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GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

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Shaun McCarthy
Chair
Commission for a Sustainable London
2012
Level 1, Palestra
197 Blackfriars Road

London SE1 8AA

Our ref:

Date: 10 January 2008

Dear Shaun,

I am responding on behalf of the London 2012 Sustainability Group to *On track for a sustainable legacy?*, the Commission for a Sustainable London 2012's first Review of Governance Arrangements for the London 2012 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games Programme.

First, let me thank you and the rest of the commission and team for all your work on this review. We welcome the thorough approach the commission has taken to fulfilling its assurance role and look forward to working with you as you undertake future reviews.

The commission has made a number of recommendations. As you noted, we have already acted on a number of the recommendations that emerged over the course of your review. We are continuing to work together constructively to resolve outstanding issues.

Earlier this autumn I took over as Chair of the London 2012 Sustainability Group on behalf of the key 2012 stakeholders. Just a few weeks ago, we published our programme-wide Sustainability Plan, *Towards a One Planet 2012*. In the coming months we will be working to address some of the areas where we acknowledge more needs to be done, not least developing programme-wide monitoring and reporting mechanisms for the London 2012 Sustainability Plan.

Your review rightly had a strong focus on legacy. As you are aware, the Greater London Authority and Government will both be issuing Legacy publications early in the New Year. These will set out more clearly the legacy plans for London and the rest of the UK, and will be updated annually. Already, the legacy benefits of the Games are being realised and we agree it is essential to continue to focus efforts to ensure we make the most of the opportunities 2012 brings.

One of the commission's particular concerns centred on the disbandment of the Olympic Programme Support Unit and the impact this would have. As you are aware this role has been incorporated into the work of the Government Olympic Executive (GOE), simplifying the governance structure and with the intention of providing the Olympic Board with more effective strategic analysis. I know that GOE has met the commission to

discuss your concerns and I understand you will be having further discussions with GOE about monitoring and reporting.

Another area highlighted by the commission is the need to develop a clear vision of waste management infrastructure for East London that identifies opportunities for converting waste to energy and for job creation. This vision will also need to reflect all aspects of sustainable waste management, for example waste reduction, re-use and recycling. The London Development Agency has already seconded a member of the GLA Waste Team to coordinate cross-stakeholder efforts around waste management, treatment and infrastructure development and a productive first meeting has been held between ODA, LOCOG, GLA and LDA that demonstrated a genuine commitment to work together on this agenda.

Your governance review sets out a broad and ambitious work programme for the next two years. I know you have discussed this with a number of colleagues, and in particular whether the commission will be able to complete all its reviews in the time available. It is important that the commission considers its strategic priorities on a regular basis and does not over-commit itself.

Once again, thank you to you and your colleagues for all your work on this Governance Review. I look forward to continuing to work with you.

With all best wishes



Neale Coleman
Chair, London 2012 Sustainability Group