



Hostelling Scotland

Energy, Environmental
& Sustainability Policy

2018



Hostelling Scotland

Energy, environmental & sustainability policy

Statement of Commitment

Hostelling Scotland is a not-for-profit charity with over 60 youth and affiliate hostels. Since 1931, we have welcomed visitors from all over the world, providing affordable, welcoming accommodation in some of the best locations across Scotland. We seek to support the local communities in which we live and work by constantly seeking ways to conserve and protect natural resources, preserve natural habit, prevent pollution, minimise wastage and energy use, whilst providing a welcoming and quality service to our members and guests.

Hostelling Scotland recognises the impact its operations have on the environment and are committed to conducting the organisation in a way that ensures environmental sustainability. We have a strong view that we have a shared responsibility for a more sustainable future and have set out to reduce energy and water usage, minimise CO₂ emissions and environmental impact.

In order to promote greater awareness among all of its stakeholders, Hostelling Scotland will provide them with reliable and transparent information regarding its energy consumption, its corresponding greenhouse gas emissions and the improvement actions undertaken.

This policy shall apply to all hostels and premises and will be communicated to all our employees in order to keep the awareness and commitment at a high level.

Marga Paterson

Chief Executive

March 2018



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Energy Efficiency

Huge amounts of energy are used by hotel facilities worldwide, most being derived from fossil fuels, thus generating huge amounts of greenhouse gas. By improving the energy efficiency of our hostels and by avoiding waste of energy, we are taking an important step to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to contribute to the preservation of the earth's natural resource.

As such we:

- Monitor and analyse consumption every day and month through energy impact analysis
- Promote sub metering through the business for further analysis of consumption
- List potential technical improvements annually for capital improvement plans
- Organise preventative maintenance
- Ensure optimal use of plant and machinery
- Use LED energy lamps in all bedrooms, public areas and office spaces
- Use LED for all emergency exit signage
- Promote use of renewable energy where appropriate
- Encourage a “switch off policy” with staff and guests
- Ensure staff are aware of requirement to turn down/off radiator thermostats when rooms are not booked out
- In periods of low occupancy, appropriate sections within the hostels are isolated so heating can be turned off and lighting reduced to emergency levels only
- Purchasing of energy efficient equipment



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Water User Minimisation

Hostelling Scotland reduces water use by using products and implementing services and environmental programmes that promote cleaner water as well as more conservative and efficient consumption.

To help with this we ensure where possible the following are implemented:

- Setting objectives for limiting consumption
- Monitoring and analysing consumption every month
- Install water flow regulators on basin and taps
- Install water flow regulators on all showers
- Install energy efficient monitoring for all toilets
- Use efficient laundry equipment
- Recover and use rain water for use within the hotel grounds where possible
- Promote the use of tap water
- Collect and recycle used cooking oils
- Separate and collect grease from foodstuffs



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Education and Training

Hostelling Scotland are educating staff and guests on the importance of environmental awareness and thinking greener. From informative newsletters to teambuilding to finding alternative commuting solutions, Green Teams educate and inspire their fellow workers to spread the word about green programmes and what they can do to help.

To promote greener thinking we:

- Educate guests and employees on environmental issues and their impact on our natural resources
- Educate how to protect and improve our environment
- Educate on social programmes that can benefit the community
- Promote green awareness
- Integrate the preservation of the environment in all jobs



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Waste Minimisation

Hostelling Scotland aims to reduce the amount of glass, paper and plastic waste we generate, from substituting printed correspondence with e-mail, to the addition of single-stream recycling bins.

Where possible we encourage the hostels, staff and guests to:

- Recycle paper/cardboard packaging
- Recycle glass packaging
- Recycle plastic packaging
- Recycle metal cans
- Organise sorting of waste from guest bedrooms
- Recycle kitchen waste
- Recycle electrical and electronic equipment
- Recycle ink cartridges
- Dispose safely of fluorescent bulbs/tubes
- Promote reuse of unwanted hotel furniture



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Environment and Sustainability

Buying green products can contribute to sustainable development. We need to work to convince suppliers and producers to meet these demands. By opting for more environmentally sensible products we make a positive impact on the environment. By informing our employees and guests of these choices.

Our environmental objectives are to ensure that we endeavour to do the following:

- Green Purchasing: biodegradable and recycled products
- Promote ethically sourced food and beverages
- Promote local produce and reduce carbon related food miles
- Promote and use ecological papers for all printing and supplies
- Promote online promotions and not paper based publications
- Favour Eco label products and suppliers
- Favour organic products and suppliers
- Promote healthy eating for our guests
- Actively promote sustainability in all our marketing



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Summary

We have appointed a team to undertake the task of driving our policy forward who, in conjunction with our energy consultants Argyle Energy, aim to achieve these objectives and develop, implement and monitor our actions.

We actively encourage staff and guests to bring any ideas and suggestions they have to this team so that we can do our part in passing on a safer world to future generations. Progress in implementing this policy will be communicated to all staff in our annual reports.

The energy team will have responsibility for implementing the policy and ensuring the policy matches with Hostelling Scotland's culture. We will adopt a phased approach and have a number of targets which will be communicated to all staff. These targets will be monitored and our performance will be communicated to all members of staff.

This policy and the target performance improvements will be reviewed annually by the Energy Team and the Board.



Hostelling Scotland

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