

## Scottish Environment LINK media release 12 October 2005

### Cross-party Position on Global Warming

As the UK struggles to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions, political parties are being urged to unite in tackling climate change. In a House of Commons debate on climate change today, Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats will make the case for cross-party consensus on countering global warming and new measures to cut greenhouse gases. Scotland's environmental groups have welcomed this proposal which could help get commitment to tackle the climate change problems, beyond the normal short term horizons of politics.

Scottish Environment LINK, the umbrella group for Scotland's environmental organisations, welcomes the joint proposal from the Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats for tough new policy to tackle climate change. Climate Change is happening already, it will get worse and urgent action is needed now to prevent the worst consequences. In Scotland, the political parties have already demonstrated a responsible approach, with cross-party agreement on strong recommendations to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions responsible for climate change.

Fred Edwards, President of Scottish Environment Link said:

"Climate change is a greater danger to our children and our children's children than terrorism, it threatens food security and will exacerbate the already difficult freshwater position in the World."

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#### **Notes for Editors**

The proposal for a cross-party initiative has come from Norman Baker MP, the Liberal Democrat environment spokesman, and Conservative counterpart, Oliver Letwin MP. The case for tougher action on climate change will be made in a Commons debate on climate change today 12th October 2005.

The Scottish Parliament Environment and Rural Development Committee has published **recommendations** following its cross-party Inquiry into Climate Change.

Scottish Environment LINK has a challenging Climate Change Action Plan, please see below.