

SPECIALIST BRIEFING FACT SHEETS

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SPORTS AND VENUES

“The Games will create a much needed sporting infrastructure for the country helping to improve our elite athletes’ programmes and to engage the community in greater sporting participation.”

Debbie Jevans, Director of Sport, London 2012

KEY FACTS

- 80% of athletes will be within 20 minutes of their events
- 50% of athletes will live, train and compete in the Olympic Park
- The Olympic Park will house nine new venues including the main stadium, aquatics centre, three arenas and athletes village
- 33 venues will serve the 2012 Games
- The Olympic Village will be the most spacious in Olympic history with 17,320 beds and an average 16 sqm space per athlete

OVERVIEW

London 2012’s plans for Olympic and Paralympic sports and venues provide a compelling case for its candidacy:

- The passion of the British public for sport will ensure packed stadia and enthusiastic support
- A compact Games, adhering to all the needs of athletes, will result in the most athlete-friendly Games ever
- London’s cultural diversity and heritage will provide an enjoyable and stimulating backdrop to the Games for athletes, Olympic Family, spectators and broadcasters
- A legacy of sporting infrastructure for both elite athletes and grass roots participants will help provide a catalyst for improving the health of existing and future generations.

BACKGROUND

Passion for sport

The British public is passionate about sport: 90% of all tickets at the 2002 Manchester Commonwealth Games were sold, 500,000 watched the 2004 London Marathon, 750,000 tuned out to celebrate with the victorious England Rugby Union World Cup team in 2003, 13 million spectators watch professional football each season in England and British fans were the largest in number of any country during Athens 2004. This passion for sport will be complemented by an enlightened ticket pricing policy in 2012 that guarantees that 65% of tickets will be £30 or less. London’s Olympic stadia will be full of passionate and knowledgeable crowds.

Athlete-friendly Games

London 2012’s bid has been designed by athletes for athletes. The Athletes Advisory Group, led by Sir Steve Redgrave, has been involved at every stage of the development of the bid. The biggest benefit to athletes is the compact nature of the Games. No other candidate city has an Athletes’ Village within the Olympic

Park and within easy reach of so many of the sporting venues. This will enable athletes to walk back to their accommodation after the opening ceremony.

Short commuting times are an important consideration for the athletes. London's plans mean that fifty percent of athletes will be within minutes of their venues and will not have to leave the security of the Olympic Park to compete. 80% of athletes will be within 20 minutes of their events, 97% within 30 minutes.

For the first time, every athlete, where-ever they are competing, will have allocated accommodation within the Olympic Village, so that even those competing in events outside London can share the Olympic spirit and camaraderie which manifests itself in the opening and closing ceremonies and is present throughout the duration.

There have been significant improvements to make the Games even more compact since the mini-bid document was submitted to the IOC in January 2004. Fencing has been brought into the Olympic Park from its proposed site at Alexandra Palace, shooting – originally at Bisley – will take place in the River Zone at the Royal Artillery Barracks and Mountain Biking, originally to the west of London, will now take place at Weald in East London.

London's broad and diverse culture

The Athletes Village is only seven minutes on the Javelin Shuttle into St Pancras, allowing the athletes to enjoy the benefits of London and the arts and cultural programme of open air concerts, theatre and comedy.

The Games as a sporting legacy

The legacy of London 2012 includes a much needed sporting infrastructure and will provide a boost for the development of sport in the UK. It offers a major opportunity for all the sporting bodies and will inspire a new generation to take up sport with the obvious health and fitness benefits that will accrue.

Five sports venues in the Olympic Park will be reconfigured and retained after the Games finish:

- The Olympic Stadium, which will be reconfigured to provide a 25,000 seat athletics stadium.
- The Aquatics Centre will be reconfigured to a capacity of 3,500 seats after the Games, retaining two 50m pools and a 25m diving pool.
- The Velopark will become a multi-discipline cycling centre that includes the Olympic Park Velodrome, reconfigured to a capacity of 3,000 seats, a road track, BMX tracks and a mountain biking course
- The Hockey Centre will be reconfigured with 5,000 seats retained around the main pitch with the potential for use at all levels.
- The Olympic Park Arena 3 will be retained as an indoor sports centre and will become a training and competition venue and a regional home for indoor sports with flexible seating for up to 10,000 people

Together these retained sports facilities will form the London Olympic Institute, which will focus on promoting the Olympic ideal through sport, culture, education and the environment, and will be open to all abilities.

LEGACY

“The Olympic and Paralympic Games will not be here today gone tomorrow events that tread lightly across London leaving no footprints, they will be a transforming experience bequeathing an immense legacy to the country.”

Patrick Carter, Chair of Sport England

KEY FACTS

- Olympic Village will be converted into 3,600 apartments after the Games – with a significant number being affordable
- Media and press centre will become a hub for creative industries in east London after the Games
- Four arenas will be deconstructed after the Games and relocated to other parts of the UK
- Swimming pools for the water polo will be deconstructed and relocated to other parts of the UK
- Three 50M training pools will be relocated across the UK after the Games
- Sports equipment used during the Games will be re-located to sports clubs and charities across the UK after the Games for free
- Olympic Village Polyclinic will be converted into an educational legacy – with nursery, primary and secondary schools and lifelong learning centre for the local communities of east London.

OVERVIEW

London 2012 has a clear legacy vision that will make a major difference to London, the United Kingdom and the Olympic Movement by:

- transforming the physical and economic landscape in the poorest and most deprived areas of London
- inspiring a new generation to greater sporting activity and achievement across all groups
- fostering a healthy and active nation
- Supporting the IOC and Olympic Movement by protecting and enhancing the Games.

Our Olympic Strategy aims to achieve four main legacy conditions:

- To leave behind world class sports facilities which meet a clearly defined sporting need in the heart of existing communities
- To deliver world class performance by Britain’s competitors
- To drive the much wider regeneration of the east of London, through a unique combination of sport and culture, delivering a high quality environment for business and opportunities for local people
- To create a major new urban Park – the biggest created in Europe in 150 years.

BACKGROUND

Legacy for sport

An approach of 'Excellence without Extravagance' means new permanent venues are only being built where a clear need has been identified and strong business and operational plans have been established.

The Olympic Park will be the principal location for the Games in London and will include nine competition venues. Following the Games, five of these venues will remain and provide much needed competition and training facilities to elite athletes, grassroots sport and the local community. Together, these facilities form the London Olympic Institute and will focus on promoting the Olympic ideals.

The facilities to be retained in the Olympic Park are:

- The *Olympic Stadium* will be reconfigured to a 25,000 seat athletics stadium including a House of Sport as part of the Olympic Institute, offering training and sports science and sports medicine facilities for competitors, and offices and support services for national sports federations and other sports bodies. The stadium will earn revenue from spectator events and commercial rents from office, retail, conferencing, and banqueting and will be operated by a not-for-profit company.
- The *Aquatics Centre* will be reconfigured to a capacity of 3,500 seats after the Games, retaining two 50m pools, a 25m diving pool and fitness centre to accommodate elite, development and local club and community uses. Operational funding will be provided by a number of partners including the University of East London for use by staff and students as well as the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority. It will also earn revenue from a commercial health and fitness centre. A specialist operator will carry operational risks and responsibilities.
- *Velopark* will become a unique cycling complex that includes the Olympic Park Velodrome, reconfigured to a capacity of 3,000 seats, a road track, competition and recreational BMX tracks and a mountain biking training area for use by all levels of cyclists. It will be operated by the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority which will also provide operational funding and it will also earn revenue from community, club and elite use.
- The *Hockey Centre* will be reconfigured to provide significant competition and training facilities for hockey at all levels, with 5,000 seats retained around the main pitch with the potential for use at all levels. The centre will earn revenue from the hire of pitches and local club use as well as spectator events. It will be operated by a not-for-profit company.
- The *Olympic Park Arena 3* will be retained as an indoor sports centre and will become a training and competition venue and a regional home for indoor sports with flexible seating for up to 10,000 people.

It will earn revenue from spectator events and club, community and elite athlete use of the hall and will be operated by a not for profit company.

Economic and Community Benefits

One of the long lasting benefits will be the regeneration of the Lower Lea Valley in East London, currently one of the city's poorest and most disadvantaged areas. Specifically:

- The creation of thousands of new jobs in growth sectors throughout east London and the Thames Gateway. The recently approved planning applications for the Olympic Park estimate that 7,000 new jobs will be created in the construction industry and around 12,000 new jobs as a result of the legacy development;
- and the provision of modern health and education infrastructure, including two primary schools and a secondary school, alongside high quality sports facilities that will be accessible to all.

Legacy for Environment

The creation of 127 hectares of new urban parkland will form the biggest urban park created in Europe for over 150 years – a Hyde Park for the east of London with new links to break down the barrier across the Lower Lea. 40 hectares on either side of River Lea will restore polluted waterways and conserve local biodiversity and wetlands.

Legacy for Education & Culture

A London Games will create an educational and youth programme for the years leading up to the 2012 Games. Initiatives will include:

- An Athlete Ambassador Programme for schools and community groups to personify the values of the Olympic ideal;
- Development of a range of educational materials based upon Olympic Values to support the National Curriculum;
- A Young Ambassadors' Programme focused on the most deprived areas of the UK to help young people develop language skills and equip participants to serve as volunteers. Creating a legacy of new skills and opportunities for young people.

TRANSPORT

“We are ready and raring to go as soon as the decision is announced in Singapore in July next year. The strength of our bid is compelling.”

Wiben Short, Head of Transport, London 2012

KEY FACTS

- Ten Railway lines will serve the Olympic Park in 2012. Nine of these exist today and the tenth –the high speed CTRL- will be completed in 2007.
- Each spectator ticket will include travel within London on all trains and buses on the day of the event through to 04.00 the next morning
- Two major park and ride sites will be established with a combined capacity of 12,000 cars and both within 25 minutes of the Olympic Park
- London 2012 estimates that on the day of an event 78% of spectators will travel from within London, 22% from the rest of the UK and Europe

OVERVIEW

London 2012’s key objectives for transport include:

- Minimise travel distances and times by creating a compact Games for athletes
- Provide safe, reliable and congestion free transport to, and between, venues for the Olympic Family
- Offer public transport facilities which are fast, frequent and simple to use for spectators
- Ensure that transport for the rest of London continues to operate smoothly
- Take advantage of the significant investment in public transportation and infrastructure which is already planned
- Support the planning with a proven record of delivery and management
- Utilise the best connected international airport in the world

BACKGROUND

Minimise travel distances and times for athletes by creating the most compact Games possible

More than 50% of athletes will live and compete within the Olympic Park, 80% will be within 20 minutes of their venues, and more than 97% within 30 minutes. 93% of training venues will also be within 30 minutes. For the Paralympic Games, 95% of athletes will be within 20 minutes of their venue.

Provide safe, reliable and congestion free transport to, and between, venues for the Olympic Family

The 240 kilometre designated Olympic Road Network (ORN) has been designed to transport the Olympic Family quickly between destinations using a number of measures including traffic signal optimisation, green waves and lane enforcement. The route between Hyde Park and the proposed Olympic Village has been completed in just 21 minutes and 45 seconds using green wave technology.

Offer world-class public transport facilities which are fast, frequent and simple to use for spectators

The Park will be served by ten separate rail lines delivering one train every 15 seconds and carrying 240,000 people per hour. An Olympic Javelin shuttle service using the new Channel Tunnel Rail Link and bullet trains will speed 25,000 passengers per hour to the Olympic Park from the centre of London (Kings Cross St Pancras) in just seven minutes and from Ebbsfleet in 10 minutes. The Olympic Park will be served by rail and underground stations at West Ham, Stratford Regional and Stratford International.

There will be no provision for spectator parking at Olympic venues, although two park and ride sites will provide a total of 12,000 parking spaces. In addition, a 9,000 space park and rail facility will be available at Ebbsfleet station.

London's 21,000 taxis and the entire DLR network are accessible to people with disabilities, as will be all London's buses by 2005.

Ensure that transport for the rest of London continues to operate smoothly During August, travel demand in London is down by as much as 20%, leaving ample capacity for the 5% additional demand created by the Olympics.

Take advantage of the significant investment levels in public transportation and infrastructure which are already planned

London was the first capital city to introduce a hi-tech congestion charging system to limit traffic in the central zone. Between now and the 2012 Games, over £18 billion will be spent on improving and operating London's public transport infrastructure. This is not dependent on winning the bid but is already planned and committed. A further £4.5 billion is being invested in over 2000 new carriages on regional rail services into London. As a combined package, this represents one of the largest transport investment programmes in the world.

Support the planning with a proven record of delivery and management This is supported by London's extensive experience in managing large scale sporting and cultural events. London Underground regularly manages an additional one million people through key central London stations for major events such as the Notting Hill Carnival, Europe's largest outdoor event.

Utilise the best connected international airport in the world

London Heathrow is the best connected airport in the world. Backed up by Gatwick, Stansted and London City Airport, current capacity already far exceeds projected traffic and the completion of Terminal Five will add further capacity and resilience. Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted are all linked to central London by express train services and London City will soon be connected to the DLR. Air transport facilities are complimented by international rail links which will be further improved when the final part of the high speed Channel Tunnel Rail Link opens in 2007. Throughout the Games rail passengers from mainland Europe will be able to gain access to the Olympic Park via one cross platform interchange at Ebbsfleet, a ten minute rail trip from the Park.

ENVIRONMENT & REGENERATION

“Hosting the Olympic and Paralympic Games is not just about avoiding harm to the environment and local communities - it is a real opportunity to bring about lasting environmental and social improvements. London's bid has recognised this from the start. This is why we are keen to work together with London 2012 and partners to ensure a London Games produces a sustainable legacy which we can be proud of.”

Robert Napier, Chief Executive WWF

KEY FACTS

- green space – creation of the largest urban park in Europe (127 hectares) for 150 years with a net gain in high quality and connected habitats (26% more open land and 66% increase in publicly accessible open space)
- restored rivers – ecological, transport and amenity legacy, improved water quality
- remediated land previously contaminated by years of industrial use
- robust and flexible primary utility infrastructure (energy, waste, water) to support long-term mixed use development
- Improved air quality due to Olympic Park Low Emission Zone, reduced emissions and improved transport infrastructure
- Reduced car dependency: mixed use developments close to public transport and amenities, improved and safer walking and cycle access.

OVERVIEW

Working in close cooperation with many environmental and sustainable development organisations and experts – and in particular WWF and BioRegional – London 2012 has set out an innovative and comprehensive sustainability programme under the headline theme *Towards a One Planet Olympics*. Key objectives are:

- To provide the best quality environment for athletes
- The regeneration of East London communities and their environment
- Demonstrating sustainable solutions to global problems.

BACKGROUND

To provide the best quality environment for athletes

The Olympic Village, set within the new 250 ha Olympic Park, will be built to the highest recognised UK standards for sustainable construction and will provide healthy internal and external environments during Games time and in legacy phase. Attention to detail in landscaping, soundscape and accessibility will offer a truly athlete-friendly and barrier-free environment.

Use of quiet low/no-emission vehicles throughout the Olympic fleet and the application of strict Low Emission Zone standards around Olympic Park and other venues, will contribute to significantly improved air quality. London's drinking water standards are virtually the best in the world, while careful attention will be

paid to ensuring safe bathing water quality at the rowing, canoeing and triathlon venues.

The regeneration of East London communities and their environment

The Olympic and Paralympic Games would be a catalyst for urban regeneration and community integration to transform the environment and quality of life in East London. The main site in the Lower Lea Valley is today the largest area of derelict and polluted land in the capital.

The Olympic Park offers a vision for creating a high quality environment for new mixed and multi-use communities. The green spaces of the parkland and river corridor will improve air quality, sustain local ecology, and increase the amenity value of the landscape. The new utilities infrastructure will provide the basis for long-term resource efficiency. A high degree of self-sufficiency in renewable energy, water supply and waste management will be built-in. Facility design will also take account of the potential impacts of climate change.

Demonstrating sustainable solutions for global problems.

The '*One Planet Living*' initiative – developed by WWF and the BioRegional Development Group - recognises that present levels of consumption and waste production in the developed world are outstripping the productive capacity of the planet by at least three times. Adapting this theme to the concept of a '*One Planet Olympics*', key sustainability goals include:

- A Low Carbon Games to highlight the global issue of climate change
- 'Zero Waste Games' to ensure all Olympic and Paralympic waste is treated as a resource and diverted away from landfill into reuse and recycling projects.
- Conserving biodiversity through the restoration of rivers and wetlands, the creation of the largest new urban park in Europe for 200 years and adopting an Olympic biodiversity plan.
- Promoting Environmental Awareness and Partnerships by engaging people within their own environments and communities through dialogue and a wide range of sport and cultural initiatives.

PARALYMPIC GAMES

“The Paralympics are not an ‘add on’ but an integral part of the development of the whole London 2012 Games concept. Issues of concern to Paralympians and disabled spectators have not been considered in isolation but run through every element of the London 2012 plans.”

Mike Brace, Chairman of the British Paralympic Association

KEY FACTS

- The Paralympic Games takes place 29 August – 9 September
- London 2012 will be the most compact Paralympics ever, with 11 of the 20 venues in the Olympic Park, five in the ExCel and three others in easy reach of the Park
- Ninety-five percent of athletes are within 15 minutes of their competition centres

OVERVIEW

London’s bid for the Games in 2012 is one bid for both the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The Paralympics is an integral part of the development of the whole London 2012 Games concept. London 2012’s approach to the Paralympic Games is based on the following eight point plan:

- Harnessing the success of the British Paralympic teams
- Building on Britain’s proven track record of delivering Paralympic sport events
- Focussing on an athlete-centred Paralympic Games
- Designing state-of-the-art venues in close proximity
- Providing a systematic transportation procedure for participants and spectators, and building on existing accessible transport
- Ensuring a Paralympic legacy
- Celebrating the UK and the world’s arts and culture
- Delivering through financial planning and clear lines of organisation

BACKGROUND

Harnessing the success of the British Paralympic teams

Britain was number two in the Paralympic medal table in both Athens and Sydney and has never been out of the top six in the medal tally since the beginning of the Paralympic Games.

Building on UK’s track record of delivering Paralympic sport events

The Manchester Commonwealth Games 2002, the London Marathon and the IPC World Athletic Championships, demonstrate Britain’s recent experience and successful delivery of high profile Paralympic events.

Focussing on an athlete-centred Paralympic Games

The Games is based on a 'compact' approach with the majority of sports taking place in the Olympic Park, minimising journey times for athletes and creating a concentrated focal point of excitement for the Games.

All Paralympic athletes will be housed within the Athletes Village which has been designed to be fully accessible from the beginning.

Designing state-of-the-art venues in close proximity

Twenty venues have been selected for the Paralympic Games of which 11 are within the Olympic Park. As a result 95% of athletes will be within 15 minutes of their venue which reduces travelling issues for the paralympians as well as allowing spectators to move easily between venues.

Providing a systematic transportation procedure for participants and spectators

LOCOG will provide a fleet of fully accessible, low/no emission vehicles to serve the transport needs of athletes and officials for training and competition. The spectator transport strategy is based upon 100% public transport access. All spectators will travel to venues by fully accessible public transport which will be included within the price of spectator tickets. The Jubilee Line and the Docklands Light Railway provide easy access for people with disabilities.

Ensuring a Paralympic legacy

Since its genesis in Stoke Mandeville in 1948, the Paralympic Games has demonstrated that it can inspire an enormous shift in the perceptions of disabled people. The Games will set new standards of inclusive and sustainable design in sporting facilities, residential development, transport procurement and service delivery.

Celebrating the UK, and the world's, arts and culture

A five day Olympic and Paralympic Carnival, bridging the period between the close of the Olympics and the opening of the Paralympic Games, will maintain momentum and build anticipation for the Paralympics.

Delivering through financial planning and clear lines of organisation

The funding model is based on a significant increase in Paralympic television coverage, the introduction of a premier sponsorship partner, an innovative ticketing strategy and a specific Paralympic licensing programme. The British Paralympic Association will be represented on the LOCOG Board and a Paralympics Games Division will integrate and co-ordinate planning for both Games.

ARTS, CULTURE AND EDUCATION

"The London 2012 Games will give the world the most passionate, energetic, diverse and spectacular cultural celebration that has ever accompanied an Olympic or Paralympic Games."

Jude Kelly, Chair of London 2012's Arts, Culture and Education Committee

KEY FACTS

- Every day there are at least 150 cultural events in London
- 52 million visits are made to London's museums, galleries and artistic performances each year
- London's restaurant and café culture encompasses cuisines from over 70 different countries.
- 39% of London's total area is made up of parks and green spaces, more than any other city of its size in the world.
- London's major public spaces, from Trafalgar Square to Victoria Park in east London and Hyde Park in the west, will be focal points to celebrate the Games.

OVERVIEW

The Culture and Education programme in London 2012's candidate file seeks to:

- Unlock Britain's creative wealth and London's reputation as a world cultural capital to celebrate youth and internationalism.
- Provide a dazzling and spectacular ceremonial programme which is creatively and impeccably staged.
- Instil the Olympic spirit through inspiring education.

BACKGROUND

Unlock London's reputation as a world cultural capital

London is a world centre for arts and culture – in theatre, music and dance, museums, libraries and the visual arts, fashion, architecture and film, evidenced by the facts that:

- It has more than 200 museums, 1,500 theatre companies, 500 cinemas, 100 concert and music halls, 5 symphony orchestras and 3 World Heritage Sites
- It is home to an internationally recognised creative industry that generates more than £21 billion per year for the nation's economy.

Provide a dazzling and spectacular ceremonial programme

Inspired by John Donne's '*No man is an island*' and the UK's rich maritime heritage, the 2012 cultural and educational programme will emphasise voyage and discovery, and the desire of an island nation to make new and lasting connections within our communities and the world, specifically:

- *Olympic Friend-ship*: Launched at the Beijing Games, the *Friend-ship* will be a full size ocean-going clipper crewed by young people, artists, environmentalists, and scientists, crossing the creative communities and travelling the globe exchanging a rich cultural cargo with every nation visited.
- *Olympic Torch Relay*: Subject to the approval of the IOC, the Torch Relay will be an international journey of hope and reconciliation, crossing the home countries of Nobel Peace Prize winners and inspiring areas of conflict with the Olympic message of peace.
- *Opening and Closing ceremonies*: The combined talents of our world-class directors, artists, lighting engineers, illusionists, spectacularists and carnivalists will fill the Olympic Stadium with magic in a celebration of exploration, discovery and friendship.
- *World Cultural Fair*: As athletes come from all around the world to compete we will ask them to bring their nations with them, transforming London with a world cultural fair.
- *2012 Festival of World Youth Culture*: To inaugurate the Olympic renaissance of East London, 2012 will see the launch of a festival of world youth culture, staged along the waterways, bridges and streets of the revitalised Lower Lea Valley.
- *International Shakespeare Festival*: Our greatest English poet/playwright has been adopted by the world. Shakespeare's works will be performed all over the city by artistic communities from around the globe.
- *Olympic Proms*: A month long Olympic Proms will showcase the widest range of musical styles and commissions by young composers from many countries.
- *Five Rings Exhibition*: Representing the world's continents, the five rings will inspire museum and gallery partnerships to host collections from around the world and invite international curators to offer new interpretations of our shared histories.
- *Five day Olympic Carnival*: Drawing on the success of the Notting Hill Carnival, the event will maintain the celebratory momentum between the close of the Olympic and the start of the Paralympic Games.

Instil the Olympic spirit through education

The Olympic and Paralympic Games will provide a lasting educational legacy for the UK. Based on the idea of education as a voyage of discovery, Britain's children will undertake a four year virtual journey aboard the *Olympic Friend-ship*, gaining an appreciation and understanding of the values and ideals of the Olympic movement.

The voyage of the Olympic Friend-ship will also inspire and reinforce a number of other educational initiatives:

- Primary school programme in partnership with WWF to study environments of the *Olympic Friend-ship's* ports of call
- Olympic language programme to encourage secondary school children to teach their heritage, languages and culture to other school children
- Young Ambassadors' programme focused on most deprived areas of UK will develop language skills and equip participants to serve as volunteers. Creating a legacy of new skills and opportunities for young people

- Olympic Youth Camp on the *Olympic Friend-ship*, moored close to the Games will provide an experience based on the importance of reaching out to other cultures and celebrating difference in the true Olympic spirit.