

## **Open Letter**

### **To the Leader of Derby City Council**

Dear Councillor Jones

In September the Liberal Democrat conference backed an amendment promising that any council run or influenced by the Lib Dems would commit itself to cutting carbon emissions by 10% in a year. Conference promised that councils would sign up to the objectives of the 10:10 campaign and take action to cut emissions by 2010.

We understand that Derby City Council is not signing up to 10:10 and will not be aiming for the proposed cuts in carbon emissions.

We believe that climate change is the greatest threat facing humankind, and that societies in the industrialised world must make major cuts to carbon emissions if climate disaster is to be averted. This view is massively supported by scientists, countries, politicians and individuals the world over. Only last week Dame Ellen MacArthur joined the ranks of those campaigning for action. She said "the more I researched into [climate change], the more frightened I got and that has really scared me to the point that I can't go back to sea and go around the world again because this really matters."

Why, therefore, does not Derby City Council show the local leadership needed by signing up to 10:10?

Is it that you don't want to commit to cutting carbon emissions because you feel you wouldn't have the support of the other political parties on the Council?

Or perhaps you fear the opposition of some residents who, despite the danger of climate disaster of which everyone is aware, will resist the changes that a 10% carbon emissions cut involves?

There are many people in the city willing to support action to cut carbon emissions. Indeed, many ordinary people everywhere are becoming increasingly aware of the dangers of climate change. They need their elected local leaders to give a lead.

Please could you explain to us therefore why the leaders of the Council cannot commit themselves to the 10:10 campaign. If there is a problem it is our feeling you have a responsibility to explain, and not ignore. Regrettably the issue of Climate Change has been brushed under the carpet for far too long.

We would be most grateful for your reply on this urgent issue.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Robinson  
Keith Burchell

**Derby Campaign against Climate Change.**