

Business Guidance Notes – Making a Pledge

There is no minimum or maximum pledge – it simply has to be something that you don't already do that will benefit the local environment.

By making a pledge your business is acknowledging that climate change will profoundly influence the environmental, social and economic conditions in the city of Liverpool and beyond its boundaries and understands that it will continue to be a critical factor beyond 2009. We have a responsibility to lessen the destructive effects of this phenomenon in the interests of our business and the city.

If you have already achieved a standard or won an award for the environmental work you have done – submit an application to become a "Green Ambassador".

As minimum businesses should commit to the following:

- 1 Acknowledge that they as a business have a responsibility to the environment and that they will take action.
- 2 Identify an Environment Champion / team for their organisation
- 3 Set some objectives / targets for 2009
- 4 Tell us their story / progression (particularly if they have already achieved some accolade in this area)

Other options could include options from the following areas (depending on relevance)

- Policies and Training
 - Sustainable Procurement Policy
 - Environmental policy
 - Committing to the SPTF Flexible Framework for Sustainable Procurement
 - Training for employees
 - Using local suppliers via Liverpooltenders.com
- Standards
 - Standard ISO14000
 - Standard IEMA BS8555
 - BREEAM
- Adopting practical tools to reduce cost and waste
 - Reduce / Recycling / Re-using
 - Enworks Resource Efficiency Programme
 - Carbon Footprint Measurement / reduction
 - Travel Plan
 - Chamber Utilities
- Awards

- Tidy Business Award
- Groundwork Awards

What will you do?

So, what kind of Green pledges could your business make? The following are just some ideas to get you started

Write an Environmental Policy?

Commit to achieving an Environmental Standard?

Provide training for staff?

Use local suppliers?

Adopting some practical tools to reduce cost and waste?

Develop a travel plan?

Win an award!

Environment Objectives / Why?

To reduce costs

To be in a better position to tender for public sector contracts

New legislation will demand it

Corporate social responsibility

It's a personal priority,

To remain competitive

All of the above

Another reason

Please use the **Pledge Bank system** on the website to record your business pledge(s), in making your pledge can you also please state who your nominated **Environmental Champion** is if it's not the individual registering your business pledge(s).