

# Clontarf Castle Hotel's Sustainability Policy 2022

This document will be reviewed Quarterly

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CLONTARF CASTLE  
HOTEL

## 1. Vision/mission/company ethos

Clontarf Castle Hotel is a deluxe four star hotel located in the picturesque coastal suburb of Clontarf just 10 minutes from Dublin City Centre and 20 minutes from Dublin Airport. Originally a 12th Century Castle, the striking historic exterior and warm Irish welcome combines with rich interior design. The property is one of Ireland's premier castle hotels and offers a perfect blend of a boutique and luxury hotel, providing unique style and exceptional service in comfortable surroundings. Facilities include relaxing lounges, a choice of diverse restaurants and bars, extensive conference and private dining facilities, a fitness suite and complimentary car parking.

As one of Dublin's only Castle hotels, we do not only focus on providing a great hotel experience and service, but are also concerned with our impact on the environment as well as our responsibility towards the community. Based on these principles, the hotel has been working on the balance between hotel operation versus the environment and at the same time to care for the community.

An additional core value at Clontarf Castle Hotel is to be committed to protecting the environment for future generations.

At Clontarf Castle Hotel our chefs strive to source only the finest ingredients from land & sea. Always trying to stay true to the value of locality & using Irish wherever possible. With this in mind, we have partnered with the following suppliers:

- Wright's of Marino for our fresh & smoked fish.
- Gahan Meat, a native of Clontarf, who sources from Irish farms.
- Keeling's Market & Total Produce who support the farms in Co. Dublin.
- La Rousse foods who help the growth of the smaller Irish Artisan producers.

## 2. UNWTO definition

At Clontarf Castle Hotel, 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 (UNWTO, n.d.)*. We therefore aim to reduce our negative effects and increase our positive impacts.

## 3. Continuous improvement

We aren't perfect yet, but we are committed to continuously improving our efforts. At Tifco Hotel Group we are on a journey & we will endeavour to achieve our goals and targets and continue to evolve in the future.

At Clontarf Castle Hotel we strive to continuously monitor and evaluate our impact on the environment and community in a strategic attempt to constantly improve our sustainability.

## 4. Measuring and reducing negative impacts

### 4a. Energy consumption

100% of the energy supplied to us by Electric Ireland comes from renewable energy sources.

Clontarf Castle is committed to measuring electricity consumption every month and to do the following to reduce consumption by 7% within the next 12 months by:

- Use smart building controls through BMS lowering electricity and gas consumption
- Educate all team members on the conservation of energy & ensure that all appliances are switched off when not in use
- Use Sub-metering
- Use of LED lights throughout the building
- Guest Key Card System in place in all rooms turning off electrical supply to sockets and lights when a room is unoccupied, or a resident is currently out of the room
- Most operational electrical equipment is on timers to ensure it is not running outside of service times (Extractor Fans, Heating, etc)
- Outdoor lighting is timer operated and the timer is being changed base on seasons and natural daylight
- Every Department has an "energy close down list" to ensure all non-essential electrical equipment is turned off if not needed. The Night Manager does an energy walk to ensure compliance and the Chief Engineer double checks this every morning

## 4b. Water consumption

At Clontarf Castle we have been and will be engage in the following reduction activities over the next 12 months:

- Water usage is being monitored daily through an online platform, to detect any possible leaks early and to monitor our overall water consumption
- apply a reduce, reuse, re-educate water policy for guests
- apply a reduce, reuse, re-educate water policy for team members
- Provide written material on how to conserve water for guests & staff
- Setting a target of under *230 litres* per guest night
- Continue to conserve linen through our linen reuse program
- All showers are fitted with water restrictors reducing use to a maximum of 8 litres per minute
- All sinks are fitted with water restrictors reducing use to a maximum of 5 litres per minute
- Toilet Cisterns are limited to 6L volume and are fitted with a half flush option
- Urinals in public toilets are fitted with motion sensors to avoid unnecessary flushes
- Ice Machines throughout the building were changed to an air cooling system rather than a water cooling system
- Preventive maintenance schedules are in place for all water service equipment to ensure the maximum efficiency of the system

## 4c. Waste production

We *measure* our waste production monthly and are committed to the following reduction activities over the next 12 months:

- apply a reduce, reuse, recycle policy
- Recycle 80% of all waste
- Evaluate all purchases - engage in pre-cycling and ensure that items come with reusable packaging/containers where possible
- Commit to using non-disposable products where possible
- Educate guests on how to recycle properly and how to use recycling bins in all guest bedrooms and public areas
- Educate team members on recycling best practices and on food waste reduction
- Focus on food compost reduction and on seasonality of food produce where possible
- Change to bulk guest toiletries
- Select low environmental impact cleaning agents from Ecolab
- Cardboard is being bailed separately for specialty collection
- Glasses are segregated based on colour prior to their collection

## 5. Ethical purchasing

At Clontarf Castle we engage in the following activities to ensure ethical purchasing over the next 12 months:

- When purchasing goods, ensure that we favour locally sourced products where possible, from suppliers within 50km of Clontarf Castle.
- Where importing goods is unavoidable, we strive to importing "Fair Trade" products
- Commit to engage with our suppliers to reducing, reusing & recycling packaging
- Buy products in bulk where possible to reduce the amount of packaging and transport related emissions
- Set office printers to double sided printing by default
- Start using the ecolabel index

## 6. Carbon offsetting

At Clontarf Castle Hotel we are committed to reducing our carbon footprint as much as possible and to offsetting the remainder with a trusted partner. We are currently engaging with different companies in a bid to finding a trusted partner to offset our emissions.

We are committed to measuring and reducing our carbon footprint within 6 months and locating an offsetting partner and to develop a carbon reduction plan within the next 12 months, by:

- Utilizing the business calculator to establish our carbon footprint
- Use energy efficient (LED) light bulbs
- Use digital conferencing for internal meetings where possible
- Conserve water
- Recycle waste
- Put reduce, reuse, recycle policy in place
- Educate our team members on carbon footprint reduction
- Research information on potential carbon offsetting partners

## 7. Responsible sustainability marketing

We know that it is important to communicate our efforts in an honest way. We are aware of the risk of greenwashing, and we therefore commit to:

- Implement Marketing Guidelines
- Ensure that Marketing Messages are honest and accurate
- We will work on the highest level of regional and European compliance in regards to GDPR
- Our Search Engine Optimization will be done ethically and based on merit, based on genuine relationships and partnerships

## 8. Social responsibility

We support our local community by:

- Sponsorship of local sports teams
- Running free events for a local Central Remedial Clinic in Clontarf
- Purchasing local wherever possible
- Referring business to local companies wherever possible
- Special consideration is given to employ local residents
- Complimentary Meeting Facilities are being provided to local sports teams
- Turning on of the Christmas Lights is a yearly community event that is hosted by the Hotel free of charge

## 9. Supporting Biodiversity

We support and conserve Irish biodiversity by:

- Using only Ecolab chemicals which protect biodiversity
- Join the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and implement at least one activity per year
- Sign up to Crann

Signed by:

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*Deputy General Manager*

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*Date*

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*Head of Sustainability*

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*Date*