

Construction Challenge for the London Olympics 2012

The London Olympics to be held in 2012 provide a major opportunity and challenge for the UK construction industry. The development will consume in the region of £2.4 billion of public funding to be spent on the venues, infrastructure and transport facilities. But who will co-ordinate this programme of work and when will we see the results – and for those involved in the industry what are the opportunities?

The bodies with management responsibility are:

The London Development Agency (LDA)

This body will take responsibility for projects in advance of the formation of the Olympic Delivery Agency.

The Olympic Delivery Agency (ODA)

This body will be established by an Act of parliament that will be brought forward in the Olympic Bill. The ODA will be responsible for managing the public funding and for ensuring that all the infrastructure and venues are ready in time.

The London Organising Committee for the Olympic games (LOCOG)

This body will be responsible for organising the Olympic games events and will work with the ODA.

Key dates for the development of the infrastructure and venues are as follows:

Year	Activity	Value
2005	London chosen to host the games Contractor appointed for power lines contract in the Lea Valley Appointment of design team for Olympic park and for Velopark	
2006	Wembley stadium completed Work on upgrading of Wimbledon to commence Work to start on Aquatics centre Contracts announced for Olympic Park	750m 70m
2007	All land purchased and designs completed Work to start on Velopark Work to start on Olympic Village Completion of bus way known as East London Transit Scheme	

Channel Tunnel rail link completed		
2008	Heathrow Terminal 5 completed Aquatics centre completed Velopark completed Docklands Light Railway (DLR) Woolwich Arsenal extension opens Work on Olympic Stadium starts	
2009	DLR extension from Canning Town to Stratford Regional Station opens Work to start on 4no. multi-sport arenas	
2010	Work to start on Paralympics complex East London Line Tube extension opens Work starts on Hockey Centre Work starts on Media Centre	£15m
2011	Completion of Hockey Centre Completion of Olympic Stadium Completion of Olympic Village Completion of multi-sport arenas Completion of Paralympics complex	£281m £1,000m £96m £6m
2012	Completion of Equestrian events and pentathlon arenas at Greenwich Park Completion of modifications to Wimbledon Completion of temporary Beach Volleyball arenas at Horse Guards Parade Completion of work to Millennium Dome to accommodate Gymnastics and Basketball Completion of changes to Lords Cricket Ground Completion of arenas at Royal Docks Completion of Indoor Shooting hall at the Royal Artillery Barracks Completion of temporary Greenwich arena for Badminton and Gymnastics	£9m £0.6m £73m £2.5m £2.6m £21m £18m £14m
27 July	Olympics opening ceremony	
12 Aug	Olympics closing ceremony	

It will be interesting to follow the progress of the proposed developments to see if the construction industry can deliver such a high profile public project to time and within budget. Keep this article posted!

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