

The Grand Environmental Policy Statement

We believe that as a business we are responsible for achieving good environmental practice and operating in a sustainable manner. We are therefore committed to reducing our environmental impact and continually improving our environmental performance as an integral and fundamental part of our business strategy and operating methods. It is our priority to encourage our customers, suppliers and all business associates to do the same. Not only is this sound commercial sense for all; it is also a matter of delivering on our duty of care towards future generations.

The Grand operates a “Triple Bottom Line Strategy”. This strategy covers our relationships, reputation and results. All of these are impacted by our approach to both environmental and social issues.

We will seek to reduce our consumption of non-renewable resources, and whenever practicable will select materials which have the most negative impact on the environment throughout their life cycle.

Environmental protection will have equal status to considerations for health, safety and quality.

In confirming our commitment to protection of the environment we will treat environmental regulations that apply to our activities as minimum standards and where appropriate aim to better them. We will provide information to all guest, staff and contractors to ensure that misuse will not be the cause of damage to the environment.

Responsibility for the environmental policy and supporting statement lies with The Grand Senior Management Team helped by the Junior Board who head up all new environmental improvement projects.

The environmental policy will be brought to the attention of all employees and will be made available to the Public via the company website and reviewed annually to assess its effectiveness, compliance with environmental law and to ensure that it reflects changing needs and circumstances.

Whilst recognising the fundamental responsibility of the company and its employees for environmental protection, where our work activities are environmentally significant. Attention will be paid to the following areas: -

Waste Management – waste will be kept to a minimum, compatible with best trade practises. Only licensed waste contractors will be used to dispose of waste. Our sub-contractors shall be encouraged to apply the principals of this policy but shall be required to ensure they comply with the minimum relevant legislation.

Recycling – whenever practicable materials will be purchased from suppliers who obtain products from replaceable sources.

Noise/Dust Light - will be suppressed, where practical, to ensure that no nuisance is caused to neighbouring establishments or the public.

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Conservation of energy – The Property Manager shall introduce and monitor efficient and economic use of energy in the form of heating and lighting with the objective of reducing the use of energy.

Training – All employees shall be made aware of the objectives of this policy and the contribution expected from them. Employees with high risk tasks shall be trained in the environmental aspects associated with those tasks.

Legislative Compliance – regular environmental assessments shall be carried out to ensure compliance with the legislation and the application of best available practice in environmental protection.

Environmental Objectives – will be set, monitored and reviewed to provide a management tool for my company to achieve the general aims set out in this policy statement and help achieve continuous improvement and the prevention of pollution in our environment performance.

All employees are equally responsible for complying with this Environmental Policy and are encouraged to suggest improvements to this end.

Specific areas that the business works on include:

- Collaborating with the Local York Council on waste management, effective disposal and initiatives.
- Partnering with Preferred hotels and Resorts on their Green initiatives.
- The Hotel sits on the Board of York BID (Business Improvement District) on initiatives including waste collection.
- Our Cookery School will open “non-recyclable plastic” free.
- The Hotels “Junior Board” main project is to reduce the impact the business on the environment. This includes eliminating non-recyclable plastic and reducing both paper and food waste by 50 %.
- We have Bees on the roof of the Hotel that will produce our own Honey from 2019.
- A Low energy light bulb roll out replacement scheme is in place.
- All bedrooms have electronic key cards to put in a slot, so electricity isn’t wasted when the room is unoccupied.
- We have a ‘Switch off’ campaign to make sure when “non-bedroom” rooms are not in use all lights are turned off as well as all computers and televisions.
- Used printer cartridges are recycled and we initiated a ‘Think before you print’ campaign to reduce paper wastage.
- Glass is recycled.
- We serve Fair Trade tea and coffee.
- We have challenged all our suppliers to eliminate their use of non-recyclable plastic and will change suppliers if they are not forthcoming by the end of 2019.
- We promote awareness of the environment among our employees and work with them to ensure their impact on it is minimal.
- We minimise energy and water usage in our buildings, vehicles and processes to conserve supplies, and minimise our consumption of natural resources, especially non-renewables.

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- Address complaints about any breach of our Environmental Policy promptly and to the satisfaction of all concerned.
- We are reducing our paper consumption further by offering guests the option of having bills and invoices emailed to them rather than printing paper copies.
- In periods of low occupancy, appropriate sections within the hotel are isolated so heating can be turned off and lighting reduced to emergency levels only.
- We perform regular boiler checks to ensure efficient.
- We give our guests the option to not have their towels laundered every day.
- As far as possible purchase products and services that do the least damage to the environment and encourage others to do the same. All the products, consumables and materials we use meet the requirements of sustainability and recyclability.
- Suppliers we work with have dedicated environmental teams looking at ways of spreading best practice across the business. Birch-street (our procurement company) and Atlas Group (3rd party cleaning services) are examples that both have Sustainability Managers.
- Our cleaning policy includes the following aspects:
 - All liquid chemicals used are biodegradable
 - Any aerosols used are CFC free
 - Paper janitorial products are either from recycled or sustainable resources

Where possible our suppliers are locally based and the produce, we buy is grown locally to reduce transport costs and food miles whilst supporting local businesses. For example:

R&J Farmers and butchers who are based near Ripon. As the name suggests they have their own farms but also source from around the Yorkshire region including duck, turkey and chicken. They supply a superior product and the MD is very passionate about his produce and the welfare of the livestock.

Fowlers of York. Their knowledge and expertise in the fish industry is incredible. Fowlers source from the north east coastal markets and really cares about sustainability and the environment. They catch fish traditionally than trawl and damage the seabed.

Wild greens specialise in micro herbs and are based just outside of York. Ben Wild, the owner really cares about his products and customers. He also grows cress especially for us or if there is anything, we would like to try he will source the seeds and plant for us. Ben also uses waste crops to make fantastic flavoured oils and provides chicken farmers with unusable cresses to feed on.

Philip Bolson
General Manager
The Grand Hotel York

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