



**EMBARGOED - NOT FOR PUBLICATION
BEFORE 00.01hrs TUESDAY, 22 JULY 1997**

21 July 1997

**LDDC TO COMPLETE REMIT ON ISLE OF DOGS
ON 10 OCTOBER 1997**

Agreement has been reached with Tower Hamlets Council and British Waterways on the arrangements for handing on the London Docklands Development Corporation's (LDDC) responsibilities on the Isle of Dogs on 10 October 1997.

These arrangements cover:

- **The transfer of the West India/Millwall Dock Estate to British Waterways.**
- **The handover of the LDDC's public open spaces (other than the dock estate) to Tower Hamlets Council.**
- **A £1 million programme of investment by the Council and the Corporation in schemes to support local communities in the transitional period following the completion of the LDDC's remit on the Isle of Dogs.**
- **A longer term investment in community support through endowments to the Isle of Dogs Community Foundation, totalling some £2.04 million; and the transfer to the Cedar Centre of the freehold of its premises.**
- **The transfer to British Waterways and the Council of revenue producing assets to balance the liabilities which they will inherit.**

Angela Eagle, Environment Minister, welcomed the agreement and praised the LDDC, London Borough of Tower Hamlets and British Waterways for coming together constructively to enable the LDDC to complete its remit on the Isle of Dogs.

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She said: "These arrangements provide a good foundation for the ongoing regeneration of the area. I am pleased that they include investment in long term community support and that the local community will have the opportunity to make a real contribution to the future of the dock estate as a public amenity through the Management Advisory Group."

Transfer of the Dock Estate to British Waterways: The Corporation will hand on the dock estate to British Waterways as a going concern, with staff and equipment transferring across. The Corporation will also transfer its interests in the sites of West Ferry Printers and West India Quay to offset the revenue deficits which the docks will incur. Arrangements have been agreed between British Waterways and the Council on a local consultative forum - the Management Advisory Group - on the management of the dock estate. The forum will include representatives from the local residential and business communities and user groups, as well as from British Waterways and the Council. It will be chaired by local MP, Jim Fitzpatrick.

Transfer of Public Open Spaces to the Council: The Council will assume responsibility from the Corporation for various public open spaces, river walls and riverside walkways. The revenue liability arising from the maintenance of these will in part be offset by the transfer to the Council of the income from the freehold of the Travelodge Hotel which Granada are developing at East India Dock.

Endowment to Isle of Dogs Community Foundation: In addition, the LDDC will make an endowment to the Isle of Dogs Community Foundation of £1.046 million. The Corporation had recently agreed to make an endowment to the Foundation of £300,000 for the benefit of Millwall Park and its neighbourhood. The Corporation has separately agreed to endow the Foundation with £650,000 to enable it to fund training for employment schemes in partnership with others. The Corporation intends to transfer the freeholds of Jack Dash House and the Docklands Sailing Centre to the Foundation. In total these contributions to the Foundation amount to £2.04 million. This will enable the Foundation to undertake a substantial programme of grants for community activities into the long term.

Transfer of Cedar Centre's Freehold: The Corporation has agreed to make a grant of £75,000 to enable the Cedar Centre to acquire the freehold of its premises. This will improve the Centre's finances by more than £10,000 a year.

Joint Programme of Community Support: The Council and the Corporation, following consultation with local community representatives, have agreed to a £1 million joint programme of investment in community activities and facilities in Millwall and Blackwall Wards over the next three years. The purpose is to support the communities during the period immediately following the completion of the LDDC's remit. The programmes are set out in the tables attached.

Next Steps: The agreement between the Council and the Corporation is set out in a Statement of Agreed Intentions which was approved by the Corporation's Board on 10 June 1997 and by the Council's Regeneration Committee on 24 June 1997. Copies of the Statement of Agreed Intentions are available from the Council and the Corporation. Following approval of the withdrawal arrangements Ministers have made the necessary order to secure the dedesignation of the Isle of Dogs from the UDA. It will be laid in Parliament on 28 July 1997 and will come into effect on 10 October 1997.

Ministers have confirmed that the Corporation will cease operations on 31 March 1998.

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LDDC/COUNCIL JOINT INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

BLACKWALL WARD

PROJECT	DURATION	LBTH CONTRIB	LDDC CONTRIB
Robin Hood Gardens Estate Worker	3 years	1 year at £25,00	
Robin Hood Gardens security and environmental improvements	This year	£38,000	£45,000
St Matthias part-time Care Worker	3 years	1 year at £7,500	2 years at £15,000
SPLASH Administrator	3 years	1½ years at £30,000	1½ years £30,000
Community Gardener	3 years	1½ years at £22,500	1½ years at £22,500
Poplar Play health and safety works	Immediate		£32,000
TOTAL		£123,000	£192,500

MILLWALL WARD

PROJECT	DURATION COST	LBTH CONTRIB	LDDC CONTRIB
Drugs Outreach Worker	3 years @ £25,000 pa	£25,000	£50,000
School Community Coordinator at George Green School	3 years @ £25,000	£25,000	£50,000
Part-time Coordinator for support to elderly (probably Age Concern)	3 years @ £17,000	£17,000	£34,000
Refurbish Kelson House playground	1997	£50,000	£100,000
Phase II of Alice Shepherd House window renewals	1997	£70,000	£70,000
Environmental improvements to St John's Estate	1997	£10,000	£50,000
Yarrow House window renewals	1997	£45,000	£45,000
Refurbishment of Cardale St and Hickin St	1997	£24,000	£24,000
Furnishing & computer for St John's Community Association	1997		£6,000
Modernise kitchen of Stratford Friendship Club	1997		£5,000
TOTAL		£266,000	£434,000

TOTAL
£1,037,500