

## NEWS RELEASE SLB – PR0501 – 4<sup>th</sup> May 2005

### **Chief Executive of the London Development Agency to meet South London businesses.**

The chief executive of the London Development Agency (LDA), Manny Lewis, will be guest speaker at South London Business' first major business-to-business networking event of 2005. The invitation-only event, sponsored by South London Business' partners, HSBC, and SELTRANS, will be held at the Aerodrome Hotel, Croydon from 6.30pm on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May. South London Business chief executive, David Main, said "The London Development Agency is one of nine regional development agencies established by the Government to promote the economy. Its budget for 2005/6 is almost £400m and a proportion of that money will be spent in South London. This event provides an excellent opportunity to influence the key decision-maker within the LDA. Its is also a superb opportunity to network and make new contacts with businesses from across South London".

Marie Dawson, Business Development Manager at the Aerodrome Hotel, said "We are delighted to be hosting such a prestigious event at the Hotel. The Hotel has undergone extensive renovation over the past two years, with further enhancements in the pipeline, and I am delighted we will be able to showcase our facilities to the local business community". Businesses wishing to attend the event should contact Ross Feeney on 020 8256 1281 or [ross.feeney@southlondonbusiness.co.uk](mailto:ross.feeney@southlondonbusiness.co.uk).

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(215 Words)

(Photo Attached: Manny Lewis.jpg)

#### **Notes to Editors:**

For further information, please contact: Ross Feeney, Policy & Communications Manager - 020 8256 1281

**South London Business** is the voice of business in South London – operating as both a strategic and operational body which:

- Lobbies pan-London bodies to represent and promote South London's business interests.
- Acts as the official 'landing net' for new investment in South London and in 2002 has worked with an estimated 500 companies to attract new investment into South London.
- Works with key South London businesses to ensure they remain here and prosper.
- Seeks to create a greater sense of cohesion, unity and identity in South London.

#### **London Development Agency: the Mayor's Agency for business and jobs**

The prepares the Mayor's business plan for London and mobilises the support and resources of hundreds of partner organisations to help build a thriving economy for London's people, businesses and communities. The LDA is dedicated to improving sustainability, health and equality of opportunity for Londoners.

The LDA invests more than £300m a year to support the growth of new and existing businesses, the creation of new jobs, and the development of new communities. It works to promote and grow London's strengths as the worlds leading financial centre, its most vibrant cultural centre, an outstanding centre for higher education and research, and the busiest global transport hub.