

South Bank Partnership



Explaining the need for the *Manifesto*, Kate Hoey MP, and joint chair of the Partnership with neighbouring MP Simon Hughes, said: “South Bank is under pressure. The numbers of residents and employees will grow sharply and the area needs both substantial physical changes and new community facilities. South Bank Partnership makes sure there is collaboration between the boroughs, the Mayor’s agencies and local business, and fully involves the MPs and Ward Councillors who represent local residents. To ensure this process is properly managed the Partnership is taking action now and is delighted that national and regional government recognise its unique role in taking forward the area’s development.”

Jim Fitzpatrick, Minister for London commented: “South Bank Partnership represents real neighbourhood leadership and delivery in action. I praise their proactive and comprehensive partnership approach and believe that many areas in the capital could benefit from adopting their self-help attitude.”

Mayor of London, Ken Livingstone said: “South Bank is home to one of the world’s leading cultural centres, with thousands of people from all over the world visiting the area every day. Thousands more people live or work there. This manifesto will build on its success through careful planning and with a clear vision of what makes the area uniquely special to Londoners and visitors alike.”

Simon Hughes MP and joint chair of the Partnership concluded: “South Bank is a special part of central London which happens to cross borough boundaries. South Bank Partnership has a long tradition of promoting effective neighbourhood working which transcends borough boundaries and political alignments.”

Download the 6-page Action Plan or full document at www.southbankpartnership.org

For more information

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Notes to editors

About South Bank Partnership

- South Bank Partnership brings together South Bank's two MPs (Kate Hoey and Simon Hughes), the leadership of Lambeth and Southwark Councils, Ward Councillors, representatives of the Mayor's agencies, Government Office for London plus the area's major businesses, arts organisations, universities and hospital.
- The Partnership was established in 1995 and meets quarterly to encourage and co-ordinate the improvement of the area.
- The Partnership manages the quarterly residents meeting, South Bank Forum, which gives local residents and employees the opportunity to find out more about key issues affecting the neighbourhood, to express their views and influence decision-makers. It is chaired by Kate Hoey MP and Simon Hughes MP and attended by Councillors from both Lambeth and Southwark. It regularly attracts over 100 attendees.
- The secretariat for the Partnership and the Forum is provided by South Bank Employers' Group.
- For more information see www.southbankpartnership.org

About South Bank Employers' Group

- South Bank Employers' Group is a non-profit association of the major organisations in the South Bank, Waterloo and Blackfriars with a long term commitment to improving the experience of the area for employees, visitors and residents.
- Members of South Bank Employers' Group include: British Film Institute, Coin Street Community Builders, Ernst & Young, Guy's & St Thomas' Hospital Trust, IBM UK Ltd, ITV, King's College London, London and Continental Railways, London Development Agency, London South Bank University, National Theatre, Network Rail, P&O Developments, Shell, South Bank Centre and The London Eye Company.
- For the past fifteen years, under the auspices of South Bank Partnership, the Group has played a leading role in transforming the South Bank with a variety of high profile projects such as creating the Riverside Walk which now attracts over 15 million visitors ever year and branding the area through signage and street furniture.

SOUTH BANK PARTNERSHIP: BRIEFING NOTE

South Bank Partnership co-ordinates and monitors initiatives to improve the South Bank, Waterloo and Blackfriars area.

Formed in 1994, under the joint Chairmanship of the two local MPs, Kate Hoey and Simon Hughes, the South Bank Partnership has successfully co-ordinated and overseen the vast improvements which have taken place in the South Bank neighbourhood since then. It is a cross-borough, cross-party organisation, bringing together elected representatives, statutory organisations and major local stakeholders.

As well as the MPs, its membership comprises: Cabinet/Executive Members of Lambeth and Southwark Councils; Ward Councillors, three each, from Lambeth (Bishop's Ward) and Southwark (Cathedrals Ward); representatives from the Government Office for London, Greater London Authority, London Development Agency, Transport for London, Learning and Skills Council and Metropolitan Police; and South Bank Employers' Group Members who include major local business, cultural, education, health and transport undertakings. The Partnership covers the area bounded by the River, Lambeth Road, and Blackfriars Road, down to St George's Circus. Its priorities are to:

- Maintain an effective partnership of private and public interests in the area
- Promote and co-ordinate the regeneration of the area
- Improve and monitor neighbourhood management
- Secure implementation of environmental improvements
- Promote projects and identify funding from both private and public sectors
- Encourage community input and feedback from elected members and via the quarterly residents' meeting, South Bank Forum

The Partnership's current agenda is contained in its neighbourhood charter *Under Pressure and on the Edge - London's South Bank: A Manifesto for Action*. The Action Plan at the heart of the Manifesto highlights the improvements required in the areas of economic growth and employment, inward investment, environment, safety and security, and transport. It also addresses a number of quality of life issues.

The following is an update on progress on some of the key themes of the Manifesto:

Gaining recognition

- Central Government have recognised the South Bank Partnership as a model for partnership working and business engagement, and the Manifesto as an exemplar of a neighbourhood charter as envisaged in the Local Government White Paper.
- Joint funding from LDA, Lambeth, Southwark and local business for the creation of a new dedicated Secretariat for the Partnership

Partnership working

- Effective joint working with the Department for Transport, the Mayor's agencies, Network Rail, Lambeth and local business on the future of Waterloo Station and the public realm around it.
- Full stakeholder buy-in and planning approval for a new park at Jubilee Gardens.
- Increased cross-borough working especially in the fields of planning, economic regeneration and community safety.
- Increased local stakeholder involvement in the negotiation and allocation of Section 106 funds.

Improving the public realm

- Reinvigoration of the area around the renovated Royal Festival Hall, including the huge success of new food, drink and retail outlets on Festival Riverside and Terrace.
- Major developments approved or under consideration on Blackfriars Road with significant potential environmental and community benefits.
- Joint commitment of developers, Southwark and Transport for London to support major improvements in Blackfriars Road.
- Redevelopment of Elizabeth House will, if approved, lead to vast improvements to the approaches to the station and links between the station and the riverside.
- Brief agreed for major urban design study for the IMAX roundabout and Waterloo Road.
- Improvements to graffiti removal and better coordination of cleansing through public-private partnerships.
- Plans being developed to improve signage and wayfinding with TfL and local stakeholders.
- Business plan devised for the provision of public toilets – site yet to be found.

Improved security

- Security strategy agreed and public/private coordination and cross-borough security collaboration improving.
- Specific focus on anti-terrorism, improved CCTV coverage and reducing opportunistic theft.

Improving cultural facilities

- The complete restoration of the Royal Festival Hall, opening of the renovated and expanded Young Vic, the creation of BFI Southbank and emerging plans for a new National Film Centre on the South Bank.

Community facilities and engagement

- Increased attendance at South Bank Forum as an effective cross-borough forum for neighbourhood issues.
- Funding secured for the future of South Bank News.
- Stamford Street Neighbourhood Centre to open in September with outstanding new childcare, family support, learning and business support facilities.
- North Southwark and North Lambeth Sport Action Zone goes from strength to strength, delivering community sport and healthy living programmes, contributing to pathways to employment and social cohesion.
- Doon Street development, if approved, will provide a new public swimming pool, leisure centre and accommodation for Ballet Rambert.

Local jobs for local people

- Growing commitment of major employers to local recruitment. Funding secured for the Waterloo Jobshop, a successful employer-led public/private partnership

Sustainability

- Study commissioned to assess opportunities for neighbourhood-based Combined Heat and Power, linking new developments and existing buildings.