

# Buswells Hotel

## Environmental Policy



At Buswells Hotel we recognise that our business has an important role to play in protecting and enhancing the environment. We undertook to increase our efforts significantly and as a result became a member of the 'Green Hospitality Award'

### What is the 'Green Hospitality Award':

*"Greening Irish Hospitality" is our focus and aim and the Green Hospitality Award (GHA) is now recognised as one of the most successful programmes in Europe. This is a voluntary programme that demonstrates leadership in environmental management within the hospitality sector. Each successful member receives an award based on a set of strict criteria and can use the GHA Logo. (The Green Hospitality Award is a Type 1 Eco-Label as defined by the ISO - International Organisation for Standardisation, GHA Website).*

### Buswells Hotel receive A Green Failte Award

*We recently received our third Green Failte Award, at the Silver level (March 2010). The award recognises the key steps Buswells has taken over the past three years addressing its policy and procedures regarding waste, energy and utilities.*

*We are aware that all our daily activities interact with the environment. At Buswells*

### Our Aims are;

- *To reduce our water consumption*
- *To reduce our energy consumption*
- *To increase the percentage of our waste being recycled and hence reducing the amount of waste that will go to landfill*

## How we achieve this;

- *Through setting up a 'Green Team' and communicating all new initiatives to all staff*
- *Feedback from staff at departmental meetings*
- *Through customer feedback, having a question on our comment cards asking guest's how we are doing environmentally and how they see we could improve*
- *Having good relationships with our suppliers asking them to decant deliveries and to minimise any unnecessary packaging.*

## Achievements to date

### Water

- *Aerators fitted to all guest hand basins leading to a flow reduction of 70% on previous usage*
- *Replacement of all existing shower heads leading to a reduction of 60% water usage through new water restricting shower heads.*
- *Replacement of all public toilet tap units to automated faucets.*

### Electricity

- *Installation of sensor lighting in back of house areas.*
- *Continue program of energy efficient bulb replacement. Currently 80% of our bulbs are CFL*
- *Photocell lighting installed on outside lights*
- *On-going departmental training to further educate staff on the importance of switching off lights when not required especially in areas were we were unable to install sensors (kitchen/foyer/bar/restaurant)*
- *Literature in all bedrooms asking guest's to co-operate and help us to reduce our energy usage by switching off lights when not required and asking that no equipment is left on stand-by mode.*

### Waste

- *We have gone from 0% to 74% recycling since 2008 and are constantly looking at ways to improve and increase our recycling further. We have put colour-coded bins in bedrooms and have literature in all rooms encouraging guests to participate in recycling their waste.*

- *We need to further reduce our waste streams, particularly food waste streams through better observance of guest needs and staff portion control. (on-going)*
- *We no longer offer guest's 'one-use' or 'single portion' packaging in the Restaurant/Bar.*
- *We meet/discuss with our suppliers annually asking for their co-operation to put in place a method of ensuring deliveries are packaging free and that we increase the decanting system to more food items at delivery*