

# News Release

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## **CONSULTATIONS START ON POSSIBLE DELETION OF CUTTY SARK AND ISLAND GARDENS STATIONS ON NEW DLR LEWISHAM LINE**

**STRICT EMBARGO: 10.00am Wednesday February 23 1994**

Residents, businesses and interested groups, as well as the MP's and local borough councils in Tower Hamlets, Greenwich and Lewisham are being asked for their views on the proposal to delete new stations at Island Gardens and Cutty Sark on the 4.5km Docklands Light Railway (DLR) Lewisham extension.

Government approval was given last November to this strategic cross-river public transport link as a private sector funded project under the Private Finance Initiative. The trains would be run by the DLR.

As part of the original plan for the extension, underground stations were planned at Island Gardens on the Isle of Dogs in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets and at Cutty Sark in the London Borough of Greenwich. However detailed studies, carried out in Autumn 1993, show that if the project is to go ahead construction costs will have to be reduced by around £40 million so that anticipated passenger revenues will be able to repay all project costs.

The costs of building the two underground stations is considerable and the London Docklands Development Corporation and DLR are currently considering omitting these stations to make the project viable and allow it to proceed. However should sufficient additional finance be raised from third parties both stations could be included in the project.

Following consultations with interested parties the final scheme will be presented to the private sector to secure investment and construction. If this is forthcoming the first passengers could be using the service by 1997 when the extension will put 500,000 more people within 45 minutes of the Isle of Dogs.

To obtain a copy of the consultation document please contact:

**Lewisham Project Office**

**7th Floor**

**South Quay Plaza**

**183 Marsh Wall**

**London E14 9SH. Telephone Voicemail (071) 538 9688.**

Closing date for response is: **31 March 1994.**

**FURTHER INFORMATION:**

**LDDC PRESS OFFICE:**

071-512 0444 (office hours)

071-512 3000 (after hours)