

# News Release

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## MALCOLM RIFKIND AT DOCKLANDS BIG LIFT

A huge bridge lift using one of Europe's largest mobile cranes for the construction of the new £25 million Lower Lea Crossing was the big attraction during a tour of London Docklands' major transportation projects by the Secretary of State for Transport, the Rt Hon Malcolm Rifkind MP QC on Tuesday (5 February).

The massive 100 metre Gottwald AK 680-2 truck-mounted crane is lifting in steel girders spanning the Lower Lea at Leamouth where the road bridge crossing will link the Isle of Dogs with the Royal Docks.

The first girders were lifted with the crane on the river's east bank. The crane has now been transported to the west bank on the Isle of Dogs side and lifting of the final girders will continue this weekend ending on Sunday 10 February.

Mr Rifkind toured London Docklands - scene of Britain's most intensive transport infrastructure programme - to monitor rapid progress on the area's major developments including the Limehouse Link road tunnel, and the Dockland's Light Railway (DLR).

Over £3 billion is being invested into London Docklands' new transport system, involving road, rail and tube links. All the area's principal road schemes are now on site and will be largely completed by 1992, including the Lower Lea Crossing.

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Guided by David Hardy, Chairman of the London Docklands Development Corporation and LDDC transport officers, Mr Rifkind also toured stretches of the A13, the main trunk road eastwards, which is being extensively improved by the Department of Transport to meet the future traffic demands created by London Docklands' success.

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For further information

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**NOTE TO EDITORS**

1. The Lower Lea Crossing bridge lift with the Gottwald AK 680-2 is continuing from the river's west bank. Main lifting will take place on Saturday/Sunday 9/10 February. Photography is possible from Leamouth Road, off the A13 East India Dock Road. For more details contact the LDDC Press Office (071 512 3000/0444).