

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

The Deep is an environmental and educational charity (Number 1073254). Its mission is to create a deeper understanding of the world's oceans and river systems which it achieves through: an aquarium based visitor attraction, environmental education, endangered species breeding programmes, field conservation projects and research. The Deep collaborates with other conservation organisations and academic facilities to optimise its outputs.

The Deep is committed to minimising the environmental impact of its operation.

The aims of The Deep's Environmental Policy are to:

- Operate in a manner based on best environmental practice in our everyday operation.
- Commit to continuous environmental improvement and review in every aspect of its operation.
- Demonstrate a commitment to sustainable development in all future exhibition or build plans.
- Comply with all applicable environmental legislation and codes of practice.
- Implement all feasible options for the reduction, reuse and recycling of waste.
- Use raw materials and utilities as efficiently as practicable.
- Convey to our visitors the importance of conservation and environmental protection.
- Assist and learn from others, share our experiences for more impactful actions and outcomes.

In order to achieve these aims, The Deep will:

1. Efficiently use energy, gas, water and natural resources, which will be from sustainable, renewable sources whenever appropriate or possible.
2. Monitor and regularly review the use of these natural resources.
3. Manage and review waste production in order to reduce the amount being produced, maximise the recycling percentage and minimise the amount going to land fill.
4. Comply with regulatory best practice for the disposal of controlled waste.
5. Purchase all goods and services within the parameters of its Environmental Purchasing Policy.
6. Wherever possible eliminate the use of harmful or potentially harmful chemicals or materials in the day to day operation of its buildings.
7. Encourage environmental awareness amongst all employees through the Green Team and provide sufficient levels of training to allow them to meet their environmental responsibilities.
8. Encourage suppliers, contractors and businesses to improve their environmental performance such as the reduction of plastic packaging and availability of recycled and recyclable products. Offer advice to others seeking to do the same.
9. Raise the level of public understanding of environmental issues through the exhibition, activities, showcasing the charity's actions and encourage public engagement with behaviour change campaigns and facilities to make environmental options possible.
10. Reduce single use plastics across its operation.
11. Be mindful of the habitats within our outside spaces and maintain and manage them accordingly.

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Katy Duke
Chief Executive Officer, April 2018

Actions in Support of The Deep's Environmental Aims:

1. Purchase of green energy from the grid.
The use of LED lighting throughout our building and carpark.
Installation of lighting sensors in rooms where possible.
Self shut-off taps in toilets.
Low volume cisterns in toilets.
Efficient use of the building's BMS system to optimise heating and cooling systems.
Lights out and electrical equipment 'off' policy when not in use.
Solar powered carpark ticket machines.
Solar panels installed on Business Centre roof.
Efficiencies made in Life Support Systems where possible.
Company vehicle is electric.
Mitigate effects of business travel by use of public transport where possible.
2. Review annual use of water, electric and gas.
Annual independent energy certificates review (Display Energy Certificates).
Bi-annual thermal imaging survey of building and electrical equipment to find hidden issues.
Own thermal imaging camera to assist efficient running.
3. Review waste streaming and recycling with external companies.
Currently recycle: paper, cardboard, glass, metal, batteries, electrical products, lamps, fluorescent tubes, catering oil, printer cartridges.
Collect and reuse unwanted guidebooks.
4. Specialist waste streams dealt with appropriately such as Environment Agency licence, clinical waste streams, Yorkshire Water metering etc.
5. Increasing range of recycled and sustainable products available in the gift shop.
Sustainable sourcing of foods including fish.
Local, Fairtrade and organic produce used where possible.
Only products containing sustainable palm oil are used (cleaning products, food for sale, pick-and-mix etc).
Purchase green stationery options where possible (paper, pens, bubble wrap, posting bags etc)
Recycled materials used where possible (Recycloo, worktops, picnic benches).
6. Eco friendly cleaning products used.
Pesticide free gardening.
7. Staff Green Team in operation.
8. Liaise with suppliers to minimise packaging on products purchased for retail.
Advise, promote and deliver sustainable events to our clients, advise other organisations and events when requested.
Speak regularly at conferences and meetings about plastic reduction in our operation.
9. Share environmental messaging on social media.
Run behaviour change campaigns such as #OneLess and #HullNoPlasticStraws.
Run beach clean events for public participation.
Water bottle refill station installed.
Bike racks available.
Electric car charging points available.
Display a 'plastic tank' as part of 'Our Oceans' campaign.

10. Removed all single use plastic drinks bottles from sale.
Removed all plastic food and drinks containers from catering and swapped for Vegware.
Removed plastic straws from our catering facilities and restaurant.
11. Have a section of undisturbed wild garden to provide a habitat for wildlife.