

COMMON CAUSE

THE GREEN STANDARD

MANIFESTO ON

CLIMATE CHANGE

AND THE NATURAL

ENVIRONMENT



Campaign to Protect
Rural England

**COMMON CAUSE
THE GREEN STANDARD MANIFESTO ON CLIMATE CHANGE
AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT**

**CPRE, Friends of the Earth, Green Alliance, Greenpeace, RSPB,
The Wildlife Trusts, Woodland Trust and WWF.**

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CHANGE AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report sets out priorities for action on climate change and the natural environment in the next Parliament from the UK's eight leading environment groups.

Action in the next Parliament is critical if we are to reduce our carbon dioxide emissions (CO₂) to avoid dangerous climate change, tackle the looming crises of food, energy and water shortages, and improve the resilience of our natural environment.

The current mismatch between the scale of the problem and the solutions offered risks catastrophic failure at a time of historic responsibility.

To succeed, urgent action is needed now – not in the decades to come.

It is therefore imperative that the leaders of all parties in the next Parliament accord the highest priority to climate change and the natural environment. Only with this concord on the seriousness of the challenge and the opportunities that await, will we secure the necessary action across government.

Addressing these issues presents an historic opportunity for any government prepared to rise to the challenge, for example by releasing the UK's huge potential for renewable energy and by laying the foundations for a prosperous and secure society in the future.

The present economic recession has, of course, cast a long shadow over the current Parliament. It requires an assessment, in all policy areas, of how we can create jobs and an economy 'fit for the future'.¹ Tackling climate change and other environmental issues can make vital contributions to that future. Indeed in the long-term there can be no successful response to the recession unless we create a low-carbon and resource-efficient economy and society. Too often our political

leaders have endorsed this view without taking the actions to match it. In previous Green Standard reports we have assessed the main parties on their past performances. With the next General Election now months away, we are at a critical point in determining the priorities of the next Parliament. We want to go into the election with all parties committed to ambitious action, so that we come out of it with a new government that has a significant mandate for change. As such, our 2009 report focuses on the future – on the action that must be taken in the next Parliament – rather than retrospective analysis.

Our report outlines two opportunities for all political parties to demonstrate their willingness to acknowledge and embrace these challenges, and their preparedness to play a leadership role.

First, we present a positive case for action, a *Common Cause Declaration*, which we call on all parties to endorse before the next election.

This declaration sets out the priority that this agenda must have in the next Parliament, and recognises the incontrovertible case for action. We believe this declaration sets the threshold for credibility at the next election and is a necessary starting point if real progress is to be made.

We put forward this statement not to curtail the debate between the parties, but to focus it on the big decisions that need to be made in the next Parliament. If and when it is endorsed, we hope it will strengthen the intensity of vital debates in Westminster and the country over the best means by which to secure these outcomes.

Second, we present ten specific manifesto commitments that we believe must form the basis of action for the next government, and which we invite all political parties to include in their manifestos.

These manifesto commitments relate directly to the original Green Standard tests for environmental leadership we launched in 2007 (see page 9).

We call on all UK political parties to commit to action in the next Parliament by endorsing our *Common Cause Declaration* before the next election and by committing to our 10 proposals for 2010 in their manifestos.

COMMON CAUSE DECLARATION

Tackling climate change and restoring the natural environment must be accorded the highest priority during the next Parliament. By tackling these issues successfully, we will improve the quality of life for all, now and in the future. We accept our responsibility to accelerate the prominence of climate change and the natural environment in both political debate and action and on the ground.

We recognise the positive economic, social and environmental cases for action. An environmentally sustainable, low-carbon economy and society is within reach. We will work to maximise the opportunities this presents; creating jobs, more control for communities, a fairer and more responsible society, and the protection and restoration of the natural environment in the interests of all. We know we neglect these issues at our peril.

Climate change is the most urgent challenge facing humanity. We are committed to taking action now globally, in Europe and in the UK, at the scale and urgency that the science tells us is necessary. The next Parliament will be critical in determining whether we meet UK and international targets for 2015 and 2020.² We will do our utmost to achieve those targets.

We recognise the importance of the natural environment to the people of Britain. We share their conviction that Britain's natural environment and countryside are an integral part of Britain's heritage and identity. They are also central to our future well-being because of the services they provide and are threatened by the impact of climate change. We will work to protect and enhance the quality of Britain's natural environment and to take account of these impacts.

We will use the full range of regulatory, fiscal, spending and other powers available to us to achieve these goals. This will include providing businesses, communities, individuals and other actors with the opportunities and incentives they need to make their full contribution. This way we will achieve successful national and international action on climate change and the natural environment.

10 MANIFESTO PROPOSALS FOR 2010

- 1** Put the UK on track to reduce UK greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40 per cent below 1990 levels by 2020, and 80 per cent by 2050.
- 2** Ensure future energy and transport infrastructure is consistent with a rapid transition to a low-carbon economy by generating at least 15 per cent of energy from renewables by 2020, introducing an immediate ban on new unabated or substantially unabated coal plants and an end to airport expansion.
- 3** Commit to strong UK leadership at the highest levels in the EU and globally, to deliver EU energy and climate targets and to ensure global greenhouse gas emissions are falling by 2015.
- 4** Provide the UK's fair share of finance for adaptation, low-carbon development and to reduce deforestation in the developing world of a least \$160 billion a year from 2012.
- 5** Commit to making significant progress towards restoring the natural environment by 2020, including the doubling of UK woodland cover, meeting other habitat targets and ensuring that protected sites are in good condition; through utilising reforms to agricultural incentives, planning policy and other measures to create high quality landscapes rich in nature and able to adapt to climate change.
- 6** Ensure that everyone has the opportunity to experience and enjoy nature by providing access to natural green space within walking distance of where they live.
- 7** Commit to reorienting the planning system so that sustainable development, rather than simply economic development, is at its heart, requiring all major development plans and planning applications to show how they will contribute to carbon reduction targets.
- 8** Dedicate all income generated by the emissions trading scheme after 2012 to tackling climate change in the UK and internationally.
- 9** Protect and increase Defra and DECC budgets and introduce significant new policies to stimulate private investment in the low-carbon economy and the natural environment.
- 10** Launch a nationwide housing retrofit programme by 2011, which will deliver improved energy efficiency and renewable energy systems across the UK.

INTRODUCTION

In 2007, the UK's leading environment groups came together to establish the *Green Standard: Tests for environmental leadership*, outlining six key tests for political leadership on climate change and the natural environment (set out below). Since then we have published two assessments of the progress being made by the three main parties against the six tests. The tests remain our reference points for assessing the progress and commitments of the political parties, and an important way to help ensure that our political parties are accountable for their progress.

With the next General Election now months away, we are at a critical point in determining the priorities of the next Parliament. We want to go into the election with all parties committed to ambitious action, so that we come out of it with a new government that has a significant mandate for change. As such our 2009 report focuses on the future – on the action that must be taken in the next Parliament – rather than a retrospective analysis.

We set out a positive case for action, a *Common Cause Declaration* on the priority that this agenda needs to be accorded, which we call on all parties to endorse before the next election. We also present our 10 proposals for 2010 that we would like to see adopted in all party manifestos.

THE GREEN STANDARD: TESTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP

UK ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE: Achieve reductions in UK CO₂ emissions of at least three per cent year on year, en route to a low-carbon economy based on energy efficiency, renewable sources of energy and decentralised energy.

INTERNATIONAL ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE: Provide international leadership to restrict global temperature rises to two degrees and ensure worldwide emissions are falling by 2015.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT: Protect and enhance the beauty, accessibility and wildlife of the environment in our countryside, towns and seas through incentives, regulation, investment and other powers of government.

PLANNING: Value, support and develop our planning system as a democratic tool for protecting and enhancing the natural and built environment of our countryside and towns.

ENVIRONMENTAL TAX AND SUBSIDIES: Green the tax system by increasing the amount of revenue from taxes that reduce environmental damage, and eliminate environmentally perverse subsidies.

GREEN LIVING: Make it cheaper and easier for individuals to reduce their environmental impact through tax, regulation, information and other powers of government.



CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT IN THE NEXT PARLIAMENT

IMPERATIVES FOR ACTION – WHAT WE KNOW

Scientists agree that radical action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions is required to avoid catastrophic climate change. Without decisive action we will see changes to our climate and weather that will be devastating for many millions of people. In particular, the poorest and most vulnerable, both at home and in less developed parts of the world where famine, water shortage, disease and conflict will only increase. Nicholas Stern’s report earlier in this Parliament played an important role in raising awareness of the economic case for action on climate change.³ He argued we must act now to avert changes in the climate that would be more damaging to the global economy than either the recession of the 1930s or the two world wars.

**“Seeing global temperature and sea levels rise would not only result in the flooding of the whole area where I was born, but also the destruction of its economy”
Deborah, 19, first time voter born in Ireland now studying in London**

The impact of climate change is already being felt throughout the world and grows more serious by the day. The recent UK Climate Impact Projections set out how the UK’s climate is likely to change during the 21st century. Failure to tackle climate change will lead to an increase in water shortages, heatwaves and floods, which would have a significant impact on people’s health and quality of life, the economy and the natural environment.⁴ At the same time the projections show that even if global emissions fell to zero tomorrow, past emissions are likely to make summers over two degrees hotter in southern England by the 2040s.⁵ Even this level of increase would impact profoundly on the way we live and work. The 2003 heatwave which caused 35,000 deaths across Northern Europe saw average daily temperatures of two degrees above average.⁶

As well as tackling climate change, there is an equally urgent need to protect our natural environment and the vital resources it provides. Pavan Sukhdev, the economist leading the study on The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB)⁷ estimated that globally we are losing natural capital valued between \$2 trillion and \$5 trillion every year as a result of deforestation alone.⁸ And as the Government’s Chief Scientist, John Beddington, recently pointed out, unless urgent action is taken, we’re heading for a “perfect storm” of food, energy and water shortages by 2030.⁹

THE OPPORTUNITY OF A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

The stakes are high. All our lives will be fundamentally affected by the decisions made in the next Parliament. The price of failure will be paid by those most at risk from climate change, in the UK and internationally, and in the irreversible loss of the natural environment, whether in our towns, countryside or seas. But as well as avoiding these serious impacts, a more sustainable future presents many opportunities for any government that rises to the challenge, from releasing the UK’s huge potential for renewable energy to putting in place the foundations for a prosperous and secure society in the future.

The world is uniting around a new vision for a low carbon future. The UK must grasp the economic benefits this presents by upgrading and strengthening our economy by moving the country onto a low carbon path. Countries such as Germany and Denmark demonstrate the strategic and competitive advantage that can be gained from being ahead of the game. Germany has created 280,000 jobs by becoming world leaders in the manufacture and implementation of low-carbon technologies.¹⁰

The economic case is an important means to deepen public understanding and support for action on climate change and other environmental issues. But for many, including millions of our supporters, the most powerful case for action is rooted in the huge passion and interest people have in the natural world and the benefits a more sustainable future would provide.

**“Nature is a fantastic tool for education and living a healthier life. What is more relaxing than a visit to the countryside? Bliss”
Scott, 19, first time voter from Staffordshire**

Many people care passionately about nature, for the emotional, spiritual and aesthetic enrichment it gives. People care about their local environment, their gardens and local green spaces, as well as the rare and special, in the depths of our countryside or on our wildest

**“Strong leadership and a commitment to a low carbon and more sustainable future within the next four years is essential. This transition is important not just for the environment but for a continued strong economy and for energy security. Ignoring these issues will leave us behind”
Will, 25, from Bristol**

coastline and under the sea. We need to restore, protect and enhance our natural environment, because it is a source of joy to us and will be to those who follow us.

Nature is good for us too. The mental and physical health benefits of green spaces are well documented; studies have suggested that having access to nature can reduce blood pressure, help hospital patients recover more quickly and improve self-esteem.¹¹ The Environment Agency cites an estimate that each 20 hectares of London green space saves the economy £4-9 million per annum, and the NHS £1-2 million per annum, through supporting physical activity and health.¹²

“Climate change cuts across just about all of the issues that matter to me. It’s both the biggest threat to humanity, but also the greatest opportunity to create a better, brighter future that anybody interested in politics seeks to do”
Benjamin, 20, first time voter from Hampshire

LOOKING BACK ON THIS PARLIAMENT

The political and public profile of climate change has been noticeably higher during the current Parliament than in recent years. We welcome the growing recognition, at the highest levels, of the need to act.

There have been important specific commitments and achievements from individual parties that we have celebrated. These include the Labour government’s Renewable Energy Strategy and the designation of the South Downs National Park; the Conservatives’ principled positions on coal and aviation; and the

Liberal Democrats’ climate change commitments and new natural environment strategy, *Our Natural Heritage*. The Climate Change Act and the Marine and Coastal Access Bill ultimately united all parties on the need for ambitious emissions reductions and better management and protection of our seas, respectively.

But despite progress in some areas, we have frequently been disappointed and indeed alarmed by the timidity of the commitments and action that the three main political parties have shown on both climate change and the natural environment. As we argued in both the 2007 and 2008 Green Standard reports, it is on commitments, action and outcomes that all parties will ultimately be judged and held to account.

We have also seen a discordant approach to environmental policy from the Labour government during this Parliament. This was evidenced by developments such as the expansion of Heathrow airport in jarring contrast to the groundbreaking Climate Change Act, and the downgrading of the planning system’s role in taking account of environmental matters. Sound leadership requires consistent action across all government departments and the courage to make hard decisions on crucial issues, where conflicting interests may also be at stake.

The present recession has, of course, cast a long shadow over the current Parliament. It requires an assessment, in all policy areas, of how we can create jobs and an economy ‘fit for the future’.¹³ Tackling climate change and other environmental issues can make vital contributions to that future. Indeed in the long-term there can be no successful response to the recession unless we create a low-carbon and resource-efficient economy and society. Too often our political leaders have endorsed this view without taking the actions to match it.

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT PARLIAMENT

With the next General Election just months away we are at a critical moment. Action in the next Parliament is crucial if we are to simultaneously reduce our CO₂ emissions to avoid dangerous climate change, tackle the looming crises of food, energy and water shortages, and improve the resilience of our natural environment. The current mismatch between the scale of the problems and the solutions being offered risks failure at a time of historic responsibility.

To succeed, urgent action is needed now – not in the decades to come. Climate change and the natural environment must be accorded the highest priority by the leaders of all parties, to secure the consistent and ambitious action across government that will be needed.

“By making the environment an important issue at the General Election, I think people may begin to realise how serious global warming and the environment is. Everybody needs to be made more aware of the damage that is being done and if they were an important part of the Election, everybody might start to really understand what is happening to our planet”
Emilie, 14, from Surrey



An important step towards securing ambitious action in the next Parliament is to establish a *Common Cause* amongst the parties on the scale and urgency of these agendas, the priority that they must be given in the next Parliament and the broad outcomes that need to unite all. We set out below our *Common Cause Declaration*, which sets the threshold for credibility at the next election and is a necessary starting point if real progress is to be made.

We call on all UK political parties to commit to action in the next Parliament by endorsing our *Common Cause Declaration* before the next election and by committing to our 10 proposals for 2010 (set out in the next chapter) in their manifestos.

“Climate change is even more overpowering than the banking crisis, which had world leaders meeting several times in as many months to arrange a system of recovery. The same urgency needs now to be addressed to the climate, with these considerations taking a multi-party approach and not becoming a political score-card”
Rosin, 63, retired journalist living in Bromley

We put forward this statement not to curtail debate between the parties, but to focus it on the big decisions that must be made in the next Parliament. If and when it is endorsed, we hope it will strengthen the intensity of vital debates in Westminster and the country over the best means by which to secure these outcomes.

As the UK’s leading environment groups we pledge to continue to play our part in building public understanding of what is at stake and commitment to what needs to be done, and to increase the rewards for political parties that develop and deliver programmes consistent with the scale of the challenge.

COMMON CAUSE DECLARATION

Tackling climate change and restoring the natural environment must be accorded the highest priority during the next Parliament. By tackling these issues successfully, we will improve the quality of life for all, now and in the future. We accept our responsibility to accelerate the prominence of climate change and the natural environment in both political debate and action and on the ground.

We recognise the positive economic, social and environmental cases for action. An environmentally sustainable, low-carbon economy and society is within reach. We will work to maximise the opportunities this presents; creating jobs, more control for communities, a fairer and more responsible society, and the protection and restoration of the natural environment in the interests of all. We know we neglect these issues at our peril.

Climate change is the most urgent challenge facing humanity. We are committed to taking action now globally, in Europe and in the UK, at the scale and urgency that the science tells us is necessary. The next Parliament will be critical in determining whether we meet UK and international targets for 2015 and 2020.¹⁴ We will do our utmost to achieve those targets.

We recognise the importance of the natural environment to the people of Britain. We share their conviction that Britain’s natural environment and countryside are an integral part of Britain’s heritage and identity. They are also central to our future well-being because of the services they provide and are threatened by the impact of climate change. We will work to protect and enhance the quality of Britain’s natural environment and to take account of these impacts.

We will use the full range of regulatory, fiscal, spending and other powers available to us to achieve these goals. This will include providing businesses, communities, individuals and other actors with the opportunities and incentives they need to make their full contribution. This way we will achieve successful national and international action on climate change and the natural environment.



10 MANIFESTO PROPOSALS FOR 2010

Our 10 manifesto proposals for 2010 focus on the issues identified in the Green Standard: Tests for environmental leadership launched in February 2007 (see page 9), which highlight the primary challenges that any political party needs to grasp to be credible on the environment.

We call on all UK political parties to commit to our ten proposals in their General Election manifestos:

1 DOMESTIC CLIMATE CHANGE **Put the UK on track to reduce UK greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40 per cent below 1990 levels by 2020, and 80 per cent by 2050.**

To stay below two degrees, global greenhouse gas emissions must start to fall by 2015. New scientific evidence on the urgency of climate change¹⁵ is showing that the UK must aim at the upper end of the International Panel on Climate Change's recommendations for industrialised countries, to cut emissions between 25-40 per cent by 2020 if we are to meet this goal.¹⁶ In line with the Climate Change Committee recommendations this target needs to be met through strong domestic action with minimal or no dependence on offsets from abroad.¹⁷

2 Ensure future energy and transport infrastructure is consistent with a rapid transition to a low-carbon economy by generating at least 15 per cent of energy from renewables by 2020, introducing an immediate ban on new unabated or substantially unabated coal plants and an end to airport expansion.

The time for ambiguity is over. Policies need to be urgently adopted to signal the end of carbon-intensive economic development, and the start of a low-carbon future. Critical tests of this include: implementation of policies to deliver at least 15 per cent of UK energy from renewable sources by 2020, including priority grid access for renewables and planning reform to enable this; banning new coal that does not meet

the equivalent emissions of an efficient gas-fired power station;¹⁸ and halting the unsustainable growth in air travel by ending airport expansion in the UK.

3 INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE **Commit to strong UK leadership at the highest levels in the EU and globally, to deliver EU energy and climate targets and to ensure global greenhouse gas emissions are falling by 2015.**

EU ambition is central to the agreement and implementation of an effective global climate deal to succeed the Kyoto Protocol, which is the last chance the world has to ensure global emissions are falling by 2015 and temperature rises stay below two degrees. Strong UK leadership will continue to be critical to securing EU action, and Britain's influence globally, to reconcile differences between nations on tackling climate change, remains vital. Effective UK leadership must be underpinned by decisive action at home and providing the UK's fair share of international climate finance (see proposals 2 and 4).

4 Provide the UK's fair share of finance for adaptation, low-carbon development and to reduce deforestation in the developing world of a least \$160 billion a year from 2012.

The UK must provide its fair share of international climate finance, of at least \$160 billion a year from 2012,¹⁹ to protect those who have done least to cause climate change but will be most affected by it, and to ensure developing countries commit to a global deal on climate change. This will require determination and innovation to identify adequate and predictable sources of funding for developing countries to adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change, to adopt low-carbon transition paths and to urgently reduce forest destruction, which contributes up to 20 per cent of human greenhouse gas emissions. This finance must be additional to existing official development assistance commitments to developing countries.

5 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT **Commit to making significant progress towards restoring the natural environment by 2020, including the doubling of UK woodland cover, meeting other habitat targets and ensuring that protected sites are in good condition; through utilising reforms to agricultural incentives, planning policy and other measures to create high quality landscapes rich in nature and able to adapt to climate change.**

We rely on the natural environment for our well-being and quality of life whether for clean air, carbon storage, flood alleviation or our enjoyment and inspiration. Despite successive governments signing up to ambitious targets, its degradation continues. Over fishing and lack of meaningful protection has left marine biodiversity and fisheries in crisis.²⁰ The advent of climate change increases the imperative for future governments to protect, restore and enhance our natural

environment. How we use and manage our land and seas is crucial to how well nature can adapt to those impacts and will be an increasing challenge to the next government. We need a new impetus to restore and recreate the natural environment by 2020 and to nurture our protected places.

6 Ensure that everyone has the opportunity to experience and enjoy nature by providing access to natural green space within walking distance of where they live.

Everyone needs green space close to home. We often take it for granted, but natural places are crucial to our quality of life, whether it's to get some fresh air, to walk the dog, to connect us with nature, or to meet friends. Growing medical evidence shows that access to the natural environment improves health and wellbeing, prevents disease and helps people to recover from illness. People live longer if they live near areas of green space.²¹ The next government can improve the quality of life for people across the UK by ensuring everyone has access to natural green space within walking distance of where they live. Provision of such natural green spaces whenever new development arises, and the protection of existing spaces, are key actions in achieving this aspiration.

7 PLANNING **Commit to reorienting the planning system so that sustainable development rather than simply economic development is at its heart, requiring all major development plans and planning applications to show how they will contribute to carbon reduction targets.**

Planning should be a democratic process that mediates between different interests, local and national; economic, social and environmental; in the short-term and long-term, to deliver truly sustainable development. Good planning also ensures consent for development by involving and listening to local communities and other interests. Recently, however, the planning system has too often been painted as an obstacle to economic development, fundamentally misunderstanding its broader purpose. The next government needs to reshape planning for the twenty-first century: accountable to communities; able to take all interests properly into account; and in the forefront of ensuring development that reduces our climate change impacts, and helps us to adapt to those impacts where they are already happening.

8 GREEN TAX AND SUBSIDIES **Dedicate all income generated by the emissions trading scheme after 2012 to tackling climate change in the UK and internationally.**

From 2012 there will be a huge increase in the money raised from the auctioning of permits under the EU Emissions Trading Scheme. We call on all political parties to guarantee that the money the government stands to earn, estimated to be between four and eight billion Euros, will be spent on combating climate change.²² The recycling of revenue into green measures would provide badly needed support for emerging climate change technologies and help jump-start the industries that will build a low-carbon economy.

9 Protect and increase Defra and DECC budgets and introduce significant new policies to stimulate private investment in the low-carbon economy and the natural environment.

Government spending is and will remain essential to the delivery of environmental objectives dealing with the starkest and most serious long-term challenges we face, such as the transition to a low-carbon economy and investing in restoring our natural environment. The rapid deployment of private capital to this effect is also essential. We call on all political parties to back up their commitments to tackle these issues by pledging to protect and increase essential funding, such as spending for the full implementation of the Marine Act, Renewable Energy Strategy, Heat and Energy Saving Strategy, Low Carbon Industrial Strategy, Low Carbon Transport Strategy and meeting the UK's biodiversity targets.²³ This needs to be supported by increasing green taxes and establishing new policies to stimulate greater levels of private investment.

10 GREEN LIVING **Launch a nationwide housing retrofit programme by 2011, which will deliver improved energy efficiency and renewable energy systems across the UK.**

The existing UK housing stock has the potential to reduce its emissions further and faster than most other areas of the economy, and in so doing help save households money on their energy bills. All parties should commit to cutting emissions from the UK's housing stock by over 40 per cent by 2020. As part of a nationwide programme, every home should get a plan to enable householders to achieve Band B on an Energy Performance Certificate. This would contain the offer of a financial package, including a low cost repayment scheme such as Pay As You Save to remove up-front costs and guarantee energy bill reductions. An accredited training programme for industry is also needed.

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The quotes included in the margins of this report are from individual members of organisations that are part of the Green Standard.

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- ³ HM Treasury (October 2006) *Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change*
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- ¹⁴ For example the Millennium Development Goal target of environmental stability by 2015 www.un.org/millenniumgoals/; the Climate Change Act target of 34 per cent on 1990 levels by 2020; and the UK's EU renewable energy target of 15 per cent renewable energy generation by 2020.
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- ¹⁶ International Panel on Climate Change (2007), Working Group III Report, *Climate Change 2007: Mitigation of Climate Change*
- ¹⁷ Committee on Climate Change (December 2008) *Building a low-carbon economy -The UK's contribution to tackling climate change*, p. 161
- ¹⁸ This standard should be set at 300g/kWh, a level that could be achieved by an efficient gas-fired power station, which makes some use of waste heat. This should be tightened to at least 100g/kWh for all power stations by 2025 at the latest. For more information see the following NGO statement www.greenpeace.org.uk/files/pdfs/climate/joint-ngo-statement-coal-ccs.pdf
- ¹⁹ For an explanation and breakdown of this figure see p.48 *A Copenhagen Climate Treaty, Version 1.0* (June 2009) produced by members of the NGO community: \$56 bn for adaptation (Oxfam briefing); \$7 bn for multilateral insurance mechanism (Munich Climate Insurance Initiative); \$42 bn for REDD (composite of 4 different reviews including EU Commission & Eliasch); and \$56 bn for mitigation and technology diffusion (EU Commission working document). www.greenpeace.org/raw/content/international/press/reports/ngo-copenhagen-treaty.pdf
- ²⁰ Most of the world's most valuable fish stocks are either fully exploited or overexploited. See for example, The World Bank (February 2009) *The Sunken Billions*

²¹ See research commissioned by Natural England and published in July 2009, from the Universities of Bristol and East Anglia, which shows that – even after taking account of socioeconomic variations – people living more than 11/4 miles away from a park were less likely to be physically active and 27 per cent more likely to be overweight or obese. The findings reinforce earlier research conducted by Glasgow and St Andrews Universities, which found that people who live near to green spaces live longer. www.naturalengland.org.uk/regions/london/press_releases/2009/220709.aspx

²² For phase III of the EU ETS (2013 to 2020) the Carbon Trust estimate 4 billion to 8 billion Euros could accrue per year to the UK government, subject to carbon price fluctuations, through the auctioning of EU allowances. See Carbon Trust (June 2008) *Cutting Carbon in Europe: The 2020 plans and the future of the EU ETS*

²³ The current shortfall in funding for meeting targets to restore threatened species and habitats in the UK Biodiversity Action Plans is at least £165 million per year. GHK Consulting (2007) *UK Biodiversity Action Plan: Preparing Costings for Species and Habitats Action Plans. Report for Defra.*

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