



**MILLION**

**HEDRA.**



### **'Barking and Dagenham school pupils 'Takeover' as management consultants for the day'**

The London borough of Barking and Dagenham held its contribution to the first national 'Takeover day' on 23 November 2007. The 11 MILLION 'Takeover day' is aimed at inviting the 11 million children and young people in England to takeover our leading institutions, jobs and organisations.

From being the head teacher in their school to running a national newspaper for the day - children and young people were in the decision-making hot seat!

Barking and Dagenham Council in partnership with leading management consultancy Hedra plc gave 16 local young people, representing Sydney Russell and All Saints secondary schools, the opportunity to be consultants for the day and to take part in a business challenge session.

The day focused on how Barking and Dagenham can be best prepared for the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The 16, fifth and lower six form students, were divided into two teams and took over as consultants to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the borough including the transportation links, social projects and sports facilities. The teams then prepared a business case and presented to the judging panel which consisted of Rob Whiteman, CEO of Barking and Dagenham Council, Roger Luxton, Director of Children Services, Leon Clarke, LDA and Mark Campbell, CEO, Hedra.

The Sydney Russell School Team was announced as the winning team of the event and each student was presented with a certificate confirming their involvement and success at the event and a Hedra bag of goodies.

Cllr Jeanne Alexander, Executive Member for Children's Services, said: "Children make such a positive contribution in this borough and we want to hear from them about what they think of our community and how we can make Barking and Dagenham a better place to live."

She added: "Our contribution to 11 Million 'Takeover Day' allowed them to do that."

More...

Mark Campbell, Hedra commented: “We are delighted to have been involved in the Barking and Dagenham Council’s contribution to ‘Takeover Day’. The students showed some real initiative and sound business sense and we were all very impressed with the business cases they presented to us. Maybe we have seen some consultants of the future amongst the group!”

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Photo 1 – Rob Whiteman, LBB & Mark Campbell, Hedra present certificates to the pupils of the winning school, All Saints

#### **Notes to Editors**

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#### About Hedra plc

Hedra plc is a leading consulting, solutions and service company. We are the largest consultancy specialising in UK public services, with a significant private sector capability. Our clients include central government, local government, NHS, Ministry of Defence, aerospace, transport, utilities and energy and a wide range of public service agencies. Our capabilities include

business change and transformation, customer services, corporate services, procurement and supply chain, information management and systems engineering services. We help organisations to set corporate direction, build their organisational capacity and deliver solutions that drive effectiveness and efficiency. Our commitment is to deliver outcomes and benefits that drive superior performance.

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