

**European Green Party
7th COUNCIL MEETING
Vienna, 12-14th October 2007**



Adopted resolution

EGP Travel Policy

- a) Bearing in mind that the Green movement and the European Green Party in particular seek to play a leading role in combating climate change;
- b) Given that the carbon footprint of most forms of travel contributes substantially to the problem and that air travel is the most polluting of all forms of transport;
- c) Considering that the EGP should be in a position to set a positive example in terms of its own travel arrangements and that our Charter commits us to pursuing sustainable solutions;
- d) Knowing that some member parties have guidelines or rules governing travel arrangements on party business whilst others do not;
- e) Accepting that carbon offset payments make some restitution for the damage caused but that they are not a sustainable long-term response.

Council hereby mandates its Committee

1. to conduct a survey to establish the existing policy and guidelines of EGP member parties and other comparable organisations on this subject;
2. to develop and implement as soon as possible a set of “best practice” rules applicable to the travel arrangements for its staff and others whose costs are met directly by the EGP, setting out in which circumstances train, bus, minibus and/or private car travel is to be preferred to flying; such rules should not be bound solely by cost considerations and the possibility should be explored that violating them has financial consequences in the form of a deduction of 5% of the travel reimbursement.
3. to recommend to all parties such a best practice policy so that we may present a common front on this issue;
4. to continue with the policy of making effective carbon offsetting payments for flights and to extend this to all forms of transport as and when practical schemes to calculate the impact are developed;
5. to report back to the Spring 2008 Council on progress achieved on this issue.