

Full Commission Meeting

Meeting: 21st September 2023 14:00 – 16:00 |
Ashden Office, London

Attendees:

Commissioners

Ashok Sinha (Chair)
David Elliott
Jo Blackman
Richard Templer
Paul Toyne
Leonie Cooper
Maria Adebawale-Schwarte
Dimitri Zenghelis

Secretariat

Megan Dalgarno
Nusrat Yousuf
Jon Emmett

Apologies:

Charlotte Wood
Syed Ahmed
Nick Mabey
Malini Mehra

1. Political Temperature Check

Agreed:

- The LSDC agreed to issue a letter in response to the prime minister's recent announcements weakening the UK's net zero initiatives.
- The letter will focus on the following themes:
 - the benefits of net zero to the economy, social justice, and Londoners' quality of life, using financial scenarios to show how waiting will cost more
 - Identifying where progress has been made and reflect on good news stories (e.g. London's strong clean-tech sector) to avoid too much 'doom and gloom'.
 - Use GLA and LSDC analysis of the impacts on London as supporting evidence
 - Discussing how progressive London is (strong economies, e.g. cleantech),
 - Highlighting who is impacted (20% population creating 80% problems).
 - Wording should look to focus on how unfortunate it is that these announcements have come. Go on to state how London could continue to progress regardless and the benefits of doing so.
- Further discussion will agree the target audience: whether the letter should be made public (e.g. via a newspaper) or sent directly to political leaders.

Actions:

- **Nusrat/Jon** to discuss the possibility of the LSDC writing to London political leaders.
- **GLA secretariat** to share any GLA analysis of the government's announcements
- **GLA secretariat** to arrange a follow up meeting to check in after response is published to understand responses and success

2. LSDC Review

- A summary of the LSDC's impacts and the effectiveness of its ways of working were presented as per the papers.

- It was agreed that the LSDC's role in setting up the Undaunted clean-tech cluster should be added as a key achievement.
- Reduced secretariat staff capacity has reduced the number of concurrent work programmes (also impacting commissioner engagement via subgroups) as well as the quantity of output – though quality of deliverables has remained good.
- changes in Commissioner input, e.g. reduced number of sub-groups, might lead to less engagement. Budget and number of commissioners has also reduced impacting capacity.
- Suggestions for promoting our last 10 years included:
 - Blog post: what has the LSDC achieved in the last 10 years
 - Infographic describing the interconnectedness of our work and sustainability
 - Comms on looking ahead to next steps and what policy changes we'd like to see
 - Using existing material to produce accessible materials for the public

Actions:

- Revised Review of impact and effectiveness to be presented for approval at December Full Commission meeting

3. Contribution to Climate Resilience Review

- The LSDC's draft response to the London Climate Resilience Review's call for evidence was presented as per the papers. Commissioners were invited to add final comments before the response is formally submitted to the Review.
- Commissioners raised the following points for inclusion:
 - Energy efficiency savings may be negated by increased use of air con. Any further energy use must be green energy.
 - Green infrastructure must be maintained to avoid losing it in droughts.
 - Any taxation raised for resilience measures must be progressive and fair.

Actions:

- **GLA secretariat** to coordinate comms responding to the launch of the London Climate Resilience Review, focusing on how the LSDC's input has been incorporated.
- **Jon** to circulate updated version of the LSDC response with tracked changes.
Commissioners to respond with comments by **29th September**.

4. Work Programme Update: Social Value

- An update was provided on the Social Value workshops and progress.

5. Work Programme Update: Just Transition

- An update was provided on the Just Transition work progress.
- The subgroup is working with London Councils to look at embedding JT in London boroughs.
- It was suggested there could be an opportunity to look at communications for JT, and we should ensure that the comms pieces use public-friendly wording.

6. AOB

- The group were asked to consider blog topics and upcoming opportunities to produce comms for the group.
- Commissioners were invited to a business event held by Leonie Cooper on 7th November 2023. Details will be shared via email.

Actions:

- **Megan** to share details on business event on 7th November