AM):** There is no question that the preparation was done in that way. There does appear to be a priority --

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** There is no guarantee of funding. They need to make the economic case. Again, we have offered support to every borough that wants help and assistance in doing that.

**Dee Doocey (Chair):** OK. That is the end of our formal questions. I am going to go to each Member now and ask if there are any additional brief questions they have got and then I will give you both an opportunity to add anything that you think you have not made clear.

**Joanne McCartney (AM):** Mine was about making the case for London. If I take Tottenham and Haringey, it is all the councils that are having the largest amount of cuts across the country and trying to find extra money themselves at the same time is going to be very difficult. I want to know, what you are doing to make that case.

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** We are working with London Councils to argue for a greater share of the pot for London. The one thing that I do know, having worked in a borough, is it is all about choices. When you have lots of money choices are really easy. You can do things and you can spread money around and please everybody. When you do not have a lot of money you have to make choices about what really matters and it is when local politicians need to be clearly accountable for stopping things as well as doing things. I think that is where leaders of councils and cabinets have a role and they need to decide what their priorities are within the existing financial framework. It is very unlikely we are going to get more through the general settlement but what we do need to do is make the case for a different way of doing business in areas that really need help.

**Andrew Boff (AM):** Is there a problem in leadership of borough councils that these funds and this attention has not already had attention paid to it?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** I have no intention of answering the question.

**Andrew Boff (AM):** Is there a problem in the administration of the borough council's leadership? I am not going to ask you to comment about politicians. There must be a level of productivity that has not been there in the past.

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** I am not going to comment on the councils. What I will say is that there is, as ever, a range of abilities across any set of organisations. Some are better. Some are worse. What I think is really clear is that by working together a number of councils can achieve a lot more. I do think there is too

much parochialism around borough boundaries and that is why the role of the GLA and the Mayor is vital in London.

**John Biggs (AM):** I do not know Croydon that well but I know Tottenham a bit better. The question is I am sure that the Borough Leaders across London are very grateful for this Regeneration Funding but, from my understanding of Tottenham, although it has been through a relatively calm period in the last few years it had a number of quite severe kicks in the teeth. There is almost certainly a case that says the money on the table is very welcome but if you really want to sort out Tottenham it needs a multi million multi-year programme. It is not just about pouring public money in but it is about using public money to sort out the transport system, for example, so that you can then get private investment. If there really is a need to such a major long-term investment and your money is really, in that context, useful but chicken feed, how would you respond to that?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** Money on the table is an inducement to bring other money on the table and that is clearly the lesson that we have had from the LDA. A lot of the money that we put in was bid funding with a lot more funding to follow. If you take some of the employment schemes where the LDA piloted payment by results which the Government is now doing through the work programme, it brought a lot more money to the table. A lot of it is about working with others, bringing in leverage, but having confidence in delivery. That is the real challenge in these areas; to make sure that it is delivered and it is sustained and it is continually an investment in the future and making sure that this is connected back into core funding is really the critical issue for me because spend it and not join it would be money wasted and we would be doing it again in ten years' time.

**John Biggs (AM):** You would not be hostile to hungrier bids from parts of London affected by the disturbances?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** It depends. I am always keen to get bids but they will be judged against criteria and people putting their money where their mouth is. Asking for money is very easy but when we ask for money it is always very difficult for them to find it and it comes back to choices and priorities. If it is not a priority for them why should it be a priority for me?

**Dee Doocey (Chair):** Peter and Debbie, anything that you feel that you did not have an opportunity to say?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** I probably ought to update you on the High Street Fund which is in activity to date. That is £700,000 gone out to London businesses. There is another £400,000 in the pipeline from phase one activity so over £1 million is probably going to be committed. London is currently getting about 90% of the phase one grants. The phase two grants. There is another £200,000 gone out and there is almost £1 million in the pipeline waiting to be evaluated and bid for. London, for its investment of around £700,000 or £800,000, we think a number of boroughs

have not met their pledges yet so we will be going to chase them to say, "You promised to pay in". We think this has got about a 3:1 leverage using bank money.

Again, the national indicators are that London is getting about 90% of the total pot so the money invested was a good investment. It has got more back for London. Those boroughs that chose to invest can also be satisfied that their money is used and has produced more for London. The balance of the fund, which will be about £1 million if all of this comes through, will be used for specific areas and I am aware that a number of Chief Executives from other local authorities have approached the High Street Fund to see if they produce some of their money to provide leverage against some of the money that we are investing.

In general terms it is a good news story and Bill Castell [Chairman, Wellcome Trust] is trying to raise even more so that even more can be done. Our job is to secure the same percentage for London.

**Len Duvall (Deputy Chair):** Is the GLA picking up any problems about traders accessing some of these funds? I remember you, at a previous meeting, offering your support to London boroughs that you would put officers alongside some of their surgeries of dealing with traders. Are we picking any issues up?

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** No, we are not. We do not think there is any problem in accessing these funds. What we think is there is still a problem in getting insurance payouts and, again, that is something that I have asked my team to look at about how we can use the Mayor's influence to deal with that and feed back to people that that has happened, and then we can deal with associations if individuals do not pay out, or we can raise it with Government.

**Dee Doocey (Chair):** Debbie, finally, did you have anything to add?

**Debbie Jackson (Director of Capital Projects and Design, GLA):** Just one point. I can give Tony further reassurance on his question. The criteria for the Outer London Fund were set before the riots and we did consider revisiting those criteria and we consulted with boroughs on doing that. We decided to leave them alone in the end so the criteria wholly relate, as Peter said, to economic benefit and the outcomes that can be achieved. An area that has suffered the riots may find it can make a stronger case but if you read the literature and the criteria it is unchanged from before the riots, so I think that can reassure your boroughs as well.

**Dee Doocey (Chair):** That is very helpful. Thank you very much indeed. Can I thank you both on behalf of the Committee for coming and for answering the questions so openly, as always. Do feel free to leave because we have got some further business that we have got to do.

**Sir Peter Rogers (Mayoral Adviser on Regeneration, Growth and Enterprise):** If it helps, when we have got the bids, we are happy to run the Committee through the bids as an informal presentation.

**Dee Doocey (Chair):** I think that would be very, very helpful. Thank you very much.

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