

## PRESS RELEASE



### **£2¼ MILLION SECURED TOWARDS COMMUNITY NEEDS**

A £2,247,500 cheque was presented to the Isle of Dogs Community Foundation by the London Docklands Development Corporation at the Foundation's AGM last night (Thursday 23rd October) at St Matthias Old Church, Poplar.

Neil Spence, Joint Chief Executive for the London Docklands Development Corporation said, *"We are most pleased to have been able to provide the Foundation with additional money to bolster its social regeneration activities following the Corporation's withdrawal from the Isle of Dogs earlier this month. Some of this money will be allocated towards education and training, which is particularly significant since it will secure future funding for programmes designed to help local people take advantage of the new jobs coming into the area"*.

£251,500 will be paid out over the next two years to projects in Millwall and Blackwall specified by the LDDC. The balance will be added to the IDCF endowment, bringing it to over £3 million in total and increasing the grant budget by c. £80,000p.a. in due course

*"The immediate task facing the Foundation is to play a central part in the community's adjustments to life following the LDDC's departure from the Isle of Dogs in October 1997"* says IDCF Chairman Peter Stott, in the Foundation's Annual Report presented to the AGM. *"We are grateful to the LDDC for their part in equipping us to do so, and we now intend to re-initiate a major fundraising effort in the corporate sector."*

With the Foundation's enhanced role, the administration function must go on to a full-time basis, with the current part-time Director Christopher Naylor leaving at the end of October to make way for a full-time appointment.

*"I am very pleased to have had a role helping the Foundation achieve this major step forward"* says outgoing Director Christopher Naylor. *"I am more convinced than ever that the Isle of Dogs vitally needs these funds - and much more - to rebuild a strong community"*.

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**Notes for Editors:**

1. The Isle of Dogs Community Foundation is a registered charity governed by a Board of Trustees elected from the local community (1/3), the statutory sector (1/3), and local businesses (1/3).
2. Copies of the Annual Report, detail of how to become a member and of the grants programme, are available from:  
  
The Administrator  
Isle of Dogs Community Foundation  
P.O. Box 10449  
London  
E14 9ET                      (0171) 512 8462
3. The Foundation makes over £100,000 of grants annually to over 100 local groups - many of whom have no other source of funding - serving the 25,000 population of the Millwall and Blackwall wards of Tower Hamlets.