

**Tuesday 30 May 2006**

**For Immediate Release**

**COOLING, HEATING AND POWERING LONDON SUSTAINABLY!**

**Mayor plans for sustainable energy capital**

The Combined Heat and Power Association (CHPA) has welcomed the Mayor of London's proposals for a radically revised London Plan, which strongly supports the greater use of decentralised energy systems, such as Combined Heat and Power (CHP), to help the capital combat climate change.

Syed Ahmed, Head of Research at the CHPA stated:

*"The Association commends the Mayor for setting out a series of challenging carbon dioxide reduction targets to 2025 for the capital.*

*"The revised London Plan's focus strongly supports a move away from inefficient centralised power-only schemes, to the greater use of onsite decentralised energy systems, efficiently providing heat, power and cooling to London's homes, businesses and industry.*

Included amongst a wide number of recommendations regarding CHP and community heating, revisions to the Plan aim to ensure that:

"Large residential developments will offer economies of scale to achieve particularly high environmental standards and very low carbon emissions. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, Combined Cooling Heat and Power should always be incorporated"

and that:

"Every opportunity should be taken to incorporate CHP infrastructure in new developments."

Syed Ahmed concludes:

*"The Plan's wide set of recommendations for CHP and community heating will contribute to lowering London's carbon footprint whilst enhancing its competitive edge as a world-class city."*

**ENDS**

**Notes:**

1. These new policies are published in a document entitled *Draft Further Alterations to the London Plan* which the Mayor has published today for consultation with the London Assembly and the Greater London Authority functional bodies, before a formal public consultation period this Autumn.

The document can be downloaded from:

<http://www.london.gov.uk/mayor/strategies/sds/further-alts/la-draft.jsp>

2. Combined Heat and Power (CHP) is the simultaneous generation of electricity and useful heat in a combined, highly efficient process. The Government's target is to double UK CHP capacity to 10,000 MW by 2010.

3. CHP is a form of decentralised energy system ie generation technologies, which provide power, heat (and/or cooling) at the point of use. These range from microgeneration technologies operating in individual homes to community based systems such as those operating in Southampton or indeed large industrial CHP schemes powering over 200 industrial schemes in the UK at present.

4. The Government's latest statistics show that every 1 MW of CHP operating in the UK helps reduce carbon emissions by between 600 – 800 tonnes every year. Current installed CHP capacity of approximately 5,700 MW, on over 1,500 sites across the UK, is already helping deliver savings of over four million tonnes of carbon annually, one of the largest single carbon reduction measures in the Government's Climate Change Programme.

**For further information contact:**

Syed Ahmed, Head of Research, CHPA 020 7802 0184