

From: Kidd, Susan <Susan.Kidd@thecrownestate.co.uk>
Sent: 09 December 2016 15:40
To: Your Views
Subject: A City for All Londoners

Attention: The Mayor, Sadiq Khan

Dear Sir,

The Crown Estate welcomes the opportunity to respond to the consultation on the Vision, 'A City for All Londoners'. The Crown Estate is an independent commercial business, created by an Act of Parliament. Our vision is to be a progressive commercial business creating significant value beyond financial return. We will work with partners and stakeholders to grow our business, outperforming the market whilst delivering sustainable long-term returns. We are above all a commercial organisation, managing an £12 billion property portfolio and delivering a net revenue profit of £304.1 million (2015/16) to the Treasury.

Our response here forms part of a number of submissions made by or on behalf of The Crown Estate, owing to the length and breadth of our role and responsibilities. In relation to the marine environment, our management responsibilities comprise of virtually the entire UK seabed out to the 12 nautical mile territorial limit, in addition to the sovereign rights to explore and make use of the renewable energy and mineral resources of the UK continental shelf (excluding coal, oil & gas) and the storage of gas within these continental shelf limits. We manage around half of the foreshore and beds of estuaries and tidal rivers in the UK. The Crown Estate works with industry, government and stakeholders to facilitate sustainable development of the seabed.

We note that the Vision highlights the importance of sustaining and promoting economic growth in London, including through the provision of housing and infrastructure. We therefore take this opportunity in response to the consultation to identify the importance of the marine aggregate sector to the continued growth and development of London. With approximately 50% of all ready-mixed concrete in London containing marine aggregate, it plays a vital role in supporting the construction sector in this region. The Vision further identifies the challenges associated with managing competing land uses in London, where land is limited and in high demand. With this in mind, we see that the continued safeguarding of wharf and transport infrastructure to enable a sustained supply of marine aggregate into London becomes ever more essential to its future growth.

An annual report prepared by The Crown Estate provides an understanding of the nature of UK dredging and marine aggregates supply at a regional level; identifies the grades of material available within each region and provides an overview of the range of projects and locations where marine aggregates have been successfully used. The current version of the document can be found at <http://www.thecrownestate.co.uk/media/389767/ei-marine-aggregates-capability-and-portfolio.pdf>.

Additionally, the reclamation of land is something that has successfully taken place within the Thames over a number of years and we note that there remains the potential for further projects. The UK continental shelf has a significant offshore sand and gravel resource which could support such development in the Thames Estuary region. Please find below a link to a report from the British Geological Survey which highlights the potential scale of this offshore sand and gravel resource. We believe that the Thames Estuary is well placed to maximise the sustainable use of this material in order to support construction activity in London.

<http://www.thecrownestate.co.uk/energy-minerals-and-infrastructure/downloads/mineral-resource-assessments/>

We trust that you will find these comments constructive. We would be very willing to provide additional information on any of the points we have raised above and be very pleased to discuss these matters with you further.

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