

Why the Liberal Democrat Party supports a 2020 emissions target in line with science

By Simon Hughes, Shadow Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change

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“The scientific case for the most urgent government action to protect our environment grows stronger with every month that passes. But the government response still fails to show the global leadership needed to stop the global climate crisis.

Just setting emission reductions targets is not enough. It is not figures or targets but the energy and transport decisions of today which will stop the climate chaos of tomorrow.

The Climate Act of last year will mean less and less in the years ahead if the Government supports new runways, builds new roads and allows dirty coal power stations.

Liberal Democrats support the target of 42% emissions reduction by 2020 within the UK called for by Friends of Earth and supported by science.

But Britain will only get near the 42% target if tough political decisions replace much easier populist words.”