# LJC Election Position Paper

**Summary:** The LJC stands for active developer participation in standards, openness, and transparency, promotion of F/OSS implementations, and has no direct commercial interests in any proposed standard.

**History & Detailed Position**
The London Java Community is a large (~8000 member), and rapidly growing group of developers who actively meet, discuss, and work on the Java ecosystem.

During the time we've been a JCP Executive Committee member, we've actively participated in reforming the JCP process itself and eroding the disconnect between developers and decision-makers, through practical programs and advocacy.

Our original goals were based on a few simple ideas:

1. **Openness and Transparency** are essential for any functioning standards body, and the JCP must be reformed where necessary to achieve this.
2. **Better Standards** are produced when ordinary end-users are fully engaged in the process of producing standards from start to finish.
3. As a user group, we have **no direct commercial interests**.
4. **Open-Source Software** reduces barriers to entry for companies and reduces the cost for non-commercial projects. We, therefore, seek to ensure that zero-cost open-source implementations of all standards are possible, and have the maximum possible patent and IP protection.

If re-elected we commit to:

1. Carefully scrutinize the technical contents of each Java SE version.
2. Guide library and framework authors towards a standardization effort at the right time in the maturity cycle.
3. Ensure that the AdoptOpenJDK.net project moves to a Software Foundation to provide

free as in use and free as in beer OpenJDK builds for developers in perpetuity.
4. Continue to run and promote workshops, talks, and global collaboration by developers on JSRs.
5. Continue to always stand up for the interests of developers and community - including promoting open-source implementations and projects.

## Advocacy and Adopt Programs

The LJC pioneered the [Adopt-a-JSR](#) and Adopt OpenJDK programs, encouraging developers to actively participate in specifications. Involvement includes everything from trialing beta APIs through to helping define the standard and implementing the Reference Implementation (RI). Our hack days provide feedback on the usability of new features to the expert group and help prepare developers for upcoming changes to the Java language.

Adopt-a-JSR also highlights to developers the relevance of the JCP and shows how they can impact the language and ecosystem they work with. To achieve this goal, the LJC has run talks, workshops, and advocacy via social media such as Twitter and Java conferences such as JavaOne, Devoxx, etc.

## Technical Gravitas

As a large organization of technologists, we have expertise throughout the Java Platform, from deep-dive tech to blue-chip enterprise development. This gives us great insight into the technical merits of each JSR. Since we seek to represent a broad cross-section of the community, our voting decisions are based not on the opinions of one person, but the consensus of a committee of peers.

## In Summary

Six years ago, the London Java Community pledged to improve the openness and transparency of the Java Community Process if elected to the JCP Executive Committee. We promised to help bridge the gap between the decision-makers and on-the-ground developers. Our voting record and active participation in the JCP show that we have completed that mission.

The coming years present challenges for Java. In order for it to remain the #1 developer platform, it will need to have input from its users (developers) not only at OpenJDK but in the standards body as well.

If re-elected, we will continue to actively evaluate each Java SE on its technical merits and expand our successful programs to voice the needs of developers and communities worldwide.