

**MAKING
BIRMINGHAM
GREEN**

The Birmingham Declaration



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The Birmingham Declaration

Birmingham City Council reaffirms its commitment to tackling climate change and resolves to use its purchasing power and influence as a vehicle to stimulate green initiatives which will provide significant employment opportunities for Birmingham people and reduce the energy bill of all citizens and businesses in the city. With an annual turnover of over £3bn Birmingham City Council has the capacity to lead change and influence markets across the city and the UK.

In comparison to many of our European neighbours Britain is using far less renewable energy as proportion of our total use. Birmingham City Council has a duty to one million people to influence and change behaviour.

Therefore this Council believes that by 2015:

- all vehicles procured by the Council should be electrically powered or run on liquefied petroleum gas.
- there will be at least 500 electric cars running on the streets of the city as we will develop the electric charging infrastructure.
- 50% of electricity used by the Council should be generated from renewable sources.
- the City Council's energy consumption will be reduced by 25%.
- 10% of Birmingham homes will be linked to district heating systems.
- 10% of Birmingham homes will have retrofit insulation.
- there will be at least 10 "low carbon communities" similar to the successful example of Summerfield Eco-neighbourhood.

These objectives are a statement of intent which we will encourage other Councils to sign up to. The combined purchasing power of local government signed up to this "Birmingham Declaration" will provide manufacturers with the confidence to invest in green technology, to develop new products and employment opportunities.

Resolution of Birmingham City Council, 1st December 2009

