

If I could design LONDON I would...

- 1 Build on what's best about it—it's wonderful.
- 2 Reinforce the distinctiveness of the different parts of the City.
- 3 Think about the whole; co-ordinate the interests of neighbouring boroughs on planning applications which cross boundary lines.
- 4 Promote streets rather than roads. Resolve conflicts between technical highways rules and urban design.
- 5 Build on a tradition of density; reconsider guidelines on distances between buildings to enable designers to propose tighter streets, like many of the parts of London we know and love.
- 6 Give grants to pay the extra-over cost for generous balconies—5 sq.m or more—promoting indoor/outdoor living.
- 7 Target the top twenty 'design black spots' around London—Elephant and Castle, Tottenham Hale, Lewisham Gateway, Hammersmith Broadway, Old St roundabout etc—for pilot projects to be delivered within no more than five years.
- 8 Promote an unbroken network of bike routes through central London.
- 9 Plant ten thousand trees a year.
- 10 Make the Thames work. Commit to the redevelopment of the Thames frontage until it has become one of the world's finest riverbanks.
- 11 Encourage the use and life of the Thames; new piers; new uses; the increase of river travel.
- 12 Designate certain streets, Piccadilly or the Embankment for example, as 'Sunday spaces'—closed to traffic on Sundays and re-surfaced in blond bound gravel. Blurring the boundaries between park and city.
- 13 Redesign the bus map, making it easier to use. Increase the number of buses and routes.
- 14 Finally I would map the life and the history of the city onto its buildings, like the Blue Plaques, but illustrating people and events in far greater detail; reviving the oral tradition.