

THE PEOPLE'S PLAN FOR THE ROYAL DOCKS

Making it Happen

Organising and Campaigning

The inquiry was set up to consider a single planning application, not the alternative futures for the area.

The inspector recommended approval of the airport scheme and referred to the People's Plan as an 'interesting contribution' but not a plan 'in the usual planning sense'. But that didn't stop efforts to make the Plan happen starting with a public launch and a copy going to all households in the area.



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Buy the Docks

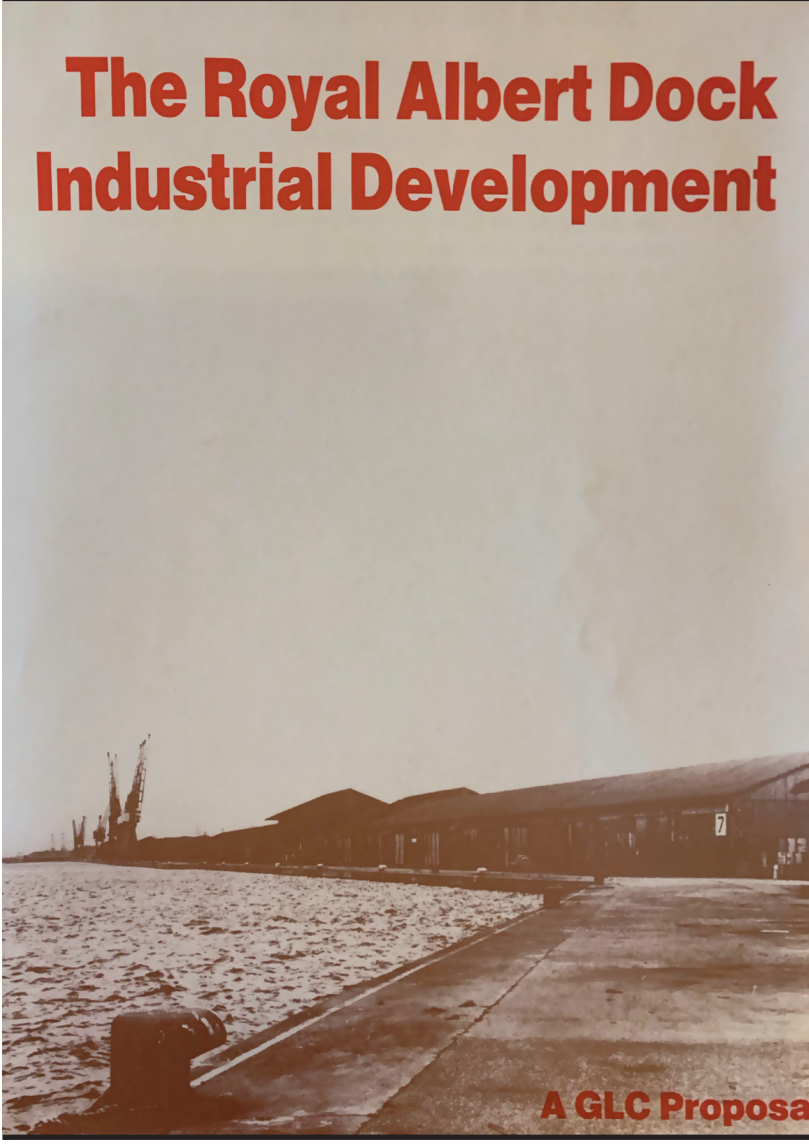
Getting control of the land was key. The GLC proposed to buy the Royals from the Port of London Authority (PLA) to bring the land under democratic control and use any increase in values to fund the ideas in the Plan. A Campaign to Buy the Docks was set up and even sent a delegation to the PLA head offices in Tilbury to put their case. But the Government instead insisted the land was sold to the LDDC.



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Sue Brownill



The Royal Albert Dock Industrial Development

Develop Local Industry

The GLC progressed it's plans for an industrial centre on the North side of the Albert Dock to include the co-op zone and maritime centre. In 2023 much of this site was still empty after the failure of the ABP proposals.



Sue Brownill

Open the Door to Shed

A 5-a-side soccer tournament was held in Shed 4 to show how it could work as a sports centre. The shed was demolished and the site is still empty in 2023.



JDAG archive at Museum of London in Docklands

Community Businesses

People worked hard to make some of the Plan's ideas happen on the ground. Childcare and training centres were set up and support was provided for local groups such as Community Links to run them. There were community run businesses like the Community Launderette in Pier Parade.



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The Story tells us...

The story of trying to make the Plan happen shows how political will, land and finance determine which regeneration visions get built. But it also shows how even if they are not built alternatives can be kept alive through local organising and campaigns.