

**MEDIA OPPORTUNITY**

**DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER TO START  
WORK ON DLR LEWISHAM EXTENSION**

- DATE:** Friday 27 September 1996
- TIME:** 10.00 for 10.15. Coffee on arrival  
Brunch will be served at 11.30.
- VENUE:** Lewisham College, Deptford Campus, 2 Deptford Church Street,  
London SE8 4RZ.
- TRAVEL:** On the day, there will be no car parking spaces for visitors within  
the College grounds. Travel by DLR to Island Gardens and walk  
through the foot tunnel to Greenwich. A coach will be waiting at  
the foot tunnel leaving for the college at 10.00 and returning after  
the event. Please show this notice to the driver. The college is a 10-  
15 minute walk from Greenwich, Deptford or New Cross BR  
stations.

The Rt. Hon. Michael Heseltine MP, Deputy Prime Minister, will start construction work on the Private Finance Initiative project to extend the Docklands Light Railway, under the Thames, to Greenwich and Lewisham. He will also witness the formal signing of the agreement with the consortium selected to finance, design, build and maintain the 4.2km extension - due to open for passenger services in late 1999.

The extension will provide rapid access for 500,000 potential passengers south of the river to Docklands and the City from stations at Cutty Sark, Greenwich, Deptford Bridge, Elverson Road and Lewisham.

**RSVP to LDDC Press Office:** 0171 512 0444 (Fax 0171 512 0222)  
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DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER STARTS CONSTRUCTION  
OF £200m DLR LEWISHAM EXTENSION

Deputy Prime Minister, the Rt.Hon. Michael Heseltine MP, today witnessed the signing of a 25-year concession document with CGL Rail - the consortium selected for the £200 million Private Finance Initiative project to finance, design, build and maintain a new extension of the Docklands Light Railway, under the Thames, to Greenwich and Lewisham. He also took the controls of a construction vehicle to mark the start of work.

Sir Anthony Gill, DLR Chairman, welcomed the start of the project. He said: "The extension will open up a new market for DLR with more than 500,000 potential passengers in the catchment area who will benefit from rapid access to London Docklands and the City. It will also secure a viable future for the railway".

Michael Pickard, Chairman of the London Docklands Development Corporation, added: "I am delighted to see the extension under way. With the Jubilee Line Extension opening in Spring 1998, the Lewisham Extension will be the final major element of public transport required to sustain the regeneration of London Docklands, providing important new connections for commuters and visitors and extending the benefits of regeneration south of the river. It will also help to cope with the huge number of visitors to the Millennium Festival".

The project will bring benefits to Lewisham, Greenwich and Tower Hamlets and has been welcomed widely by local authorities and other organisations.

The new 4.2 km extension will have stations at Cutty Sark, Greenwich, Deptford Bridge, Elverson Road and Lewisham, with two new stations north of the river at Mudchute and Island Gardens. Construction is expected to take three years with the extension opening for passenger service in January 2000. Journey time from Lewisham to Canary Wharf will be 17 minutes and 30 minutes to Bank.

Today's ceremony took place at the new Deptford Campus of Lewisham College which opened recently. The design accommodates the new DLR extension which will run through the centre of the site.

## **NOTES FOR EDITORS**

- 1. CGL Rail (City Greenwich Lewisham Rail Link plc) sponsor companies are John Mowlem & Co plc, Hyder Investments Ltd, London Electricity plc and Mitsui & Co UK plc. LRG Contractors, a construction joint venture, has been awarded the contract for the design construction and commissioning of the extension infrastructure - members are John Mowlem & Co plc and MBK Rail Link Construction Ltd in joint venture with Nishimatsu Construction Company Ltd.**
- 2. English Partnerships will be working in partnership with Greenwich Council on funding the land acquisition for the Cutty Sark Station and in developing the associated above ground new commercial space. Further information is available from Jacqueline Jowett (tel: 0171 680 2013).**
- 3. In mounting the PFI project, the DLR's financial advisers were Morgan Stanley & Co Ltd. Legal advice was provided by Ashurst Morris Crisp.**

**For further information: Brian Abbott on 0171 537 7023.**