

Buswells Hotel Environmental Policy



At Buswells Hotel we recognise that our business has an important role to play in protecting and enhancing the environment for future generations and to help secure the long-term sustainability of the Tourism Industry.

With this in mind we undertook to increase our efforts significantly and as a result became a member of the 'Green Hospitality Programme'.

This is a voluntary programme that aims to develop leadership and best practice within the hospitality sector.

The award process is challenging yet feasible and sets the business on the road towards best practice. Once successful the member receives an award based on a set of strict criteria. (The Green Hospitality Award is a Type 1 Eco-Label as defined by the ISO - International Organisation for Standardisation).

We at Buswells are delighted to announce we have been awarded the Gold award. This means we operate to an internationally high standard as a best practise hotel (August 2013) and have maintained that ever since.

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.
- Installation of Phs system in public bathrooms reducing unnecessary water usage

As a result of this of water usage has fallen from 241 litres per sleeper in 2012 to 230 litres in 2013 and a further reduction to 197 litres in 2014. We aim to improve this by 2% this year with the installation of waterless urinals.

ELECTRICITY

- Installation of sensor lighting in back of house areas.
- Continue program of energy efficient bulb replacement. Currently 91% of our bulbs are CFL with all light bulbs that are on for more than 5 hours per day 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 where 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.

Having done this our electricity consumption fell from 362kwh to 340kwh. We are aware that this is still high. We aim to switch over all our bulbs in front of house this year to have a maximum wattage of 3. We have also replaced our cooking unit to a more energy efficient unit. We aim to decrease our electric consumption by 5.8%

WASTE

- We have gone from 0% to 80% 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 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
 - We have moved from a paper payslip to email. This reduces paper, toner and electricity consumption to print.
 - We now consume 76% waste less than international benchmarks and aim to drop this by a further 2% for 2015.
 - Our achievements have been recognised nationally with Buswells Hotel winning both The Repak Best Practise Hospitality Award and the Travel and Tourism Waste Management Award 2014.