

operational note

Office hours: 020 7983 4070

Out of hours and weekends: 020 7983 4000

www.london.gov.uk

GLA/2004/

November 2004

FORWARD PLANNING DESKS

Mayor celebrates International Children's Day with new reports and children's photographic exhibition

London Mayor Ken Livingstone is publishing two new reports and supporting a day-long event, including the launch of a children's photography exhibition, to mark International Children's Day and the 15th Anniversary of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child, which falls on Saturday 20 November.

The Mayor said: 'I published my Children and Young People's Strategy earlier this year and want London to be at the vanguard of the Government's measures to improve the lives of children and young people. I want the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child to become a reality for each and every one of London's 1.6 million children and ensure that all children and young people are able to participate fully in life in the capital. To this end, it is vital that children have a voice and are listened to.'

The Mayor is due to publish the second State of London's Children report, which will provide a comprehensive picture of the lives of children in the capital up to the age of 18. It will show how things have changed compared to the rest of the country since the last report in 2001.

A new survey of young Londoners aged 11-16 years, conducted in June by ICM on behalf of the Greater London, will reveal the issues of concern to children and young people, their views about living in the capital and their attitudes to key mayoral policies.

The Mayor is also giving his support to 'ViewPoints', an exhibition of photographs taken on 1 October 2004, by over 140 children and young people from sixteen London boroughs. Joanne McCartney, Assembly Member for Enfield and Haringey, will launch the exhibition at City

Hall by during a day of activities involving children and young people to celebrate International Children's Day.

The Mayor also plans to sign the Declaration of London, which was agreed by the European Child-Friendly Cities Network at the recent Child in the City Conference, and urges EU member states to work towards ensuring that cities become more child-friendly. **ENDS**

Notes to editors

1. *Making London Better for all Children and Young People*, the Mayor's strategy to make the capital more child friendly is available by contacting 020 7983 4100 and can be downloaded from www.london.gov.uk.
2. ViewPoints is a children's photo project run by Children's Fund Partnerships across London and sponsored by Greenwich Children's Fund and Greenwich Early Years Partnership. The exhibition will be launched at City Hall on Saturday 20 September. It is free and will remain on display until 26 November 2004
3. ViewPoints is part of a day of activity aimed at children, facilitated by children's theatre company Equal Voice. They will encourage attendees to use the images as a starting point for exploring their experiences about growing up in London in workshops covering health, diversity, money, design and safety.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES: Press information is available from Ben McKnight on 020 7983 4071 \ Rachele Laurence on 020 7983 4068 (press only - number not for publication)

PUBLIC/NON-MEDIA ENQUIRIES: Call the Public Liaison Unit at the Greater London Authority on 020 7983 4100

DUTY PRESS OFFICER: For out-of-hours media enquiries, please call 020 7983 4000