

## Media Release

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### **Commission seeks experts to assess sustainability of 2012 Games and legacy**

Experts from social, economic and environmental fields in the UK are today being urged to apply for membership of the new Commission for a Sustainable London 2012, to help assure the sustainability and legacy of the London Olympic Games and Paralympic Games programme.

The Commission for a Sustainable London 2012 has been created to independently monitor and verify sustainable development across the entire Games programme. Providing a valuable source of expertise and acting as a critical friend, the commission will identify good practice and areas for improvement, assess risks and make recommendations to the Olympic Board.

Commission Chair Shaun McCarthy said the getting the right mix of experts from London and the UK would be critical to the success of the commission, which is the first body of its kind set up in Games history.

He said:

"This type of assurance body has never existed before. In recent times Games organisers have focused on the environment - the Sydney Games was promoted heavily as being the green games and recently Turino was commended for the sustainable management system which was in place. However, the 2012 programme for London is going a step further. Sustainable development was at the heart of the bid, and it's about much more than being green. It's about making the most of the social, economic and environmental opportunities that will come with hosting the Games and minimising the negative impacts. Having a commission independently assure the sustainability and legacy elements of the Games programme is going way beyond what has been done before. While Vancouver and Beijing will both be working hard to meet tough sustainability standards, to our knowledge, neither has set up an independent assurance body to monitor their implementation. This is world leading."

Advertising for the recruitment of commissioners commenced today. The honorary commissioners are being recruited on two levels, Core and Co-opted Experts. People who are experts in a key area of sustainability or assurance, and/or, with experience on a major construction project or in staging of a public event are being sought.

Mr McCarthy added:

"It's important membership on the commission is diverse. The commission's task will be challenging but we've been given an historic opportunity. We will be focussed on making sure robust plans and processes are in place to achieve the Olympic objectives and that the work being undertaken will result in a sustainable legacy – the commission's job won't be about setting sustainability targets or delivering the logistics. We will provide quality and credible feedback so the Games delivery bodies can get on with their jobs and know they are delivering best practice. By delivering effective assurance we will ultimately support the success and delivery of the London Games and assure its legacy."

Appointments to the commission will be made for an initial two year period. Core Commissioner appointments will attend regular meetings and provide overall governance and commentary to the Olympic Board. Co-opted Expert Commissioners will be part of a register, willing to be on-call to address specific areas and investigations.

Closing date for commissioner applications is noon Friday 2nd March 2007.

Note to editors:

## **The Commission for a Sustainable London 2012**

The Commission for a Sustainable London 2012 and appointment of Chair Shaun McCarthy was announced on January 23, 2007.

The Commission for a Sustainable London 2012 has evolved from work originally undertaken by the Mayor's London Sustainable Development Commission. In 2003, the London Sustainable Development Commission undertook a comprehensive assessment of the 2012 bid using its Sustainable Development Framework for London. The key message to the bid team was the need to address social, economic and environmental issues in a joined-up way and to look at how these benefits could be secured after the Games, across London and particularly East London.

Sustainable development covers areas such as water, biodiversity, energy and climate change, skills and employment, health and wellbeing, waste and materials, access and inclusion, in the Games programme.

The Commission for a Sustainable London 2012 has been created to provide independent monitoring and to provide confidence to the Olympic Board and the public that Olympic objectives are being met.

The commission is funded by the Greater London Authority family, the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games, the Olympic Delivery Authority and Department for Culture, Media and Sport. Funding and other support has been provided jointly by members of the 'Olympic family' to maximise the commission's independence.

**A full role profile for commissioners and application details can be found on the GLA website [www.london.gov.uk](http://www.london.gov.uk). More information is available by calling the recruitment team on 020 7983 4143 (textphone/4157) quoting ref. CCSL07.**

### **Chair Shaun McCarthy**

Shaun McCarthy is a leading advocate of sustainable business practices. He thrives on exploring new ways of working and has made the most of his unique ability to translate what sustainable development means to big business.

Having had lengthy careers with Shell UK and BAA, Shaun has more than 20 years experience in commercial business and has spent the past 10 years as a senior manager specialising in sustainable purchasing and construction and assessing the impact of major infrastructure business on climate change.

Preliminary information on the commission is available at its website [www.cslondon.org](http://www.cslondon.org)

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