

# **Trafford**

## **Green Party**



### **Press Release**

Date 15<sup>th</sup> February 2008

## **Climate Change Challenge to Leaders**

### **Trafford Greens have asked party leaders to support their low carbon economy 10-point Challenge**

Trafford Green Party has written to the leaders of other political parties to ask Trafford Council to support their 10-point *Climate Change Challenge*.

“Trafford Council’s adoption of a Sustainability Strategy is a good start BUT a lot more could be achieved “said Bridget Green, Chair of Trafford Green Party. “We are, quite rightly, being encouraged as individuals to reduce our carbon footprint but the Council should also lead by example and make the public sector carbon neutral. Tackling climate change will require action by Government, industry and individuals but, by showing leadership and making more changes now, Trafford Council can both ensure and inspire major carbon reductions at the local level.”

The Climate Change Challenge addresses a wide range of initiatives and sets higher targets in order that Trafford can become one of the leaders in sustainability. There are many examples of good practice both nationally and internationally. London, for instance has set higher targets for the public sector as well as business and has an Action Plan with green initiatives at its heart. European cities, like Freiberg in Germany, put us to shame with their approach to sustainable transport and green living. We cannot afford to put off these initiatives any longer.

Margaret Westbrook , Trafford’s Green Party Parliamentary Candidate for Stretford and Urmston added “ We set this challenge to a serious commitment to sustainable living and await the response from all three parties with hopeful anticipation”.

.....Ends

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## **Notes for Editors:**

1. Trafford Green Party was set up in January 2007 .
2. Further details can be found on our website [www.traffordgreens.org.uk](http://www.traffordgreens.org.uk)
3. For national policy see [www.greenparty.org.uk](http://www.greenparty.org.uk)
4. Details of the challenge below

## **10- point Climate Change Challenge**

### **Working towards a low carbon economy**

1. *Cut CO2 emissions by an extra 9% every year (creating a cut of 25% by 2011 and nearly 90% by 2030).*
2. *Collect 70% of all household waste for recycling or local composting by 2015.*
3. *Set a 20mph speed limit on residential roads across the Borough and put pedestrians first.*
4. *Make public transport more attractive by improving service, reducing fares and introducing more family and season tickets.*
5. *Support congestion charging as a tool to reduce individual car use, encourage car-sharing and support walking, cycling and public transport initiatives.*
6. *Support sustainable energy by sourcing all electricity, including street lighting, from genuinely renewable supplies.*
7. *Say no to the destruction of our environment by blocking expansion of Manchester Airport and any new road building.*
8. *Help Trafford residents to do their bit with free insulation. Support the creation of micro-generation power schemes and other kinds of decentralised energy production.*
9. *Set the highest possible standard for new buildings by insisting that every new development surpasses the BREEAM 'Excellent' standard.*
10. *Eat local with a food strategy that re-localises food supplies to schools and other Council facilities. Make it easier for everybody to grow their own and buy local through allotments, farmers' markets and other projects.*