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FAO: Food Section Editor

****PRESS RELEASE -30th May - immediate use****

GREEN YOUR EATS

Better Food - Sponsored by Co-op

The big debate over climate change is no longer just a scientific one - now it is about whether people and businesses can be persuaded that their small actions can make a real difference and slow climate change. **The Co-operative Group** are proud to be a sponsor of the Love London campaign, which enables London's businesses to find out how they really can help save the World. Love London is all about showing that collective action *can* make a difference, climate change is not all about doom and gloom but there are no more excuses for inaction!

Love London (London Sustainability Weeks) runs from the June 3rd-17th, and is a celebration of actions for a more sustainable and carbon neutral capital, timed to coincide with World Environment Day (5th June). More than 250 events will take place during the two weeks, attracting half a million visitors to Europe's largest festival for loving the planet. The Love London campaign aims to galvanise individuals and local communities to take their own action in tackling climate change.

The Co-Operative Group was the first supermarket chain in the UK to stock Fairtrade goods. We are dedicated to operating as sustainably and ethically as possible, and strongly believe that there is much we can all do to improve our own health, and that of the planet, through the food we choose to buy and eat. Love London events that can help us all eat well include:

Pocket the Green Pound, a seminar on 5th June for all of those in the catering trade, offering the chance to learn more about sourcing and cooking local and ethically grown food, and how this can really translate into business profit. The event includes cooking demonstrations from renowned chef Allegra McEvedy, food tasting, and general business advice.

A **Food and Our Environment** community discussion on 9th June about the impact of pollution on our food; highlighting how multi-ethnic food traditions can have a fundamental part to play in eating more healthily.

Regular Farmers Markets will be run during the fortnight, with **new Organic Food Markets** being launched at Wembley on 8th June and in Islington on 10th June.

Many local **community groups will be opening up their gardens**, showcasing their produce and sustainable growing methods. While the North London LETS (local ethical trading scheme) will be tempting Londoners with **low cost, home cooked meals**, in the Archway area on Wednesdays and Thursdays of both Love London weeks.

Camden Green Fair and Bikefest is coming up this weekend on Sunday 3rd June and will include organic and fair trade food stalls. It will also include an ethical fashion show and a furniture installation designed by Changing Rooms' Oliver Heath.

Full details of these and all the many other Love London events can be found on www.lovelondon.org.uk.

Editor's Notes

This year is the fifth London Sustainability Weeks festival. Over two hundred events across London are already listed on our website. Love London is run by a partnership headed by the London 21 Sustainability Network. Events are organised by community groups, charities, multi-faith groups, local authorities, and businesses. As well as promoting the larger events, Love London is unique in its commitment to small, community-based initiatives with a particular emphasis on those that are run by residents in areas of high deprivation.

Last year, in collaboration with the Environment Agency, we helped over 58 000 people make promises for World Environment day that saved carbon dioxide equivalent to driving 6, 327 times around the Earth.

Publicity Resources

This press release can also be provided electronically. For further information please contact **Hugo** on 020 8968 4602 (work) or 07979 547 127 (mobile) or hugo@lovelondon.org.uk.

A photo pack is available for download here:

<http://www.london21.org/uploads/files/london21/publicityphotos.zip>

Other colourful and interesting photos from previous years are available on request.

Permission to film or photograph has been given for all events.

The partner organisations are:

- [London 21 Sustainability Network](#)
- [The London Environment Co-ordinators Forum](#)
- [London Community Recycling Network](#)
- [London Sustainability Exchange](#)
- [London Wildlife Trust](#)
- [The Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens](#)
- [London Civic Forum](#)
- [SEA/RENUE](#)
- [Capital Clean-up](#)

Sponsors include:

- [Bridge House Trust](#) (The City Bridge Trust)
- [The Mayor of London](#)
- [Government Office for London](#)
- [The Environment Agency](#) (www.mendoftheworld.org)
- [Brother UK](#)
- [M-Real](#) (Evolve)
- [Land Securities](#)
- [Zip Car](#)
- [The Cooperative Group](#)
- [Ecover](#)
- [Defra](#)
- [Planet DIY](#) (Good Going)