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#### STOLPORT ANNOUNCEMENT

The London Docklands Development Corporation welcomes the announcement of the Secretary of State for the Environment that he is disposed to follow his Inspector's recommendation and to grant outline planning permission for the proposed short take off and landing airport in the Royal Docks, Newham.

'We investigated this proposal in great detail before deciding to give it our support', Mr Reg Ward, the Corporation's Chief Executive, said today.

'Both the Corporation and the London Borough of Newham sought the community's views on the project through two separate independent opinion polls and meetings, and found a clear majority of local people were in favour.

'We believe the Inspector's report and Secretary of State's reaction to it mirrors very closely the approach taken by the Corporation. We are very happy with their conclusions and supportive of their efforts to find a more direct and simple formula for the control of noise. The Secretary of State has invited the Corporation to consider this point further, and we will be responding shortly.

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'I am sure that the majority of the people living in the area who supported the proposed airport will be encouraged by the Secretary of State's announcement and his concern to ensure that Stolport is environmentally acceptable at the same time as providing an **important economic stimulus for the future.** Those who have been apprehensive about the ability to control the airport's development in the light of its subsequent success should also be reassured.

'The announcement follows a very lengthy public inquiry and the Corporation hopes now to work with all members of the community, including objectors to the proposal, for the future of the area.'

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