

# PRESS RELEASE

DATE: March 2013

EMBARGO: Immediate Release

## LivCom Chief Executive wins top International Award

**LivCom Chief Executive, Alan Smith, has been awarded the 21<sup>st</sup> Sato International Exchange Award. This Award is made in acknowledgement of International generation of the exchange of Best Practices that promotes the development and management of Parks and Open Spaces.**

The Award will be presented at the end of May at the meeting of the Parks and Open Spaces Association of Japan in Tokyo.

The Sato International Award was created in honour of Mr. Sato Masaru, who was the Chairman of POSAJ for many years up to 1991. Sato Masuru committed his professional life to the development and management of Parks and Open Spaces. He carried out research on Eastern and Western culture relating to the management and provision of Parks and Open Spaces and applied many of the International Best Practices that were relevant to the Parks and Open Spaces service in Japan.

Alan Smith, Chief Executive and Founder of LivCom said: “I am delighted to receive this award on behalf of LivCom. One of the key objectives of our work is the promotion of international best practice in order to further improve the quality of the open spaces that are so central to the creation of truly liveable communities.”

The coastal city of Xiamen, China, is set to play host the 2013 finals of the International Awards for Liveable Communities (28<sup>th</sup> November-2<sup>nd</sup> December).

Now in their 17<sup>th</sup> year, this is the fourth time that the prestigious LivCom International Awards – which are devoted to championing and rewarding sustainable development, quality of life and environmental best practice in communities – have been held in China.

At the awards finals, which have been held every year since 1997, judges evaluate the approach to individual criteria for sustainable development – enhancement of the landscape, heritage management, environmentally-sensitive practices, community sustainability and planning for the future.

The finals, which see representatives of the various towns and cities make their case to an international jury, last for five days, culminating in an awards ceremony. The closing date for entries to the 2013 finals is 31<sup>st</sup> May.