

9 November 2004

Rev. Paul Regan
London Citizens
112 Cavell Street
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Dear Trustees of London Citizens

Thank you for sending us a copy of your London Citizens Video Letter on the 'Peoples Guarantees', and for the enthusiasm for the potential of the London 2012 Bid that it demonstrated.

We are pleased that the London 2012 working group on the 'Peoples Guarantees' has been successfully meeting to determine how best to take these proposals forward.

As you are aware the role of London 2012 is primarily to win the honour of staging the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. This prize will also enable us to provide a lasting and sustainable legacy for London at the heart of which will lie the regeneration of the Lower Lea Valley and the associated benefits for the Communities of East London.

London 2012, The Department for Culture Media and Sport, the Mayor of London and The London Development Agency are committed to an ethical Games and a sustainable legacy for London and the UK. We want to ensure that local communities receive tangible benefit from the Games. Local employment, affordable housing, training initiatives, community health, education and a commitment to fair employment are all central considerations within this commitment. Our aspirations on these matters seem generally consistent with yours.

We set out below our initial responses to your proposals. While the bid is well advanced, we will need to work together with communities and organisations like London Citizens to develop and deliver our commitments if the bid is successful, and are strongly committed to doing this.

Procurement and fair employment

In developing the procurement and workforce recruitment strategies for the organisations that will deliver the Games and in particular respect of the workforce required during the Games, the GLA, LDA and DCMS will seek to enable agencies and their contractors to draw as much of their workforce as possible from the local community complemented by local training initiatives run by the LDA and partners (see below). Such strategies will, of course, have to operate within a legal framework current at the time they are drawn up. We are unable to make reference to specific employment targets or quotas, as it is our understanding that schemes which give preferential treatment to businesses or residents from a designated area would fall foul of EU law.

We expect our strategies will embrace a policy of equal opportunities for those inside and outside the local community. This should have the positive impact of increasing opportunities for many groups including those from ethnic minorities and for those who are disabled. In setting up the delivery agencies, we will develop a fair employment policy to cover issues such as remuneration and terms and conditions. We will both implement this ourselves and take it into account in negotiating contracts. These strategies will be informed by the Mayor of London's commitment to identify a 'living wage'.

We will also seek to ensure that contracts are let in such a way that a mix of firms (including local businesses) can compete on a fair basis.

Training, skills development and construction

We all whole-heartedly support the aspiration that local people should be able to access job opportunities that the Games would generate for the area. The Lower Lea Valley and the wider Thames Gateway are national regeneration priorities for the Government, the Mayor and the LDA, regardless of the outcome of the bid.

Improving skills is central to our work in the area. The LDA works closely with key partners including the London Learning and Skills Councils - the body responsible for funding learning for the over 16's across the capital, and is also developing the London Thames Gateway Skills & Employment Action Plan. This will aim to tackle key skills shortages in east London and provide targeted skills programmes for local people, including the long term unemployed, the disabled, BME groups and refugees among others.

Furthermore the Olympic and Legacy planning permissions for the proposed Olympic Park incorporate a planning condition that states that *'Development shall not be commenced unless and until a Local Employment and Training Framework has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authorities'*. This framework will be informed by the principles set out in the action plan mentioned above and will be developed in close consultation with the boroughs and local training providers. It will set out the details of local training initiatives and employment programmes. No work can begin in the Olympic Park until this framework has been agreed by the local planning authorities.

We expect there to be considerable numbers of construction jobs created in the Olympic Park alone. These will be in addition to the construction opportunities that will arise from adjacent developments at Stratford City, new transport schemes in the East End of London as well as the wider regeneration of the Thames Gateway.

The LDA already supports local labour skills programmes at London's key developments (Wembley and Kings Cross) and funds many other innovative construction training initiatives across east London designed to tackle the skills gap and give local people the chance to learn new skills.

In May 2004, the LDA appointed ECOTEC to conduct a major piece of feasibility work to look at the business case for a Construction Training Academy for Thames Gateway and to provide costed options for the various models this might take. The Learning and Skills Council Director for the Thames Gateway, The Thames Gateway London Partnership (representing the London Boroughs), and the CITB / Construction Skills (the sector Skills Council for construction) sit with the LDA on the steering committee responsible for driving this project.

The feasibility report is expected to be ready for initial consultation with key players including Jobcentre Plus, employers, training providers and other partners in Autumn 2004.

Homes

As a result of the Games and the Legacy, in excess of 9,000 homes will be built in the Olympic Park. The wider Lea Valley is likely to have even more housing. As set out in the London Plan, a substantial proportion of these homes will be affordable with a mix of housing to support families; intermediate housing for working people on low to medium incomes, as well as homes for public sector key workers including shared ownership. The legacy planning application for the Olympic park has already specified 50 per cent affordable housing, in accordance with London Plan policies. The Mayor has instructed GLA officers to work with the LDA to establish the feasibility of a pilot project that will help deliver mutual home ownership through a community land trust.

Education / Legacy

Education, youth and legacy are key pillars of the Bid. Therefore we are committed to ensuring that a London Games will leave no 'white elephants' and the Bid legacy proposals are expected to include ongoing revenue support of venues from the Mayor of London, through a structure that secures optimum community involvement. Discussions are taking place between London 2012, the LDA, GLA, Sport England, local boroughs and DCMS over the detail of legacy funding and management options.

We are determined to ensure that the management of these fantastic facilities will be guided by a partnership. That partnership will drive the business plan which will ensure a balanced use from grass roots sport participation to high level performance. Whilst the facilities will provide a focus for sporting excellence and high performance they will be managed for the whole community so that athletes striving for international success can inspire grass roots participation and there is a determination to ensure the facilities are accessible for all.

The Olympic & Legacy Planning Permissions contain a planning condition that states no development can take place until a Community, Health and Education Facilities Framework has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authorities. This will detail the provision, delivery and management of Acute Health Care Services and Emergency Services during the Olympic Games Phase and critically the provision, delivery and management of community, health and education facilities and emergency services after the Games. Consultation with all the key stakeholders will take place to

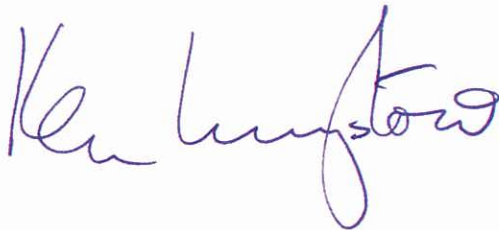
ensure that this framework meets the community, health and educational needs of the local area.

Winning the competition to host the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games offers huge opportunities, for community and elite sport, for community regeneration and for east London. We hope that your members will continue to work with us to win this privilege and secure the best possible benefits for the people and communities of London.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Sebastian Coe". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Lord Sebastian Coe – Chair, London 2012

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Ken Livingstone". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized, with a large loop at the end.

Ken Livingstone – Mayor of London

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "John Biggs". The signature is very stylized and cursive, with many loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

John Biggs - Deputy Chair, London Development Agency