

PRESS RELEASE

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Host of LivCom Awards 2011 is safe city champion

The city of Songpa, set to host the LivCom Awards 2011, is one of the world's safest cities as endorsed by the United Nations World Health Organisation (WHO).

The city of Songpa has been listed as among the top 100 safest cities in the world by the WHO.

The Songpa safety sheriff's patrol, a child protection vehicle system, made it mandatory to insure children and to outfit child safety equipment in cars, implement licensing for children's bikes, hold a the Child Safety Expo, utilize a CCTV control center jointly run by community offices and police stations and other safety programs that have attracted global attention.

To benchmark these safe city projects in Songpa, representatives of around 120 cities from both home and abroad including the Chaoyang District, Beijing, Oita University, Japan, and the Ministries of Health and Welfare of Vietnam and India have visited Songpa.

Winner of the bronze award of the 2009 LivCom Awards held in Plzen, Czech Republic in 2009, the city of Songpa will host the LivCom Awards 2011 with the participation of mayors from around 55 cities that make the cut out as finalists from 60 nations.

A spokesman said: “In this international event, each city will present excellent examples of safety policies and projects and develop directions in the development of the international Eco-safety City.”

The LivCom Awards, are known as “the Green Oscars”, as the world’s only awards competition focusing on best practices in the management of local environments. Typically, about 350 cities take part in this event every year.

Through this event, the city of Songpa will advertise itself as one of the most desirable cities in the world, open a field for exchanging information and practical experiences among cities and build a global city community.

Songpa, as an advanced city leading green growth, will showcase its world-class environmental features through the 2011 LivCom Awards. The city of Songpa opened the history of Seoul 2000 ago and will now share its 21st Century green growth projects, including the Nanum Solar Plant, the Self-generating Climate Playground, and a variety of sports and cultural infrastructure.

The process is for communities to register by 31st May, submit a written report by 30th June, which is assessed by an independent panel of judges in July. The Judges invite a number of communities to attend the finals of LivCom, where they will be required to make a verbal presentation to the judges, with other delegates observing the presentation, and to answer a series of questions from the judges. There are three sections to the awards – Whole City, Sustainable Projects and a Bursary Award to the value of £10,000.

There is no community registration fee, and a number of delegates from each community may attend the Finals without the payment of any fee.

Mr Smith added: "Participating in the LivCom Awards need not be expensive in time or finance, but can generate positive returns for many years. Participation in the LivCom Awards is an investment in the community."

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