

## On Your Marks, Get Set London ...

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**The LSC together with London 2012, the Mayor of London and the London Development Agency launched the Get Set London Roadshow today in London's Trafalgar Square, to celebrate the fact that London's Olympiad begins in August 2008.**

Through a range of different sized pods this unique Roadshow will then go on to visit all 33 London boroughs, between January – April 2008. The Get Set London Roadshow offers every Londoner and local business the chance to find out how they can get involved right now in the 2012 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games.

Londoners will be able to get information about the job and skills opportunities available in the run-up to the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games from Learning and Skills Council (LSC) and Job Centre Plus advisors.

David Hughes, the LSC's Regional Director for London said:

“The Roadshow will provide Londoners with the opportunity to find out about the exciting range of courses and training available to them in their local area. We see London 2012 as an opportunity to raise skills levels and aspirations across London. Our aim is to provide people with the right skills so that they can benefit from the job opportunities that the Games will bring. By working with local communities through events like this, we hope to inspire people that are out of work or at a disadvantage to gain new skills”.

These local events will take place in shopping centres, parks and town squares and are aimed at the whole community. The pods will feature interactive sporting equipment, information on how musical acts can compete for the incredible opportunity to perform during the Handover celebration in London in August 2008, as well information on the opportunities for jobs, skills development and business in each local area.

Ken Livingstone, Mayor of London, Sebastian Coe, Chairman of the London 2012 Organising Committee, Manny Lewis, Chief Executive of the London Development Agency and The Rt Hon Tessa Jowell, Minister for the Olympics and London, officially launched the Roadshow.

Also lending their support at the launch were Olympic, European and World triple jump champion Jonathan Edwards; 11 year-old Plymouth diving prodigy, Thomas Daley, tipped for success after winning the gold at the Australian Elite Junior Nationals in 2005 and Shanaze Reade, the 19 year old world-class cycling champion, also hoping for medal success at London 2012.

Sebastian Coe, Chairman of the London Organising Committee explained how the Games will benefit sport in the capital, "Five new permanent venues are being constructed for London 2012, which will be used for both community and competitive sporting events. These venues will give our sports stars of the future better facilities to train and compete at the highest level. The Games are also an opportunity for all Londoners to get involved, both on and off the sporting field."

Manny Lewis, the Chief Executive of London Development Agency expanded on the business and skills opportunities at the Games, "The Roadshow is a fantastic tool to highlight how the LDA is delivering a legacy now through the Games. We want to engage as many people as possible with the training programmes and job opportunities. Our goal is to get 70,000 people across London into work by 2012.

"The borough visits will also reach out to local business communities. We will be able to offer advice in preparing their services for the Games and how to compete for contracts in everything from construction and tourism to hospitality and technology."

The Mayor also launched his 'Five Legacy Commitment' Document today, an annual publication with updates on the delivery of programmes, progress, and how people can get involved in the many opportunities offered across the city.

Mayor of London, Ken Livingstone said, "The Games are already delivering their lasting legacy. We have seen a number of programmes start up providing support to businesses, improving skills, securing jobs and delivering infrastructure improvements, and it has been encouraging to see the eagerness of Londoners to realise their potential and get involved. Today's launch of the Five Legacy Commitment Document sets out our aims and achievements to developing this legacy further, and the London Roadshow is key in ensuring we up our game to give everyone, from all backgrounds, the opportunity to benefit from the once in a lifetime opportunity the 2012 Games offer."

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## Notes to Editors

- London 2012  
To read the news item and find out when the 'Get Set London' Roadshow will be visiting each London borough, visit <http://www.london2012.com/news/archive/2008-01/london-gets-set-for-roadshow.php>
- London Development Agency  
The LDA works to improve quality of life for all Londoners and drive sustainable economic growth. Link to release on LDA website <http://www.lda.gov.uk/server/show/ConWebDoc.2353>
- Learning and Skills Council (LSC)  
The LSC exists to make England better skilled and more competitive. We are responsible for ensuring the availability of high-quality education and training for everyone. We have a single goal: to improve the skills of England's young people and adults to world class standards. Our vision is that young people and adults in England have knowledge and skills matching the best in the world and are part of a truly competitive workforce. We work nationally, regionally and locally to deliver this ambition on behalf of learners and employers.  
[www.lsc.gov.uk/london](http://www.lsc.gov.uk/london)
- Connexions and Next Step advisors will provide information on skills at each borough event.  
[www.connexions-direct.com](http://www.connexions-direct.com)  
[www.nextstep.org.uk](http://www.nextstep.org.uk)

## Media Enquiries

For further information please contact:

Lynn McSweeney  
Learning and Skills Council  
020 7904 0663  
07810757172  
[Lynn.McSweeney@lsc.gov.uk](mailto:Lynn.McSweeney@lsc.gov.uk)