

For further information contact:
Daniel Twigg / Neil Drake
0161 435 6460 / 0161 435 6450
daniel@chameleonpr.com / neil@chameleonpr.com

GLA to deliver enhanced services for Londoners with ESRI (UK)

30 January 2008, Aylesbury: ESRI (UK), the market leader in geographic information systems (GIS), has won a contract with Greater London Authority (GLA) to provide a corporate GIS solution that will help provide London's citizens with better access to local information and improve data information sharing between its primary stakeholders.

Part of a two-year programme to make better use of geographic information, GLA will initially implement the ESRI (UK) ArcGIS solution alongside existing systems, with a longer term plan to fully migrate the web based applications onto the ESRI ArcGIS platform.

The new solution will improve access to geographic information on GLA's public facing websites including supporting the re-launch of the 'London.gov.uk' website in July 2008, providing advanced map-based information so that citizens can quickly and easily retrieve local information on their nearest parks, places of worship, cashpoints, leisure and entertainment amenities, for example.

The ESRI (UK) ArcGIS solution will also help the GLA to increase efficiencies in internal operations and reduce duplication of data by centralising its geographic 'intelligence'. The GLA also will be able to support and facilitate data sharing between different organisations, such as local authorities and its stakeholders, including Transport for London, London Fire Service, London Development Agency (LDA) and Metropolitan Police Service. By providing a gateway to stakeholders' datasets, the solution will ensure that geographic information is easily retrievable and incorporated into local planning rather than relying on email or telephone requests.

Gareth Baker, geographic information manager, GLA, said: "We chose to work with ESRI (UK) as it demonstrated a real understanding of our requirements and its single suite of products is a lot easier to manage and doesn't require customisation to fit in with our existing systems. The ESRI (UK) ArcGIS solution will be invaluable in our current and future projects for planning and dissemination of geographic information."

The ESRI (UK) ArcGIS solution is planned for go-live early 2008 and the infrastructure will support a variety of future projects using interactive maps..

-ends-

About GLA

- 1) The GLA is a unique form of strategic citywide government for London. It is made up of a directly elected Mayor - the Mayor of London - and a separately elected Assembly - the London Assembly.
- 2) The Mayor leads the preparation of statutory strategies on transport, spatial development, economic development and the environment. He sets budgets for the GLA, Transport for London, the London Development Agency, the Metropolitan Police and London's fire services. As Mayor, Ken Livingstone chairs Transport for London.
- 3) The Assembly scrutinises the Mayor's activities, questioning the Mayor about his decisions. The Assembly is also able to investigate other issues of importance to Londoners, publish its findings and recommendations, and make proposals to the Mayor.

About ESRI (UK)

ESRI (UK) (www.esriuk.com) is part of the global ESRI network. With the single, largest pool of GIS expertise in the UK, the company is the technical authority on GIS. ESRI (UK) provides solutions, technology and services including off the shelf applications built on the ArcGIS software suite and an extensive range of consulting and training services.

Its offerings meet a range of business needs in different markets including Business, Local & Central Government, Public Safety, Utilities and Telecommunications, as well as catering for system integrators and application developers through the ESRI Developer Network.

ESRI (UK)'s customers include both public sector clients such as Leeds City Council, Metropolitan Police, DCLG, The Environment Agency and businesses including Thames Water, Royal & SunAlliance and The AA.

By building a deep understanding of its customers' needs, ESRI (UK) is able to help businesses become more profitable and public service more efficient through the better use of GIS. This process of enhancing sustainable business growth by developing solutions with the power to anticipate and meet industry specific requirements is known as Visionary Thinking.