

Scotland's Climate Change Declaration

We acknowledge that

- Climate change is occurring and human activities are having a significant negative and potentially dangerous influence.
- Climate change will have far reaching effects on Scotland's people and places, impacting on our economy, society and environment.
- There are significant social, economic and environmental benefits in taking action to combat and prepare for climate change.
- We all in Scotland have duties and responsibilities to take action to both mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to promote the sustainable development and well-being of our local communities.

We welcome the

- Scottish and UK Climate Change Programmes and targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.
- Opportunity for local government in particular and other agencies, businesses, voluntary and community organisations and individuals to show leadership at a local level to respond to climate change.
- Opportunity to address climate change by promoting the sustainable development of our local communities.

We commit *City of Edinburgh Council*

from this date *16 January 2007*



to

- Work with the Scottish Executive and the UK Government to contribute to the delivery of Scotland's and the UK's Climate Change Programmes, including to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to future climate change scenarios.
- Produce and publicly declare a plan, with targets and time-scales, to achieve a significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from our own operations. This will include our energy use and sourcing, travel and transportation, waste production and disposal, estate management, procurement of goods and services, and improved staff awareness.
- Ensure that greenhouse gas reduction and climate change adaptation measures are clearly incorporated into our new and existing strategies, plans and programmes, in line with sustainable development principles.
- Assess the risks and opportunities for our services and our communities of predicted climate change scenarios and impacts, and take action to adapt accordingly and in line with sustainable development principles.
- Encourage and work with others in our local community 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.
- Publish an annual statement on the monitoring and progress of our climate change response, detailing targets set, actions taken, outcomes achieved and further actions required.
- Collaborate with other organisations to promote good practice on climate change mitigation and adaptation.

We acknowledge the increasing impact that climate change will have on our community, Scotland and other countries during the 21st Century and commit to tackling the causes and effects of a changing climate within our local area.


Council Leader

Signatories


Chief Executive

Scottish Ministers welcome this declaration and will work in partnership with the signatories and their representatives to support the delivery of these commitments.


Minister for Environment and Rural Development



SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE


Minister for Finance and Public Service Reform