

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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DLR BILL SIGNALS MAJOR TOURISM INITIATIVE IN DOCKLANDS

Business Tourism Conference Announced for December 9th

The launch of the Parliamentary Bill for the Eastern Extension of the Docklands Light Railway (DLR) announced last week by John Moore, Secretary of State for Transport, "has created the most significant opportunity for the growth of the tourism and travel industries in London this century", states Reg Ward, Chief Executive of the London Docklands Development Corporation (LDDC).

The London Regional Transport (LRT) Bill proposes a four and a half mile extension to the DLR serving ten stations running east from Poplar along the north side of the Royal Docks to Beckton. The initial section of the railway linking the City and Stratford with the Isle of Dogs is due to open in July 1987, and it is proposed that the eastern extension will be completed by 1990.

The LDDC has taken a leading role in the development of the railway proposal in order to serve local people and encourage new investment and job opportunities in the Royal Docks, particularly in the leisure and tourism fields.

Tourism as an industry already earns over £3000 million for London and employs nearly half a million people. The new DLR routes, together with the opening of the London City Airport, new riverbus services and imaginative leisure, cultural and tourism developments throughout Docklands are set to expand this market and make Docklands London's "new tourist centre".

A special conference sponsored by the Department of Employment, London Visitor and Convention Bureau (LVCB) and the LDDC has been called for:

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9TH
at The Sedgwick Centre
Aldgate
London E1

to consider the Business Tourism potential for London.

Speakers will include:

Lord Young, Secretary of State for Employment

Alan Jefferson, British Tourist Authority

Peter Smith, Caledonian Airways

John Csaky, Fitch & Co

Professor Derek Taylor, University of Surrey

Jancis Robinson, Food and Wine Writer of the Year

Chris Serle, BBC Television

and

Reg Ward, LDDC, who will be illustrating the new tourism developments in Docklands.

The Conference has attracted widespread interest from hotel, catering and travel companies. Tickets (£75.00 + VAT) are available from 01-515 3000 Ext 3510 / 01-538 0022.

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For further information and for complimentary press tickets to the Conference, contact: LDDC Press Office

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