

IS LONDON A GREEN CITY?

- According to recent estimates, the 2012 Olympic Games will produce 3.4 million tonnes of CO₂. The UK national average for CO₂ emissions is 550 million tones per year.
- UK government targets to reuse or recycle 90% of construction waste produced by the Olympic Games.
- Biodiversity: Many green spaces compared to other capital cities (around 60% of the London area is green space or water), which supports a wide variety of wildlife.
- London's air quality is among the worst in Europe, and this is largely due to road traffic.
- First ever city-wide low-emissions zone – vehicles must meet a low-emissions standard in order to drive in the inner-city without being charged money.
- Less than ½ of London companies are currently taking practical action to improve their environmental impact, even though the business sector is the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions.
- Some (around 150) London buses have been changed for hybrid models.
- London emits a massive 90 million tonnes of CO₂ per year, and the UK is on the list of top 10 countries for CO₂ emissions.
- Introduction in 2010 of cycle-hire system. This has been used for over 4 million journeys to date.
- London's food sector alone accounts for 19 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions (this includes transport, storage and distributon). This is more than the entire national average of Estonia.
- Londoners produce around 17 million tonnes of rubbish per year – enough to fill an Olympic-sized swimming pool every four hours. Most of this is buried in landfill sites.

