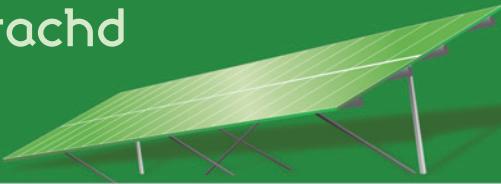


Highland Climate Change Declaration

Foillseachadh Atharrachadh Aimsir na Gàidhealtachd

Newsletter 2011

Cuairtlitir 2011



In June 2010, fourteen Highland organisations made public their commitment to tackle the issue of climate change by signing a Joint Regional Climate Change Declaration.

Nineteen organisations have now made public their commitment. Progress is being monitored through the Highland Environment Forum, a sub-group of the Community Planning Partnership, co-ordinated by The Highland Council. Actions have included developing Carbon Management Plans, purchasing electric cars, introducing video conferencing facilities, biomass (wood pellet) and air source heating systems.

In 2011 the partnership aims to encourage thirty more organisations to sign the declaration and work together to tackle climate change. As a current signatory of the Declaration the Highland Environment Network (HEN) will also pilot a project to encourage individuals to make a pledge to take action to tackle climate change. This project has been made possible with funding available from the Climate Challenge Fund.

For more information
please contact:

**Sustainable
Development Officer,**
Chief Executives Office,
The Highland Council,
Glenurquhart Road,
Inverness IV3 5NX

Tel: 01463 702543



www.highland.gov.uk/climatedeclaration

We acknowledge that:

- Climate Change is happening and greenhouse gas emissions from human activities are having a significant negative influence.
- Climate Change will affect Highland people and places impacting upon the Highland economy, society and environment.
- The weather impacts of a changing climate may differ in Highland from elsewhere in the UK and Europe.
- All in Highland have a duty and responsibility to take action to both mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to promote the sustainable development and wellbeing of our local communities.
- Climate Change may bring opportunities for the Highlands in terms of renewable energy generation.
- It is important to safeguard the many rare species and important wildlife habitats and landscapes that characterise the Highlands and are recognised globally.
- There is a need to communicate the importance of the Highland environment to the many tourists that come to visit our unique wildlife and landscapes.
- The Highland environment has an important role to play in mitigating carbon emissions through the natural carbon sinks held in our forests and peatlands.





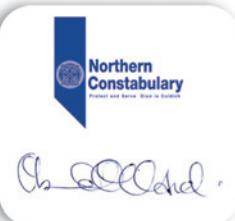
From this date we commit to:

- Measure our Carbon Footprint and work to reduce emissions from our own operations by 3% per year.
- Provide an annual update of progress towards emissions reductions.
- Share information and work with our partners in Highland to promote good practice in mitigating and adapting to climate change.
- Encourage and work with others in our businesses and communities to take action to adapt to the impact of climate change, to reduce their own greenhouse gas emissions and to make public their commitment to action.



Signed on: 2 June 2010

Signatories to the Highland Climate Change Declaration acknowledge the reality and importance of climate change. This declaration recognises that Highland organisations play a key role in our collective response to the challenge of climate change and publicly demonstrates our commitment to action.



Photographs by Alan Gordon,
Ewen Weatherspoon, The Highland
Council and kindly donated by CES.
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