

# Think environment – vote for a better future

As eight of the country's leading environment organisations, we challenge political parties to make a real commitment to the environment, by adopting our pledges in their manifestos.

We call on the political parties to adopt these four pledges:

## Re-commit to the target of reducing carbon dioxide emissions to 20 per cent below 1990 levels by 2010 in order to tackle climate change effectively

Deliver immediate and sustained cuts in carbon dioxide emissions to meet the UK's national target of reducing emissions to 20 per cent below 1990 levels by 2010, as promised in the Energy White Paper.

1. Introduce tough targets for industrial emissions of carbon dioxide through the EU Emissions Trading Scheme.
2. Provide increased support for the full range of renewable sources of energy.
3. Ensure businesses and homes reduce greenhouse gas emissions by introducing world-class building standards.
4. Take action to cut greenhouse gases released by road transport and aviation.

## New law to protect our sea life

Introduce comprehensive legislation by 2006 to achieve better protection for marine wildlife and effective management of our seas.

1. Introduce a coherent planning system for the sea to allow different activities to develop harmoniously and sustainably.
2. Put in place new measures to conserve wildlife sites and species.
3. Place protection of the environment at the heart of decision-making on fisheries, oil and gas exploration, transportation and all new developments at sea, including offshore renewable energy projects.
4. Institute an enforcement strategy to make sure new laws are effective.

## Every child to be entitled to out of classroom learning

Make out of classroom education a key part of new strategies for environmental citizenship in the UK.

1. Introduce monitoring of out of classroom experiences as part of formal school inspections by 2006.
2. Spend an extra £4 million to train 20,000 teachers a year in the skills needed to deliver out of classroom learning.
3. Invest £3 million annually to support and encourage quality out of classroom educational experiences for 500,000 children a year.

## A high quality natural environment for all

Improve the quality of our lives by creating a resilient countryside, protecting landscapes of high aesthetic and biodiversity value, and meeting the UK's target of halting biodiversity loss by 2010.

1. Increase the resources allocated to the protection and restoration of landscapes and natural habitats, including increased contributions from developers.
2. Ensure a powerful, independent, well-resourced statutory agency to champion the natural environment.
3. Reduce land take and habitat damage by making best use of existing buildings and developed land, raising the minimum density target for new housing and protecting locally important landscapes and sites.
4. Adhere to environmental capacity limits in meeting genuine development needs.

These pledges have been agreed by a coalition of the following NGOs:



Campaign to Protect  
Rural England



Friends of  
the Earth

**GREENPEACE**



THE NATIONAL TRUST



**RSPB**



THE WILDLIFE  
TRUSTS



**WWF**

“green alliance...”