

**News Release**

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**2010 is a 'critical year' for securing the Olympic and Paralympic legacy, according to Annual Review from the Commission for a Sustainable London 2012**

- Commission's Annual Review praises results to date from LOCOG and ODA
- Successes need to be translated into long-term UK benefits in order to secure full legacy potential

**25 May 2010, London, UK:** The Commission for a Sustainable London 2012, the independent body established to assure and monitor the sustainability of the London 2012 Games, has today published its Annual Review, "Raising the Bar".

The Commission is optimistic that current achievements from LOCOG and the ODA mean that the **London 2012 Games and venues are on track to deliver the sustainability objectives** set out in the London 2012 Sustainability Plan.

There has been much positive work which will be of legacy benefit but the full value of these achievements will only be realised through the legacy programme. This is an area still to be adequately defined.

The Commission **will review the plans for the Olympic Park in legacy** later in 2010 and looks forward to seeing how the promise of the Olympic Park as a 'blueprint for sustainable living' will be realised.

The innovative work by London 2012 provides an **opportunity for 'UK PLC' to benefit from the Games**, in ways other than just through supply chains. New standards, such as BS8901, are being picked up by other sectors, but this is not happening consistently. If the knowledge and best practice from the London 2012 programme is comprehensively captured and disseminated, UK industries could lead the world in topics such as managing embodied carbon, adding value for UK businesses and creating green jobs.

It is **important to capture this legacy of knowledge** before the delivery bodies begin to scale down. In 2010 the ODA will begin to reduce the sizes of teams as different phases of the project reach completion and has begun to capture lessons learned. It is crucial to capture the learning legacy across the entire London 2012 programme for the wider benefit of UK business while the window of opportunity is still open.

During 2009 we have been particularly impressed with the **ground breaking work** carried out by the delivery bodies and the six London 2012 sustainability partners in the areas of **carbon, food and waste**. The Commission has undertaken and published in-depth reviews into each of these areas. As we get closer to Games-time it will be important to ensure that the high standards set by the ODA and LOCOG are rolled out to partner organisations involved in delivery of the Games.

Shaun McCarthy, Chair of the Commission, said: *"We are very optimistic about the Games' sustainability performance to date. In terms of sustainability progress, the glass is definitely half full. Even before the athletes' arrival we've seen some outstanding performances from the ODA and LOCOG as they sprint ahead on issues such as food and waste management.*

*"We remain concerned about some of the broader legacy plans, where there have been a lot of promises made about the future of the Olympic Park and knowledge-sharing, but very few*

*commitments made to back up these promises. Our priority now is to see that the mechanisms to secure the Games' sustainable legacy are firmly entrenched."*

With just over two years to go before the "inspirational power of the Games" moves to Rio, it is vital that the London 2012 programme continues to deliver.

By the time the keys to the Olympic Park are handed over to Olympic Park Legacy Company in 2013, the Commission would hope that:

- The sustainability objectives delivered by the ODA will be common practice in the construction industry and mandatory for all major public sector construction
- The UK construction industry will have adopted targets for reducing embodied carbon impacts and will have clear guidance on how to do this
- A clear definition of "blueprint for sustainable living" will be developed for the Olympic Park, in terms of the standards expected of developers, the way in which people will live differently and how they will be encouraged to do so
- Plans will be in place for the Olympic Park to become a zero carbon development area by 2016
- Plans will be in place for substantial development of organic waste facilities in East London to supply renewable fuel for the Olympic Park and other developments
- There will be a step change in the major events industry that enables measurable and assured improvements in sustainability
- Athletes, officials, spectators and TV viewers will recall London 2012 as being distinctive for its sustainability

#### **Notes for editors**

More information and the full list of Commissioners can be found here: [www.cslondon.org](http://www.cslondon.org)

#### **About the Commission for a Sustainable London 2012:**

The aim of the Commission is to provide independent assurance and commentary in order to enable the sustainability objectives of the London 2012 programme to be achieved and to support a sustainable legacy.

The key goals of the Commission are:

- To provide the Olympic Board and other stakeholders with commentary, supported by objective evidence, to demonstrate whether Key Stakeholders (currently including the Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA) and the London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, the Greater London Authority (GLA Group), the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and the British Olympic Association (BOA) have:
  - Robust plans and processes are in place to deliver SD objectives
  - Objective evidence that SD objectives are being achieved
  - SD plans and performance to support a sustainable legacy
- To provide a credible point of reference for all stakeholders, with respect to SD assurance issues

The Commission reports to the Olympic Board and is funded by DCMS, the GLA Group, LOCOG and the ODA.

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