



News Release

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RELEASE IMMEDIATE

LONDON DOCKLANDS JUBILANT OVER MAJOR INQUIRY DECISIONS

The London Docklands Development Corporation (LDDC) is delighted with the decisions of the Secretaries of State for Environment and for Transport to approve the expansion proposals for London City Airport and the construction of the East London River Crossing. These two transport schemes are of great significance for the regeneration of London Docklands' Royal Docks, which will see major development of national and international scale taking place during the 90s.

The expansion of London City Airport will enable it to offer a wide range of jet services across the whole of Western Europe, and will also create more job opportunities for local people. It is expected that flights to the new range of destinations will commence in April 1992 and that the workforce in Docklands, the City and Central London will prefer to use London City Airport for business trips.

David Hardy, Chairman of the LDDC, said: "This announcement is very good news for business in Docklands, the City and East London, bringing greater and quicker accessibility to major business destinations in continental Europe.

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"It will also be a very significant factor in attracting development interest to the Royal Docks. Together with other transport schemes this development will reinforce the Royal Docks as London's Gateway to Europe."

The final announcement that the East London River Crossing is to go ahead will transform accessibility for the Royal Docks and for London Docklands as a whole. It will connect the M11 corridor in the north to the M2 and M20 in the south. The Royal Docks will then lie at the focal point in a growth axis between the Channel Ports and Cambridge. The scheme is expected to be ready in 1996.

LDDC Chief Executive, Eric Sorenson, said: "Good transport links are essential to attract developers and investors to the Royal Docks. Together with other transport improvements including new road schemes, improvement of the Docklands Light Railway and the proposed Jubilee Line, the Royal Docks will be the best serviced site in London in a unique waterfront setting. We plan to issue an updated development framework very soon to help guide developers."

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