

News Release

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URBAN DESIGN BRIEFS ISSUED FOR ROYAL DOCKS

Tender briefs have been issued by the London Docklands Development Corporation (LDDC), for consultancy work on "Urban Framework Plans and Development Guidelines" for the major development sites in the Royal Docks.

A number of urban design and landscape firms have been shortlisted for the consultancy appointment and the Corporation expects to make a decision in July subject to Department of Environment approval.

The Urban Framework Plans will be agreed between the LDDC and consort a developers of each of the major sites - north side of the Royal Albert Dock and Albert Dock Basin; north side of the Royal Victoria Dock and south side of the Royal Victoria Dock. A considerable amount of work has already been carried out in negotiating Urban Framework Plans, with Rosehaugh Stanhope Developments for the Albert Dock and Basin sites. The LDDC recently gave conditional approval to dispose of the first 128 acre phase of this site on the basis of these plans and the developer's detailed proposals.

The Plans, part of the urban design controls to be incorporated into the land disposal agreements with the consortia developers, will set out the overall urban design and landscape structure, general building massing and extent of areas open to the public. Specific urban design and landscape guidelines, such as defining the limits of development into the docks, maximum building heights and profiles, will also be incorporated in the Urban Framework Plans.

The Plans combine to form the overall Royal Docks Development Framework, first published in January 1985, through which the LDDC is influencing the pattern and content of development. The Development Framework has been continually updated in discussion with prospective developers.

The LDDC recently appointed Terry Farrell to undertake a comprehensive review of the Development Framework and, with aerodynamics consultant Professor Tom Lawson, to establish ground rules for sympathetic waterfront development compatible with sailing and other water activities.

LDDC Chief Executive, Michael Honey, said:

"The large scale comprehensive redevelopment of the 517 acres in the Royal Docks is being carried out within an overall co-ordinated design structure, building on the Corporation's heavy investment to date on major infrastructure projects. The Royal Docks are recognised as the supreme regeneration opportunity in Docklands and the work about to be carried out by consultants will have a major impact on the quality and consistency of urban design throughout the redevelopment area.

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