

Attendance

LSDC	Secretariat and GLA
<p>Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ashok Sinha – Chair (AS) Syed Ahmed (SA) David Elliott (DE) Julie Hirigoyen (JHi) Paul Toyne (PT) Maria Adebawale-Schwarte (MA) Malini Mehra (MM) Charlie Wood (CW) James Cameron (JC) Nick Mabey (NM) Prof Richard Templer (RT) <p>Apologies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dimitri Zenghelis <p>Non attendees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rowena Champion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nusrat Yousuf (NY) Jude Hassall (JHa) Jon Emmett (JE) Elliot Treharne (ET)

1. Welcome and introductions

Chair welcomed all.

Previous minutes passed.

Note made that this would be Jude Hassall's last full Commission meeting as leaving the SD team. Jude was thanked for her work and significant contribution to the Commission and in particular the social value work over the past 2.5 years.

Chair summarised running order and agenda

2. Work programme updates

Social value – progressing well with final draft report expected this week for internal review before going through approval process. Publica will be producing both the report and a social value playbook with practical examples of social value in action.

Would be worth the group looking at the work of the Smart Surfaces Coalition – links to the social value of public spaces as part of the resilience of cities – case study of Baltimore. <https://smartsurfacescoalition.org/>
There are also useful links to be made with heritage and heat in our cities – around culture and adaptation, e.g. role of water fountains and green spaces – LSDC could make better links between these things.

SDGs – report launched, engagement can now start in earnest as pre-election period is over. The focus will be around engagement of boroughs, Cllr Georgia Gould has agreed to convene a workshop of 6 boroughs to discuss way forward. SDG hub TOR's have been developed, commissioner help requested on paths to funding for the hub, networks and contacts would be useful.

ONS have offered to build platform to host the SDG data. Work to socialise the SDG's within the recovery and the GLA continues. Meeting with Georgia to be confirmed – positive words have come from the green new deal

advisory group on the use of the SDG data, and current recovery KPI's align closely with the SDG's. In addition work continues with the central recovery team to align the CCP's with the SDG principles. There is a funding proposition being developed for the SDG work.

Green finance – Congratulations to the team for the LFFF being included within the manifesto. The GLA are now taking the work forward and the sub group are awaiting the consultancy report on next steps. Green Finance report is being used by sub group members to inform treasury responses and in particular help shape the new National Infrastructure bank. There are numerous opportunities to link to this work and Core Cities Investment mission work creating an investment map for recovery – working with London Councils. GFI are advocating for London to be central to this investment opportunity but need more ambition and drive from GLA. There are significant first mover opportunities to be had – M10 are now active in this space also, London needs to move with ambition and speed if it is to capitalise on the investment opportunities possible.

WiCT – Steering group has had a few members leave recently and needs a recharge of membership. Good work progressing to develop closer partnership with the CCCI and a series of events are being planned as part of London Climate Action Week.

Discussion

It would be useful to coordinate fundraising activities across workstreams. A position is also needed in relation to who to approach and what the conditions of funding are. Corporate funding for e.g. SDG work should ensure that resources developed are freely available to all and not be based on a paywall requirement.

Possible sources of funding to make an approach to include:

Green Funding Network – Florence Millar

City Bridge Trust

Excel Centre – strong relationship with the SDGs- who host London First skills forum – aimed at young Londoners.

Action owner	Action	Sec lead
Sec	Draft fundraising plan	NY
Commissioners	Provide feedback to fundraising plan	NY

3. Impact Review

Chair summarised issues:

- LSDC has had success given finite secretariat capacity and budget, most notable green finance, SV and now SDGs starting to land.
- Core remit with focus primarily on Mayoral advice to be reviewed – explore greater focus on delivery, less on strategy.
- Partnership working across London may be more beneficial to elevate and embed sustainability

Impact review process:

Work programmes have had a positive impact, especially where they have led to delivery, e.g. cleantech work. Work has effectively pivoted to support the recovery with fewer shorter papers contributing to work in this area. This could point towards a future way of working.

There are a number of options for a refreshed Commission all expanded on in the impact review paper –

- Business as usual
- Stakeholder model
- Partnership model
- Core and expert model

Impact review timeline summarised as well as inputs to the decision making process, namely external stakeholders and GLA officers and political level.

Stakeholder engagement is interesting but shouldn't drive the direction of the Commission, instead it will inform thinking and help the refresh process. Important questions around priorities remain, suggested priorities include:

- London Recovery Board support and engagement
- Zero Carbon 2030
- Agenda 2030
- Finance to meet the challenges

The Commission has so far worked effectively with the Mayoral teams to move SD forward as part of the recovery, and challenges remain that the LSDC could usefully contribute to e.g. social value work has a potential to inform and guide the challenge of achieving a just and fair recovery.

Influencing will still be an important aspect of the work but with a possible focus more on external stakeholders e.g. boroughs and businesses. LSDC could be the connective tissue within the London recovery around SD, working through forums and stakeholder groups to socialise SD priorities.

Wise to keep the focus on existing workstreams as the current manifesto will not change and the energies will be spent on delivery.

Likely however that a restructure will be needed to streamline the work, given a likely reduction in secretariat time dedicated to supporting the Commission.

Open discussion summary:

- Important to begin the process by defining what success would look like in 3 years time – what does the Commission want to achieve? How can the Commission be positioned as supportive and useful to the Mayor, what should the focus be? Important to understand the key stakeholders needs in order to refresh purpose and direction. Worth submitting the record thus far to the Mayor and DM's and asking for their feedback in terms of future direction.
- The terms of reference were created some time ago for a different Mayoral team and different Commission. How do they need to change – Mayoral input into that is critical. If the Commission is to be reshaped questions will arise around focus and priority, input will be needed from those setting the TOR's to help shape this.
- This has been an incredibly effective Commission despite resource challenges. There is a tendency to talk about reducing the number of Commissioners and size of Commission – is the right reaction – is there an argument for better delegation of actions and a bigger selection of Commissioners to spread the load and influence delivery – a series of experts with great networks could help improve effectiveness.
- If we are to change our focus onto e.g. corporate/borough sectors where we can influence action we must also include civil society and London's communities.
- Important to decide what's doable over the next 3 years, delivery, recovery, and perhaps to establish an influencing strategy to feed from the outside in rather than the inside out. Not possible to do both well.
- Work of the LSDC which has led to direct delivery has been both impactful and successful, influencing policy and enabling change. LSDC work has created a stepping stone to delivery. Delivery of tangible outputs e.g. cleantech work, cements the relationship that the LSDC has with boroughs and Londoners – this model could prove the most successful – re-examine work with a view to leaving a permanent legacy and work – create a bridge between research – influence – delivery
- There will be a renewed focus on adaptation and resilience going forward. Civil Contingency unit as part of the Cabinet Office have put a call out for evidence on resilience. The Commission may wish to feed in.

4. Mayoral manifesto – priorities for the coming term

Elliot Treharne interim environment AD gave a summary presentation outlining:

- Emerging themes
- Priority areas
- Structures and personalities

LSDC are seen as an important part of the work – the impact review is an important opportunity to define past success and identify future work.

Emerging Themes:

Jobs – core focus of this term. Economic recovery is central to mission success but also ensuring that it is 'just' and 'fair'.

Recovery- In the broader sense – economic, social, cultural, educational – but also a green recovery that takes the opportunity to 'build back better' e.g. not a car led recovery. Job is to understand the impacts of the pandemic and find the positive opportunities to shape future solutions and responses.

Implementation – tangible delivery will now be vital this term, focus on less but better, fewer higher impact programmes that can deliver tangible outputs and outcomes. Focus on driving outcomes across London and to do so, work in collaboration with other organisations to do this.

Priority Areas:

Economic growth and jobs – lens through which most programmes will be judged or viewed.

Green recovery – focus on green but there is an opportunity to also address SD – social side of recovery not as well integrated currently across all missions.

Housing and physical development – structures to provide housing and unlock investment – there will be a push to deliver on this.

Keeping Londoners safe – self explanatory

Young people – recognising the impact of the pandemic on the young – response will include training and skills

Q&A

Q. How will the articulation between Mayors and DM's work in a more delivery focussed administration?

A. DM's have a key thematic role and have vertical subject focus, however there is a second cross cutting layer focussed on implementation, delivered by officers – a delivery unit is currently being formed. LSDC should engage at a political and officer level.

Q. Given the exit from Europe and need to keep and get new investment to deliver change needed how will the Mayor respond to this investment challenge?

A. This is a critical issue, green finance work of the Commission is acknowledged, huge amount of work now underway to understand this landscape and respond to the challenges e.g. TfL – Innovative financing will be needed to deliver on priorities.

Q. Has a view been formed on how best to work with the Commission on green finance?

A. The Commission has potentially huge value evidenced already through the green finance work and potential of the social value work. Commission has a central role in pushing forward elements of work that chime with the GLA. Impact review will be critical in helping understand how those relationships can work to best effect.

Q. How will this Mayoral term define borough/GLA relationships and how will the M10 influence central govt especially in the run up to COP? Will it be helpful for the LSDC to relate the work beyond London and recognise national impacts?

A. This term will have a focus on relationships, emphasise a strong London and win win outcomes rather than levelling down. London can be seen as a test bed to share expertise. LSDC's role in recognising the national aspect of Mayoral programmes will be hugely welcome.

Q. LSDC has an opportunity to bring in connections and networks to raise investment – to do this Mayoral involvement and engagement will be needed – is that likely to happen?

A. There will be opportunities to work together, the LSDC has impact greater than the sum of its parts, the review to scope activities is vital, less is more, focus on work with tangible and specific outcomes e.g. green finance and social value – the work needs to support the outlined priorities.

Key points emerging from discussions:

- Jobs
- London with the UK
- Less is more
- Implementation

5. LSDC impact review pt 2

Chair outlined process – responses to be collated from today's meeting and proposition is to hold an interim meeting in July to take a decision on future direction. A proposal will be developed to take to the GLA.

Commissioner feedback

- Proposal should be tailored around constraints on resources and level of Mayoral engagement.
- Proposal should highlight the disconnect between the terms of reference and what is realistically deliverable given resources.
- Direction is for action not just research. Should revisit prior successes as a model – could that work again?
- How can the Commission link to economic delivery? LSDC have delivered projects that drive jobs and growth and can do so again but it will require additional resources to do so. Proposition should be phrased in those terms, if this is required then that needs resourcing e.g. if the LFFF is to be brought to fruition and scalable delivery then additional resources are needed. With Mayoral backing it will be easier to lever in external funding, without it will be challenging.
- The funding available at the moment should be directed to where it is challenging to externally fund raise – i.e. strategy and thinking, – easier to raise external funding for delivery projects.
- Hard choices may need to be made, and workstreams may need to be dropped. The impact review needs to look forwards as well as backwards and reflect Mayoral priorities in terms of future focus.

- Mayor recognises the need to reflect London within the UK and the world, LSDC can help shape that narrative.
- Impact review should also suggest more effective ways of working – and partnerships needed within and without London.
- In terms of work focus, the steer on jobs and employment is clear – LSDC could usefully contribute to work to establish London as a new economy where sustainability is core to what we do. London could be a major centre for climate innovation and the LSDC's prior work and networks on this issue are potentially hugely valuable.
- One idea is to develop a position paper on a vision for SD in London as a final output for this iteration of the Commission – what would a sustainable London look like?

Summary thoughts

A proposal to put forward would be based on what can be delivered for what resource.

Core pillars of work remain which already respond to stated priorities:

- LFFF and Cleantech – focussed on economic growth and jobs,
- Social value under the just and fair transition and opportunities for young people
- SDGs as the governance wrapper.

Anything additional would need extra resources. Track record thus far means that propositions should be looked on favourably.

Impact review group need to meet to review feedback and prepare papers for an interim July meeting to finalise proposal. Feedback needed from the Commission in terms of how to best engage with Mayoralty, who to partner with and what issues to focus on.

Action owner	Action	Sec lead
Sec	Organise meeting of the impact review group to develop proposal and additional information needed from commissioners	NY
Commissioners	Provide feedback to feed into impact review	NY
Sec	Organise interim full Commission meeting in July to agree final proposal	NY

6. AOB

No AOBs