

## **Lambeth Council pledges support for disabled children**

Families with disabled children in Lambeth can expect to receive more help and support, as the council has today signed up to the Every Disabled Child Matters Disabled Children's Local Authority Charter.

Local authorities have the responsibility for delivering education and social care services to families with disabled children. As many as 7 in 100 children in every London borough has a disability. By signing up to the Charter, Lambeth Council has pledged to achieve specific objectives in relation to the support offered to disabled children by April 2012.

Commitments in the Charter include:

- Identifying a lead with specific responsibility for services for disabled children and families.
- Ensuring all staff have the training necessary to work with disabled children.
- Involving disabled children and their families in planning and delivering services.
- Producing a short breaks service statement in partnership with disabled children and parents

Cllr Pete Robbins, Lambeth Council Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services, said:

"All children in Lambeth matter which is why I did not hesitate in signing up to such a worthwhile cause. We are delighted to join forces with councils from across the country to lobby Government and ensure disabled children receive the services and support they need to lead a lifestyle that many of us take for granted."

Laura Courtney, Campaign Manager for Every Disabled Child Matters, added:

'The campaign team are delighted that Lambeth Council has signed up to our Disabled Children's Charter. Families with disabled children will see this as a real sign of political commitment to disabled children in Lambeth. They will look forward to seeing work put in place to achieve the objectives in the Charter by April 2012.'

Everyone who cares about disabled children and their families can sign up support the Every Disabled Child Matters campaign at <http://www.edcm.org.uk>