

# The Beach House Environmental Policy

“The Beach House strives to conduct its business with efficient use of materials and energy and minimising waste and damage to the environment”

This document is intended to establish bench marks and actions necessary to set the highest standards economically possible for the Beach House in terms of Environmental Impact. The policy is established with due regard to the needs of the business customers.

## Basis of the Policy.

The basis of the policy is to improve the Beach House environmental performance in the following areas;

- Energy
- Water
- Waste
- Support of local community
- Wildlife
- Involving and informing customers
- Transport
- Management and marketing

## Energy;

*Considerations: Gas, Electricity, Alternatives, Efficiency, minimising.*

**Gas** is used for cooking and heating spaces and water. The water temperature is kept at the minimum set to safeguard against legionnaires disease.

**Electricity** is used for cooking, lighting, entertainment. laundry

**Alternatives** such as wind or solar power are under constant review.

**Efficiency;** Boiler and appliance efficiency to be monitored. Lighting timing to be minimised, low energy bulbs to be used where possible. Room and space heating to be thermostatically controlled.

**Minimising;** Insulation values for roof and walls to be improved where possible. Heating to be constantly monitored when guests are not present.

Do low temperature laundry where appropriate.

## Water

*Considerations; Usage, temperature, supply, leaks*

**Usage;** kitchen, guest bathrooms, laundry, lavatories.

**Minimisation;** Kitchen' use dishwasher only when necessary, ensure taps are off especially at night.

**Guest bathrooms;** reduce flush volume, water saving shower heads.

**Laundry;** use paper napkins, do full washes only

**Lavatories;** provide percussion taps, reduce flush volumes. Provide urinal flush monitors

**Temperature;** hot water to be set a legal minimum for health legislation.

**Supply;** Feasibility study for rain water harvesting to be carried out.

**Leaks;** check cistern overflows regularly

## Waste

*Considerations; Food, packaging cardboard, plastics, glass, aluminium, garden, recycling, re usage.*

**Recycling** is carried out for cardboard and paper in the council 1000l bin. Glass bottles are stored for recycling in baskets in the north passage. Aluminium cans are stored for recycling in the north passage.

**Plastic packaging** is returned to suppliers for re use where possible.

**Recycling** other plastics will be done when council facilities permit.

**Food waste** re use is not economically possible.

## Support of local community

By sourcing materials and produce locally our carbon footprint can be reduced. All our fresh produce is from local suppliers and producers.

Long life items are delivered as far as possible to reduce our effect on road traffic.

## Wildlife

Encourage the use of fish species on the menu that are not over fished.

## Involving and informing customers

A copy of this environmental policy will be placed in the information document in each room. A specific guest action will be emphasises what actions our customers can do to help us to help the environment.

## Transport

Our vehicles are carefully chosen to be fuel efficient. Journeys are minimised.

All persons working at the Beach House are encouraged to cycle or walk to work.

## Management and Marketing

Energy and water usage is measured on a monthly basis such that the actions and control effectiveness can be assessed and action taken as necessary.

The overall environmental plan is to be critically assessed by specialist and legislative authorities with a view to continual improvement.

Guests and employees will be encouraged to suggest improvements to the Beach House environmental footprint.

## Actions by Owners:

- Review legislation; constantly implement initiatives to meet and improve this policy;
- Check guest and employees actions comply with this policy.
- Initiate feasibility study to improve cavity wall insulation and room 6 roof insulation
- Produce daily/monthly check list
- Initiate water reducing shower head change
- Search for dimmable low energy bulbs

## Actions by Guests and Employees;

**Room heating;** The room temperature is controlled by the thermostatically controlled radiators. The radiator thermostats are turned to 3 when the rooms are not in use this maintains the temperature at about 20 degrees C. When guests are expected we endeavour to adjust the thermostat to 4 which provides about 25 degrees C. Guests are welcome to adjust the thermostats to their requirements. Guests are asked to return the thermostats to 3 when not expecting to be using their room.

**Electrical appliances;** Guests are asked to turn off their lights and TVs at the mains (not on stand by) when they are not required.

**Water;** Guests are asked to observe the normal water saving policies of reduced shower times and minimising the continuous flow for taps.

**Recycling;** Cardboard, paper, aluminium, glass, plastics are to be recycled as described in the policy

Guest suggestions are most welcome

### **Improvements since take over in July 2005**

- Recycling aluminium cans. April 2006
- Signs to reduce towel washing. Aug 2006
- Use of local laundry Aug 2006
- Recycling cardboard Sept 2006
- Percussion taps in restaurant toilets Nov 2006
- Cistern flush reductions Jan 2007