

# Climate Change - The Cornish Declaration:

PLEASE  
AFFIX  
STAMP

We, the people of Cornwall and our visitors, pledge to ensure that our families and communities will survive to freely enjoy the bounty and beauty of Cornwall

## We pledge:

*to strive to restore balance between nature and society*

*to strive to lead sustainable lives*

*to strive to leave positive footprints on the path to Copenhagen and into the future*

**We want Cornwall to be part of a planet which lives within its means.**

At Copenhagen in December 2009 we want the Prime Minister and his Ministers to forge an agreement amongst all nations to keep the increase in temperature of this planet to below 2 degrees C.

To:  
Truro Cathedral Office  
14 St Mary's Street  
Truro  
TR1 2AF



Signature.....

Name/Organisation (print).....

Postcode.....

From **7th December 2009** a two-week United Nations climate conference will take place in Copenhagen. Officials and Environment ministers will discuss the Kyoto Protocol that ends in 2012. This is a new global agreement opportunity that we in Cornwall, along with the rest of the world, would like to actively support and forge an agreement to change the fact that emissions and temperatures are projected to rise, but there is no concrete plan after 2012. The opportunity to call for achievable policies to reduce emissions to keep global temperatures down is provided for you overleaf.

Yvo de Boer, the executive secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) sees Copenhagen as a platform for likely investors of renewables to view where the governments are going with the issue.

People need to engage & empower themselves & their governments to make the immediate changes: "If annual global emissions were to remain at today's levels...there is a high probability of a global average temperature rise exceeding 2°C. In reality, however, global emissions are set to accelerate from today's levels, **as demand for energy rises** (BERR)". The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 2001 report projected average global surface temperatures to rise **1.4 - 5.8°C**. This provoked Mark Lynas to write about what would happen per 1°C rise: 1°C: most coral reefs and mountain glaciers will be lost. 3°C: Amazon rainforest collapse, Greenland's ice sheet disappearance, desert creation West US and S Africa, etc.

**Missing current targets to stay below 2°C means: Heat waves like 2003, which killed 30,000+ people in Europe, become annual events.** Amazon rainforest ('lungs of our planet') crosses a "tipping point", oceans become increasingly acidic, destroying the basis of the marine food chain and several metres of sea level rise is now inevitable as the Greenland ice sheet disappears.

**But with your individual help today – we can avoid this.**

**Please sign overleaf and post back to us** to deliver to the Prime Minister to show individual responsibility is being taken in Cornwall and Cornwall would like to see the government catch-up with climate change.

References and for more information : COP, 2009 <http://en.cop15.dk/>  
Lynas, M. 2008 Six Degrees: Our Future on a Hotter Planet. Published by Random House Inc,  
BERR (2008) UK Energy in Brief July <http://www.berr.gov.uk/files/file46983.pdf>

Truro Cathedral, Cornwall Methodist Church, Cornwall Wildlife Trust, Cornwall W.I., Coast, Green Party, Cornwall Transition Movement, Event Cornwall, Cornish Green Party, Cornwall Friends of the Earth, Groundswell, The Labour Party, The Liberal Democrats, The Conservative Party, Cornwall Area Quakers, The Bishop of Truro, The Eden Project.

**Footsteps Towards A Better Climate...**

The Kyoto Protocol ends in 2012, with a new global agreement opportunity arising at the UN's climate change conference in Copenhagen, December **THIS YEAR!**

You are invited to contribute to those decisions by taking lasting steps at Truro Cathedral, **October 9th 7.30pm** With guest speakers

For more information contact: Truro Cathedral Office 01872 276782 or visit our website at: [www.trurocathedral.org.uk](http://www.trurocathedral.org.uk)

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## What can I do?

- \* Ring the Cathedral Office on **01872 276782** & ask for more declaration cards and ask groups or individuals near you to sign and send back before Nov 30th
- \* Come to the above event at the Cathedral October 9th
- \* Visit the exhibition in the cathedral or online [www.trurocathedral.org.uk](http://www.trurocathedral.org.uk) or call for more emission cutting pledges