

January 2010

## **New Board Member appointed to the Olympic Lottery Distributor**

Tessa Jowell, the Minister for the Olympics, has appointed Sirajul Islam to the board of the Olympic Lottery Distributor. His appointment is from 18 January 2010 until the body is wound up, in or around March 2013.

### **Sirajul Islam**

Siraj is a leading figure in community development and public services with over 10 years' experience of leading and managing change in the public sector. He is currently self-employed as a Community Cohesion and Engagement Consultant, and also a Councillor for the Bethnal Green South Ward, in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. Siraj is former Deputy Leader of the Council and currently Chairman of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee. He is a Governor of John Scurr Primary School, Board Member of Tower Hamlets Community Housing and a Trustee of Spitalfields Market Community Trust. He is also a Member of the Local Government Association's Regeneration and Transport Board and accredited Peer for I&DeA. He also finds time to run his own local football team, Bethnal Green Utd FC.

### **Background**

The Olympic Lottery Distributor (OLD) is an independent body set up by Parliament (under the Horserace Betting & Olympic Lottery Act 2004) and uses money raised by the National Lottery to support the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The OLD will have £1,835m available during its lifetime and these funds will help to ensure the successful delivery of the Games and the associated regeneration of the Lower Lea Valley. The OLD is accountable to Parliament for its use of National Lottery money.

Siraj will join the following board members:

Janet Paraskeva (Chair)  
Carol Ainscow  
Hilary Daniels  
Lindsay Holbrook  
Sir Craig Reddie

Appointments to the Board of the OLD are made by the Minister for the Olympics, and follow the OCPA Code of Practice. Board members receive £218 per day worked, on the basis that they will devote approximately eight days per year to the task. All public appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. However, in accordance with the original Nolan recommendations, there is a requirement for defined political activity in the last five years (if any declared) to be made public. Mr Islam has declared obtaining office as a Local Councillor, and speaking and canvassing on behalf of the Labour Party. He has held office in a local party branch.