



# News Release

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**LONDON DOCKLANDS 1981 - 1991: A DECADE OF ACHIEVEMENT**

London Docklands has witnessed a decade of urban regeneration achievement, the London Docklands Development Corporation (LDDC) said today as it marked it's 10th anniversary.

Set up by Government in 1981, the LDDC has overseen a transformation in London Docklands's fortunes - on development, employment and training opportunities, housing, infrastructure, transport and the environment.

London Docklands in 1991 is the world's largest and most successful urban regeneration scheme which is significantly adding to the capital's standing as Britain's leading business centre and is poised to become one of the most important new commercial areas in Europe.

LDDC Chairman David Hardy said: "The LDDC was set up as a single minded body empowered to acquire land, put in basic infrastructure and encourage the private sector to invest energy, drive and funding into re-development, resulting in the creation of new houses, new jobs and new businesses.

"Today, an investment of some £1120 million of public money has triggered £8420 million from private sources. Working in partnership with private developers, the three local boroughs of Tower Hamlets, Newham and Southwark and many other statutory authorities, the balance of London is being shifted towards the East.

"London Docklands is where the most exciting developments in Europe's largest city will be happening over the next ten years."

Looking ahead to the potential of the future, LDDC Chief Executive Eric Sorensen said:

"The fundamental regeneration task is supporting the creation of thriving businesses and jobs. By the end of the century, jobs in London Docklands will increase from the present 53,000 to over 200,000. This compares with 27,000 when the LDDC began it's work in 1981.

"Jobs will only come if there is business confidence about the quality of transport and communications. Improvements in road and rail transport are well under way. What was a poorly served area will soon have excellent road, rail and underground links, better bus services, a new airport and new river transport.

"The integrated market for Western Europe in 1992 will have profound implications for London Docklands and the East Thames Corridor. Just as the boom years of the eighties brought major international companies from outside and inside the European Community flocking into London, so the impact of 1992 will create the second wave. London Docklands offers an excellent location.

"The Royal Docks once formed the greatest port complex in the world. Today they represent one of the largest areas of development potential in Europe. Infrastructure is in place, the road system is complete and the Docklands Light Railway extension to Beckton is on target for 1992."

Eric Sorensen concluded " The overall measure of success as we complete the LDDC's remit will be to engender a sense of civic pride in this area and ensure that London Docklands plays a full part in the larger, thriving capital city.

"We aim to enhance the quality of life for residents, those who work here and visitors. Building on a decade of achievement, this is our new challenge.

- ENDS -

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

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**Note to Editors:**

The Corporation's 10th Anniversary publication - "A Decade of Achievement" is available from the LDDC Press Office (071 512 3000/0444

## REGENERATION OF LONDON DOCKLANDS

1981 - 1991

"The object of an urban development corporation shall be to secure the regeneration of its area, by bringing land and buildings into effective use, encouraging the development of existing and new industry and commerce, creating an attractive environment and ensuring that housing and social facilities are available to encourage people to live and work in the area."

Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980

### PHYSICAL REGENERATION

- \* £155 million expenditure on LAND ACQUISITION
- \* 600 hectares of DERELICT LAND RECLAIMED at a cost of £113 million
- \* £142 million expenditure on PUBLIC UTILITY services: gas, electricity, water, drainage
- \* £502 million expenditure on NEW OR IMPROVED ROADS, PATHWAYS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT
- \* 55 miles of NEW OR IMPROVED ROADS
- \* New public transport services opened: DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAILWAY - BUS ROUTES - RIVERBUS - LONDON CITY AIRPORT.

### ECONOMIC REGENERATION

- \* £1120 million PUBLIC SECTOR INVESTMENT
- \* £8420 million PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT
- \* 27 million square feet of COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL REDEVELOPMENT completed or under construction
- \* First phase of CANARY WHARF development opens Summer 1991
- \* Number of BUSINESSES MORE THAN DOUBLED from 1,100 in 1981 to 2,300 in 1990. Of NEW BUSINESSES since 1981, 52% have been START UPS and 48% RELOCATIONS

- \* 41,000 NEW JOBS. 17,000 NEWLY CREATED and 24,000 RELOCATIONS
- \* Total EMPLOYMENT NEARLY DOUBLED from 27,000 in 1981 to 53,000 in 1990.

SOCIAL REGENERATION

- \* 15,200 NEW HOMES completed
- \* PRIVATELY OWNED HOUSING INCREASED FROM 5% TO 44%
- \* £147 million expenditure on NEW & REPLACEMENT HOUSING FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS
- \* £72 million expenditure on ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS & HOUSING REFURBISHMENT
- \* 5,300 Local Authority HOMES REFURBISHED OR IMPROVED
- \* 56% POPULATION GROWTH: from 39,429 to 61,500
- \* Wide selection of NEW SHOPPING FACILITIES including Asda, Surrey Quays, Hays Galleria, Tobacco Dock
- \* £65 million expenditure of EDUCATION, TRAINING, SUPPORT FOR INDUSTRY, HEALTH & COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES
- \* TOWER HAMLETS POST 16 COLLEGE & BACON'S TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE built
- \* Contributions to PRIMARY & SECONDARY SCHOOL provision, including SCHOOLS COMPUTER NETWORK
- \* Major TRAINING ACCESS & SKILLS PROGRAMMES in construction and office work
- \* £3.4 million expenditure on LOCAL BUSINESS GRANTS, creating 3055 NEW JOBS & PRESERVING 2275 existing jobs
- \* Over 200 Community Groups supported by Community Grants Programme
- \* Extensive ARTS & SPORT programme
- \* 100,000 TREES planted - 330 acres GREEN SPACE
- \* 55 miles WATERFRONT
- \* 17 CONSERVATION areas and over 500 Listed buildings
- \* 43 AWARDS FOR LANDSCAPE, ARCHITECTURE & CONSERVATION