

News Release

01-476 3000

**London Docklands
Development Corporation**

Thames House
Basin South
London E16 2QY
Telex 894041 LDDC G
Telecopier 01-511 2115

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DOCKLANDS - A NEW TOURISM OPPORTUNITY

Tourism opportunities in Docklands should be seized by the travel industry, the Secretary of State for Employment, the Rt Hon. Lord Young, told delegates to a business travel conference yesterday.

Addressing "The Potential for London" conference at the Sedgwick Centre, Aldgate, E1, Lord Young cited London Docklands as "a fine example of how an imaginative idea backed up by close regional co-operation, adequate finance and a great deal of hard work can transform what was nothing more than a wasteland into a major and successful commercial development.

"Docklands now offers considerable potential for tourism in terms of new tourist and leisure attractions, hotel developments and excellent tour participation facilities, all of which is good news for the business travel market."

Reg Ward, Chief Executive of the London Docklands Development Corporation, added that tourism would be part of the permanent regeneration of Docklands, bringing to the area increased activity and employment, providing new uses for historic buildings and adding an additional vitality and dimension to enhance the quality of life.

In Docklands "we have set about creating a new environment that will act as a counterpoint to the facilities that exist in the West of London and on a scale unparalleled elsewhere in western Europe."

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For further information contact:

LDDC Press Office
Thames House
Basin South
LONDON E16 2QY
Tel: 01-476 3000