

Shannon Region Conference and Sports Bureau

Sustainability Policy 2024

This document will be reviewed annually



Vision

We want to build on our existing credentials to further support the region in achieving its sustainable objectives. Our goal is to improve awareness and drive the adoption of the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals in the tourism and events sector of The Shannon Region.

UNWTO definition

At Shannon Region Conference and Sports, we believe that sustainable tourism is tourism that takes full account of its current and future economic, social, and environmental impacts while addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment, and host communities. We therefore aim to reduce our negative effects and increase our positive impacts.

Continuous improvement

Sustainability is a journey of continuous improvement, and we are aware that our business activities impact on the environment however, we are committed to identifying ways to make the region more sustainable to therefore have a positive impact on the environment.

Measuring and reducing negative impacts

Energy

We commit to measuring our electricity consumption every quarter and do the following to reduce consumption:

- Check if we are using a renewable energy supplier, if not we plan to switch suppliers by the end of quarter two this year
- Use a Cloud Based data system to conserve energy
- Ensure all equipment is turned off and not just in standby mode when not needed
- Use energy effective bulbs

Water

We commit to measuring our water consumption every quarter and do the following to reduce consumption:

- Promote water conservation in our office
- Install aerators to reduce the flow rate in taps
- Install a cistern bag in all toilets to displace water in the cistern and reduce the water per flush
- Use tap water for drinking
- Ensure the dishwasher is only turned on to an eco-cycle when it has a full load

Waste

We commit to measuring our waste consumption every quarter and do the following to reduce consumption:

- We will actively promote Reduce-Reuse-Recycle for event materials and communications both internally and amongst our suppliers and customers
- We will engage with our suppliers to encourage them to reduce, eliminate or re-use packaging
- We will reduce packaging where feasible on all our products
- We will eliminate single-use plastics in any area of the business where it is possible to do so
- We will change to bulk purchasing where viable
- Minimise waste generation by applying reuse and recycle options
- We will increase our recycling rates by 20% over the next 12 months
- We have implemented a 'Do Not Print' policy and staff do not have access to a printer
- Choose sustainable suppliers
- Business cards and other promotional materials we produce are embedded with wildflower seeds that can be planted after use
- Ensure when exhibiting at tradeshow and promotional events, that all booths, exhibitions stands, and signage are made from sustainable materials and are reused and recycled

Ethical purchasing

As per our Green Procurement Policy we seek to source goods, services or works with a reduced environmental impact. We endeavour to minimise the environmental ‘footprints’ of our procurement activities by purchasing products and services with minimal environmental impacts while offering high quality products and services at competitive prices. We endeavour to purchase locally produced products that have been produced within 50km of our business premises. All client gifts are sourced locally and are sustainable. Gifts include Palm Free hand soap and local craft art that uses pebbles from the beach for sustainable art as gifts for conference speakers.

Carbon offsetting

At Shannon Region Conference and Sports Bureau, we are committed to reducing our carbon footprint as much as possible and in order to do so we allow staff to work remotely where feasible to avoid unnecessary travel. We are committed to offsetting the remainder with a trusted partner. We are currently working with Home Tree to offset our emissions.

Responsible sustainability marketing

We know we can't always get things right first time. We therefore commit to honestly communicating where we are on our journey and our improvements, we are aware of the dangers of greenwashing and commit to communicate our efforts honestly.

Social responsibility

The Shannon Region Conference and Sports Bureau supports Wild Atlantic Way Coastal Clean Up.

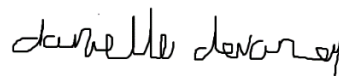
Signed by:



22/04/24

General Manager

Date



22/04/24

Green Team Leader

Date