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# LIVING SUBURBS

16 October 2013

## Getting to Paris

### Symposium on Franco-British approaches to Urban Regeneration

#### General information

Conference title: GETTING TO PARIS

Conference date: Wednesday 16 October 2013

Conference times: 09:00-13:00  
(Registration + refreshments from 08:30)

Location: The Building Centre,  
26 Store Street, WC1E 7BT

This event will compare strategic projects in Paris with major London projects and will explore the process of development and how they differ. French representatives will share their experience and practitioners and policy makers in London will discuss what lessons are applicable. The morning presentations will be followed by a networking morning tea break and then a series of workshops which will dig deeper.

The focus will be on suburban areas such as Upper and Lower Lea Valley and centres such as Canning Town or Croydon, and on areas such as Plaine Commune St Denis, La Defence, and other parts of Ile de France where regeneration is underway.

Now that Paris and London are only a couple of hours apart by Eurostar, it is going to be vital to share good practice in tackling the challenges that both cities face. Both cities are upgrading their local transport systems, and promoting investment outside the historic centres, with London expecting great benefits from CrossRail. Yet both cities face concentrations of deprivation. Riots last year hit some London suburban shopping centres hard, and despite all the new jobs many feel left out.

The report of the TEN Group's study tour to Paris last year highlighted fundamental differences in coordinating transport planning and strategic development, with 18 new tramlines, shared planning departments, and bringing green space into high density developments. Paris simply seems more joined up, and the Plan for Grand Paris is setting very ambitious goals. On the other hand London may be better at integrating outsiders.

Through expert presentations, and workshop discussions, we will be exploring ideas for getting growth going again, rebuilding confidence in run-down areas, mobilising private finance, and building social capital. The report of the event is expected to influence thinking about the kind of strategic planning that is now needed.

[Symposium Programme on the next page...](#)

Organised by URBED in association with NLA, RTPI London and URBEDs TEN Group.  
Sponsored by Bouygues UK



## Provisional Symposium Programme

- 09.00 **Opening words**  
(Peter Murray, Chairman, NLA)
- 09.10 **Two World Cities?**  
(Martin Crookston, Urban Economist and Strategic Planner)
- Historical overview. What are the common challenges and differences between Paris and London? Where do people live? Where do people work? How do people get about? How do the French do things differently? What can we learn from each other?
- 09.30 **Governance and Strategic Planning**  
(Paul Lecroart Institut d'Amenagement et Urbanisme, Ile de France)
- Implementation including infrastructure and strategic planning. Identifying priority areas. Planning transport upgrades. Preparing development frameworks. Relationship between the regional and local authority working together. How do the utility and transport providers fit into the plan?
- 09.50 **Viability and Finance**  
(Speaker TBC)
- How does Paris implement complex projects? How does the societie mixte differ from the British Public Private Partnerships? How are employers involved?
- 10.10 **Social Inclusion and Rebranding**  
(Michel Cantal-Dupart)
- Why did Paris have riots? What is being done to address the causes? How does polarization and social exclusion differ between London and Paris? How is planning addressing the issues of the worst housing estates?

10.30 **Questions and panel discussion**

11.00 **Coffee break**

11.30 **Workshops:**

Workshop One:  
Strategic planning and resourcing regeneration  
(Pat Hayes LB Ealing and Paul Lecroart)

Workshop Two:  
Governance and achieving social inclusion  
(Duncan Bowie University of Westminster and Michael Cantal-Dupart)

Workshop Three:  
Design and rebranding in La Defence  
(Matthias Armengaud AWP TBC and Mark Lucas LB Redbridge)

Workshop Four:  
Transport and development  
(Bouygues UK)

12.30 **Feedback to wider group**

13.00 **Concluding comments**

## Expected audience

NLA related events attract a broad and senior audience of professionals from across the built environment, including property and investment, public bodies, architecture and design, planning, construction, engineering, project management and manufacture.

**If you need to contact the organisers at any point please call Jess Bousie on 07714979956 or email [jess@urbed.coop](mailto:jess@urbed.coop)**