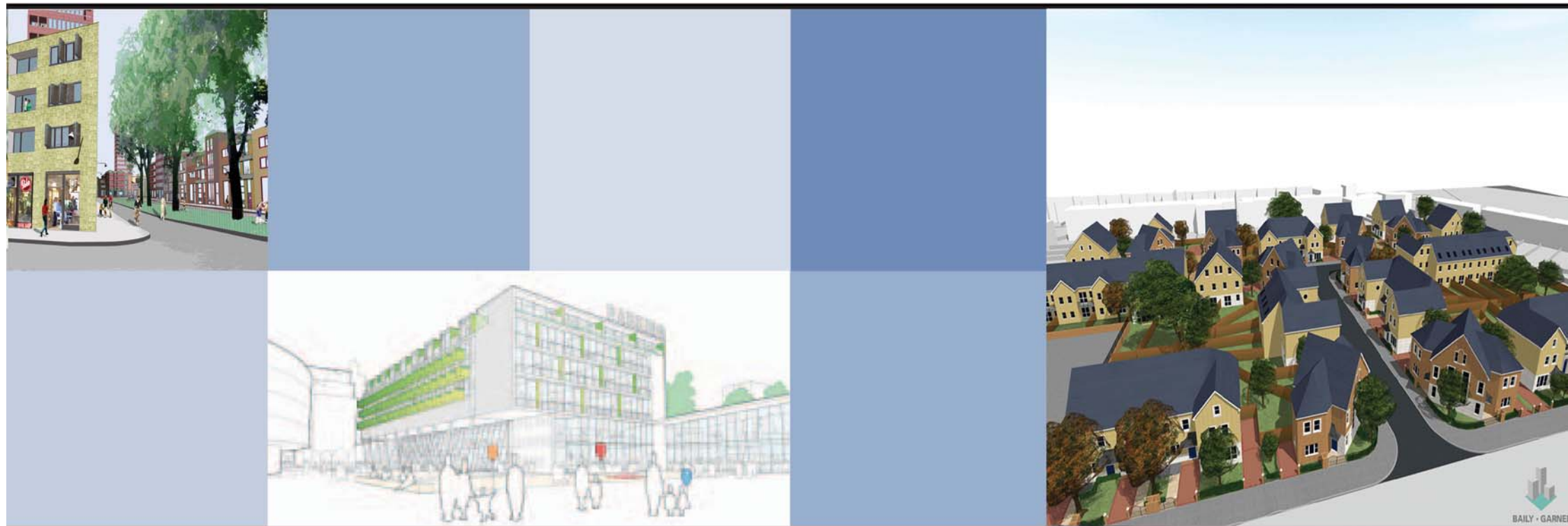


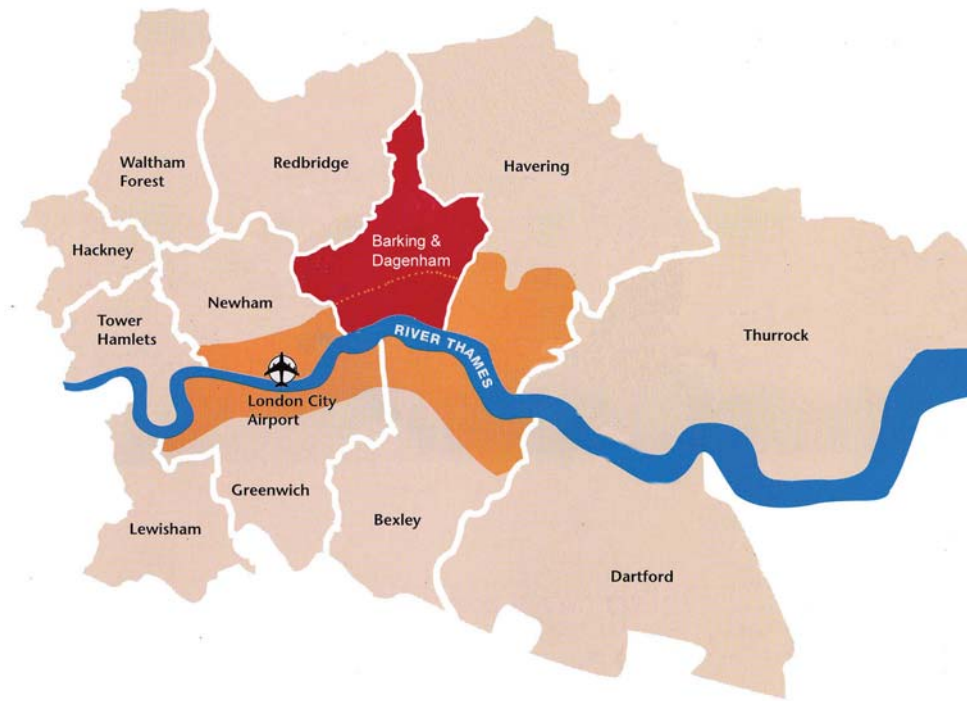
# Annual Report of An Urban Renaissance in East London 2003-04



[www.barking-dagenham.gov.uk](http://www.barking-dagenham.gov.uk)

## Contents

- 3 Preface by Councillor Sid Kallar
- 4 Introduction
- 6 London Riverside
- 10 Barking Town Centre and the River Roding Area
- 11 Education and Skills
- 12 Local Jobs and Businesses
- 14 Housing
- 15 Environment
- 17 Transport
- 18 Neighbourhood Renewal



## Introduction by Councillor Kallar

I am pleased to introduce the third Annual Report of Barking and Dagenham's Regeneration Strategy, An Urban Renaissance in East London. It sets out the steps we are taking to achieve the Council's Community Priorities and reach our overall 2020 vision for the borough.

We have taken some significant steps forward in the last year. The Council has increased resources for regeneration and entered into new partnership arrangements to take forward our plans. Work began on key sites in Barking and we made good progress with the Dagenham Dock project. the borough is also becoming known for good design, with award winning developments like the John Perry Nursery and Charlecote Road housing scheme.

I would like to thank all those working for regeneration in Barking and Dagenham for their efforts in the last year. I look forward to working with the community and all our partners to build on further achievements over the coming year.

Councillor Sid Kallar  
Lead Member for Regeneration  
June 2004



## Introduction

This is the third Annual Report of An Urban Renaissance in East London, the regeneration strategy for the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham. This report sets out the work that has been done in the past year (2003/04) to implement the strategy.

Our key objectives are:

- Raising educational attainment
- Encouraging the development of skills and lifelong learning and improving the employability of local people
- Widening employment opportunities in the borough and attracting well paid jobs
- Widening the choice of housing available within the borough
- Providing new transport links both within the borough and to areas of growth outside
- Building closer and more effective partnerships to deliver regeneration within and the borough.

We have taken a number of important steps towards these objectives in the last year:

- A new Joint Venture Company was set up to ensure delivery at Barking Riverside and announced by John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister
- Childcare spaces have continued to increase since 2001 with well over 800 new places to date.
- The new Charlecote Road housing development has won four separate Best New Development awards.
- Eastbrookend Country Park and the Chase Nature Reserve have gained Local Nature Reserve Designation.
- All targets for smoking cessation were met this year

Our key aim for regeneration in Barking and Dagenham is to increase the prosperity of local people. We are delighted that there has been a 14.6% increase in average income in the Borough between 2000 and 2002, which is the biggest increase in any London Borough.

## Leading and Managing an Urban Renaissance in East London

During the last year, the Council has undertaken a major cross-cutting Best Value Review of Regeneration. This has resulted in significant changes to the way we manage and lead regeneration in the Borough, in order to achieve the objectives of our Regeneration and Neighbourhood Renewal Strategies.

As a result of the Best Value Review, we have:

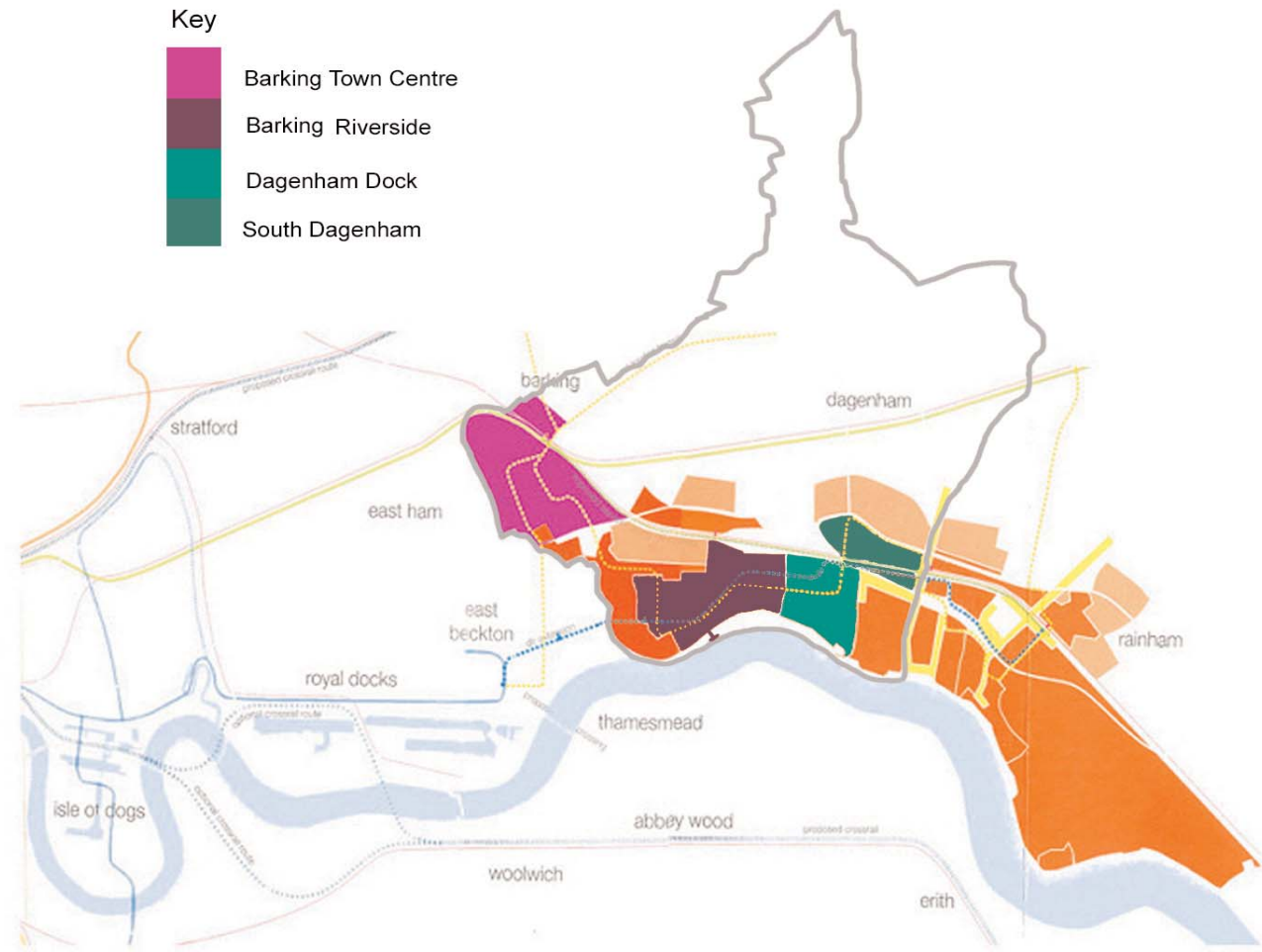
- Created a Regeneration and Environment Department to take forward and lead the creation of sustainable communities
- Invested £700,000 over two years in additional staffing resources in two new divisions
- Established strong and robust oversight and governance arrangements for regeneration in Barking and Dagenham, including the establishment of the Regeneration Board governance structure and a Statutory Partners Board, both Chaired by the Chief Executive
- Actively participated in Regional and national policy debates and been critically influential in a number of policy debates. In particular, we have liaised closely with the ODPM (Office of the Deputy Prime Minister), the Greater London Assembly (GLA) and the Thames Gateway London Partnership over the establishment an Urban Development Corporation (UDC) for the Thames Gateway

## Major Successes in the Areas of Opportunity

### London Riverside

London Riverside extends across six square kilometres along the Thames from Barking Creek to the edge of Greater London.

It contains some of London's most important development sites including, Dagenham Dock, South Dagenham and Barking Riverside.





## Dagenham Dock

Progress in the development of Dagenham Dock as a 'Sustainable Industrial Park' (SIP) continued throughout 2003/04. The Park will be an innovative cluster of environmental businesses and a show case for tackling London's environmental challenges, while delivering a good range of jobs and physical regeneration.

Dagenham Dock's privately owned and poorly maintained roads have long been a barrier to investment. A major leap forward in the regeneration of Dagenham Dock was the purchase by the London Development Agency of a number of these roads. The Agency is working with the Council on delivering a £7 to £9 m upgrade of Dagenham Dock's infrastructure during 2004/05.

The Centrepiece of the Sustainable Industrial Park is the Environmental Technology Resource Centre for London. Last year, expressions of Interest were sought from consortia interested in building and running the centre. These are currently being assessed and partnerships formed.



## Barking Riverside

In November 2003 John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, announced the creation of a new Joint Venture Company, which will see English Partnerships and Bellway Homes sharing the cost of investment in the Barking Riverside development and ensuring its delivery.

2003 also saw the appointment of Maxwan, a firm of Dutch Masterplanners, by English Partnerships, the London Development Agency and Bellway Homes. They have been tasked with bringing forward a new Masterplan for Barking Riverside to deliver 10,700 new homes, working in partnership with the Council, the Greater London Assembly and other lead agencies.

An initial public consultation on the development of the Masterplan took place in January 2004. It was overwhelmingly positive, with strong support for the plans to open up the river-front, build a mix of houses and introduce a range of new community facilities. An Outline Planning application for the development is anticipated in the Autumn of 2004.

The Council and English Partnerships have also commissioned consultants to look at the land surrounding Barking Riverside and investigate opportunities to better link the

new development with existing residential and industrial areas.

Construction work on the new Jo Richardson Community Complex, Castle Green, started on site in

January 2004 with completion anticipated in September 2005.



Concept of proposals for Barking Riverside



## South Dagenham

The Council has made steady progress towards its ambition of creating a new urban centre on the land in South Dagenham released by Ford.

The LDA appointed West 8 to masterplan the eastern part of the site and studies have been completed looking at the infrastructure needs of the site. These include the formation of a new lake as the centre piece of the development, as well as to provide flood storage capacity.

The LDA continued to purchase properties at Chequers Corner in advance of the Compulsory Purchase of the site and a public inquiry date was announced for autumn 2004.

Demolition of the Paint Trim and Assembly Plant was completed starting the transformation of the area.

The Council commissioned architects to investigate the redevelopment of the block of shops and flats at the junction of Goresbrook Road and Ripple Road.

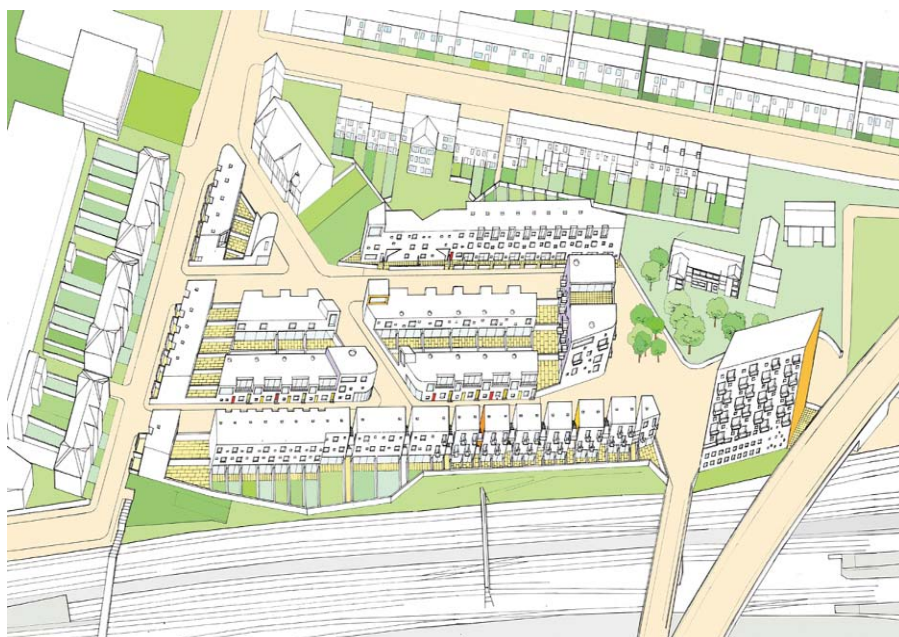


A concept drawing of South Dagenham

## Barking Town Centre and the River Roding Area

The Council has established a Strategic Public Agencies Partnership, with English Partnerships (EP), the London Development Agency (LDA) and GLA Housing Corporation, to take forward the regeneration of the Town Centre.

Interim Planning Guidance, based on the Barking Town Centre Framework Plan is being developed. An extensive Public Consultation exercise on the new guidance will be undertaken during the summer of 2004.



Construction of the mixed tenure St. Ann's housing development on Gascoigne Estate has commenced. First nominations have been requested by the Housing Authority and the development is due to be completed in Spring 2005.

The Bloomfields, Clevelands, Wakerings/Tanner Street site was sold to East Thames Housing. Demolition will commence in May 2004 and the Jestico and Whiles designed scheme will be implemented in the coming year.

Planning permission was granted for the Furlong Homes development on Abbey Road. Construction is due to begin in Spring 2005.

Redevelopment of Broadway Theatre has been ongoing. The theatre is due to open in December 2004

The Town Square project was granted outline permission. Stage one of the scheme, including the new Lifelong Learning Centre has been given detailed planning consent and is due to start on site in November 2004. This has attracted £3m of ODPM funding

and is a partnership between UEL (University of East London), Barking College and the Council and private sector developer Urban Catalyst.

The Council won £2m from the Sustainable communities fund (administered by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister) to improve the public realm in Barking Town Centre. To guide improvements to the public realm, we are developing a Barking Code for Street furniture and paving and four pilot areas for implementation.

£8m of ODPM Funding was awarded for land assembly to enable sites to be brought forward for regeneration.

Studies have commenced on the retail capacity of the town centre. This is jointly funded by the Council, EP and the LDA.

A study into the links between Barking Riverside and Barking Town Centre has been commissioned as well as a Business Plan for the Town Centre project. These are jointly funded by EP, the LDA and the Council.

Jestico and Whiles designed scheme for the Bloomfields, Clevelands and Wakerings site

## Education and Skills

Our mission statement for education identifies education as the key to the borough's future. We want high levels of achievement to be the norm supporting the higher aspirations of residents, particularly in terms of their employability and earning power.

From our mission statement for education.



Barking Life Long Learning Centre

### Basic Skills

The Adult Basic Skills Initiative continues to build capacity in literacy, numeracy and ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) to meet the Skills for Life agenda.

### LifeLong Learning

UK Online centres and Learndirect provision is expanding across the borough, bringing learning opportunities to residents in local communities.

The Council has supported the establishment of a Voluntary Sector Training Providers Network with a key aim of securing mainstream funding for providers.

Gateway to Industry continued to build the capacity of manufacturers through training initiatives.

A partnership between UEL (University of East London), Barking College and the Council is taking forward development of Barking Lifelong Learning Centre which will maintain a UEL presence in the borough.

A curriculum development group of the Lifelong Learning Centre is working to develop training for careers in health care, education

and public administration at all levels.

### Access to Jobs

The Gateway to Health and Social Care project has been established, looking to create routes into employment and promote careers in the sector for adults and young people.

The London Development Agency funded Heart of Thames Gateway JobNet project has helped local people into jobs.

The Council has made a commitment to explore the use of the planning system and its procurement procedures to promote local recruitment.

### Further Learning Opportunities

Welfare to Work for Disabled People project secured for a further two years through Neighbourhood Renewal Funding.

### Indicators

There has been a 14.6% increase in average income between 2000 and 2002. This is the biggest rise of any London borough.

Economic activity of females has risen from 60% in 2000, to 63.2% in 2002/03.



## Local Jobs and Businesses

“The Borough is striving to create a 21st century economy providing the appropriate space and environment for new and existing business to flourish.”

From our mission statement our mission statement for local jobs and business.

In 2003-04 we undertook a major exercise involving all Council departments and external partners, to develop an Economic Development Strategy for the borough. The strategy will enable us to coordinate economic development in Barking and Dagenham much more effectively.

## Social Enterprise

A Social Enterprise Network has been established with one new enterprise at its core. A Social Enterprise Champion has been appointed to assist groups to work towards achieving enterprise status.

## Green Business

The Council has become part of the Green Mark scheme, which encourages businesses to be more environmentally aware.

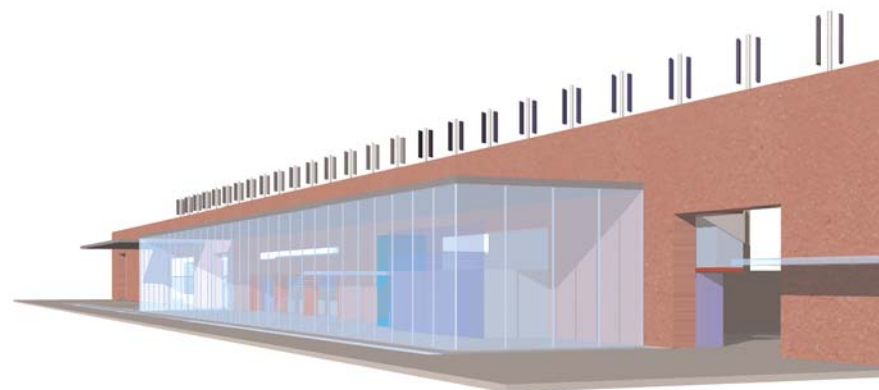
The Council is working with the London Development Agency (LDA) to establish the Environmental Technology Resource Centre for London,

which will form the centrepiece of the Sustainable Industrial Park.

## Business Development

The LDA, with the Council's support, has launched an Innovation Development Project for the businesses in the London Riverside.

Discussions with developers commenced with the expectation that development of new business starter units, will take place in the coming financial year (2004). The Council has begun funding top-up activity with the East London Small Business Centre to provide start-up training.



Environmental Technology Resource Centre for London



### Creative Industries

A Business Plan for the Malthouse is currently being developed.

Work is ongoing with the LDA to develop the borough as one of London's Creative "hubs".

### Infrastructure

The LDA has purchased a number of poorly maintained roads at Dagenham Dock and is working with the Council on delivering a £7 to £9m upgrade of the infrastructure there.

An application has been submitted for European Regional Development Funding (ERDF) for repair of the roads at Dagenham Dock.

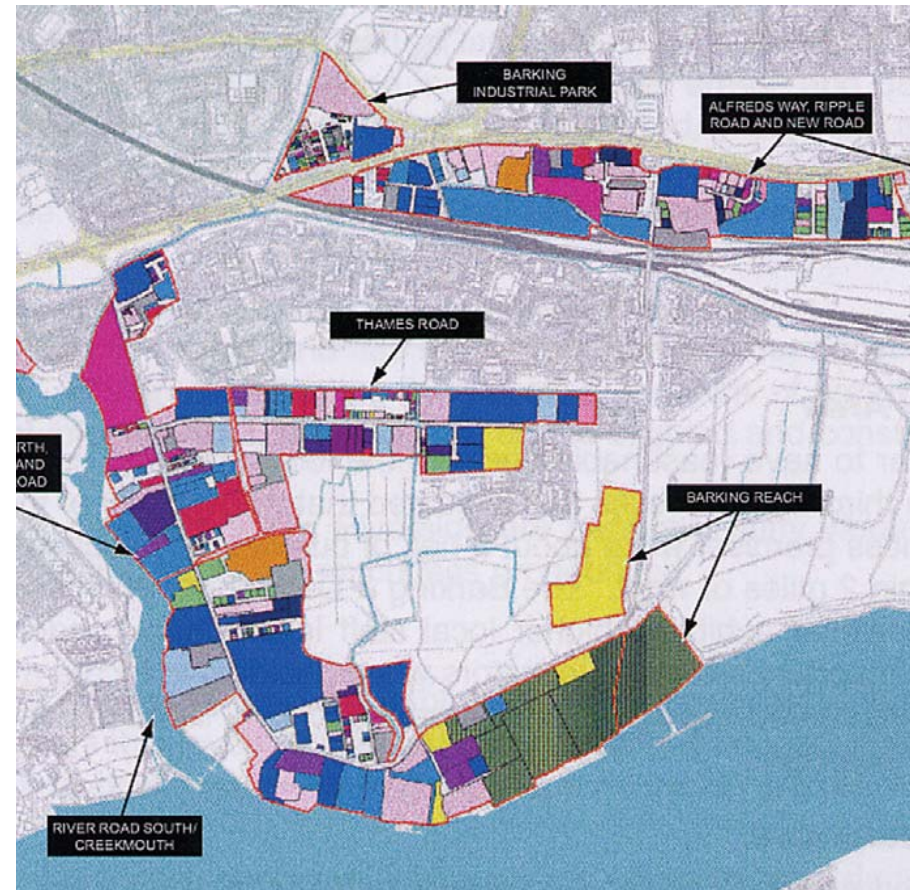
### Monitoring

An Industrial Business Survey was undertaken of all employment areas in the Borough. The study will be used as a monitoring and evaluation tool to plan for change.

### Childcare Provision

Provision of childcare spaces continued. Since 2001, the

number of out-of-school places has increased from 1008 in 2001 to 1513 places in 2004. Pre-school places have increased from 856 places in 2001 to 1200 places in 2004.



Industrial Business Survey

## Housing

“ The borough intends to improve the quality and availability of housing opportunities which are available to all sections of the community. This will ensure that all residents have a decent home and living environment which will support Barking and Dagenham’s social and economic regeneration.”

From our mission statement for housing.



Charlecote Road development

### Strategic Plans

The Council will carry out further work this year to achieve flexible tenure on future housing sites.

The Council aims to reach the Lifetime Homes Standard and achieve 'secure by design' status on new affordable schemes and estate renewal where possible. In 2004-5, this will also include eco-housing.

The Council is committed to ensuring that 10% of new homes will have disabled wheelchair access.

A Housing Futures Forum was set up in January 2004 to guide strategic development in the borough. The forum includes the Chief Executive of the Council, the Government Office for London, residents, Registered Social Landlord (RSL) representatives and officers.

A Housing Futures Residents Forum is to be set up with Independent Tenant Advisor shortly.

The formal process to appoint Preferred RSL partners has been completed this year.

### New and Aspirational Homes

Our focus for new housing will be on key worker homes as well as increasing the number of one bedroom and four bedroom properties.

The Council is continuing to work with RSLs and developers to incorporate designated 'space for learning' in new properties, this is the next stage of the original lofts for learning project.

### Improving Existing Stock

Stock Options Appraisal Consultant, Beha Williams Norman and Independent Tenant Advisor, PPCR Associates have been appointed by the Housing Futures project team.

Charlecote Road won four awards this year, including, Best New Development at the National Affordable Homeownership awards and Best New Development by a Housing Association at the Evening Standard Awards.

## Environment

“One of our key ingredients of this strategy is to create an environmentally distinct area where accessibility is seen as a high priority and Barking and Dagenham is recognised as an area with high standards of design and architecture.”

From our mission statement for a distinct environment.

## Strategic Planning

The Council adopted a Management Framework for parks and green spaces in October 2003. It has been recognised as best practice by CABE (Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment).

A Local Public Service Agreement (LPSA) target for woodland planting was secured with the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM). New park woodland areas will be planted in the coming year.

Management Plans have been produced for Ripple Nature Reserve and St Peter and St Paul's Churchyard.

## Funding

Funding for Phase 3 of the Beam Valley project has been secured.

Funding of £400k has been gained from the New Opportunities Fund, for “Transforming Your Space” – three projects to improve parks in close consultation with residents.

A Project Planning Grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund has been secured for Barking Park.

## New Planting

King George Recreation Ground has been refurbished under Phase 1 of the Parks and Green Spaces Strategy. This was supported by funding of £70k from London Riverside Ltd.

Half a hectare of planting was completed at the Leys.

## Awards

Ten park playgrounds meet the NEAP (Neighbourhood Equipped Areas for Play) standard.

Eastbrookend Country Park and the Chase Nature Reserve have gained Local Nature Reserve Designation.

Green Flags have been awarded to Eastbrookend Country Park and St Peter and St Paul's Churchyard.

## A13 Artscape

Phase 1 of Gorsebrook Park is completed.

The Pump House at Movers Lane junction is now completed. It houses the pump equipment for the underpass and lighting equipment for artistic lighting across the building.

The Rep-Tile earthworks at Movers Lane were completed with new paths and lighting also installed.

The Y-Joules earthworks and lighting at Lodge Avenue roundabout was completed.

The tree line at Movers Lane and Castle Green, and the Railway Tree Line have been completed.

Work has begun on Gale Street and Charlton Crescent Subways and is due to be completed in July 04.

#### Public Artwork

A public artwork has been commissioned for Hanover Housing at Saywood Lodge, sheltered accommodation in Dagenham. Work is set to start in summer 2004.

A public artwork and new landscaping has been commissioned for a temporary housing scheme by Look Ahead Housing.



The new Pump House at Movers Lane



## Transport

“A variety of good efficient clean transport is a key driver in regeneration and economic success as well as improving the local environment.

Improving and extending the borough’s transport infrastructure is a key driver for regeneration, economic development and environmental improvement.”

From our mission statement for transport.

### Highway Improvements

Dagenham Dock's privately owned and poorly maintained roads have long been a barrier to investment. A major leap forward in the regeneration of Dagenham Dock was the purchase by the London Development Agency of a number of these roads. The Agency is working with the Council on delivering a £7 to £9 m upgrade of Dagenham Dock's infrastructure during 2004/05.

We have submitted an application for European Regional Development Funding (ERDF) for repair of the roads at Dagenham Dock.

### Improving Public Transport

The Council has continued to work with Transport for London (TFL) to bring forward transport improvements.

We have lobbied TFL for a state-of-the-art “bendy bus” service, capable of being upgraded to a tram, to connect Barking Riverside with Barking Town Centre and Ilford.

We have also continued to highlight with TFL the importance of an early extension of the Docklands Light Rail, eastwards to Barking Riverside and Dagenham Dock, to support the development of London Riverside.



East London Transit

## Neighbourhood Renewal

“Our citizens have the right to expect high quality health and social care when they need them. Our vision is for people to live as long and healthy lives as possible.”

From our mission statement for health and social care.

## Healthy Living

The pilot SureStart Nutrition Project has been very successful and is being rolled out to all of the borough's Sure Starts. It aims to improve knowledge on nutrition and diet for parents as well as offering ways to obtain more affordable healthy food and provides training to improve cookery skills.

## Improving Services

The LIFT programme, which aims to improve primary care and GP facilities in the borough is progressing well. The first phase of construction has started at Thames View and Phase 2 is

underway at Morland Road.

New structural changes in the management of the borough's substance abuse team have been put in place. This should improve the co-ordination of services around reduction of smoking. All targets for the year have been achieved and new initiatives are being implemented.

We have undertaken research to assess the needs and experiences of Primary Care Trust (PCT) service provision for Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) and other hard to reach groups. We have used the information to identify gaps and service needs and provide increased outreach work particularly with older people.

## Reducing Teenage Pregnancy

We are continuing to implement the Teenage Age Pregnancy Strategy. We have achieved our targets for 2004 and the borough is now aiming for a reduction to 30% under 18 conception rates by 2006/7. We are continuing to improve Projects to improve the accessibility of advice and services.



A concept drawing of the new health facility on Thames View estate

## Neighbourhood Renewal

“In order for regeneration to be a success and for residents to optimise the benefits that may occur, we need a flourishing community where many people are supported to be active.”

From our mission statement for community initiative.

## Community Capacity

We have established a Community Empowerment Network to support local community capacity building.

We have established a Barking and Dagenham Voluntary Training Providers Network to enable voluntary organisations to access funding for learning and training opportunities.

Launched in September 2003 the Community Champions Programme was exclusively offered to Abbey, Gascoigne and Thames residents who already serve on Partnership Boards. The programme ran over six months, comprising of three modules covering personal development, skills for being an active citizen and gaining knowledge and understanding. Residents played a part in designing the programme and eleven individuals successfully completed the course. Due to the success of the first programme a follow up programme has been designed and will be offered to each of the three Sure Start Programmes in Abbey, Gascoigne and Thames Wards aimed at the parent representatives.



Learning and training opportunities

## Community Strategy Review

Last year, the Barking and Dagenham Partnership reviewed its procedures and the delivery of the Community and Neighbourhood Renewal Strategies.

As a result, the Community Strategy was comprehensively reviewed and renewed in consultation with sub-groups of the Borough Partnership, partner organisations and local community representatives.

The new Strategy was delivered to every household in the borough.

The Partnership was restructured to improve focus on key priorities. The number of sub-groups was halved and the sub-groups were given a bigger role in setting priorities for Neighbourhood Renewal Funding (NRF) that will help achieve the targets set out in the Community Strategy.

The results will be managed through a new Performance Management system.

## Neighbourhood Renewal Funding

As part of its Annual Review of Local Strategic Partnerships, the Government Office for London (GOL) reviewed the performance of the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme. In 2003/04, we achieved an outturn spend of only 3.7% underspend, well within the government's permitted limits.

GOL praised our NRF funded projects for improving the health of people with mental illness, "Walking Buses" and anti-social behaviour patrols as examples of good practice.





## Related Articles

An Urban Renaissance in East London

Annual Report of An Urban Renaissance in East London 2001–2002

Annual Report of An Urban Renaissance in East London 2002–2003

These can be found on–line at:

[www.barking-dagenham.gov.uk](http://www.barking-dagenham.gov.uk)

This report was compiled by the Regeneration Implementation Division.

For further information please contact:

Regeneration Implementation Division  
Town Hall  
Barking IG11 7LU

Tel: 020 8227 2973

Email: [regeneration@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:regeneration@lbbd.gov.uk)



[www.barking-dagenham.gov.uk](http://www.barking-dagenham.gov.uk)