



# SUSTAINABILITY

MARCH 2024

## Hotel Overview

- Our electricity supply is responsibly purchased and in the last two years the electricity supplied to the Sligo Park Hotel is 100% renewable energy.
- We have moved to paperless meetings and our accounts operate a new online system, reducing our paper use by 50%.
- In the last couple of years, we have gone through a full refit of bulbs/lighting in the hotel, to energy efficiently LED lighting.
- Over the past 18 months we have replaced all of our old Alpha boilers (7 in total) to new Dietrich energy efficient boilers.
- All water is heated by gas fired boilers. An energy management system (Tickbox) is in place which monitor our usage throughout the hotel.
- We are committed to conserving water and measure usage on a monthly basis.
- We are proud members of Repak which is a not-for-profit packaging recycling scheme funded by contributors from over 3,000 member companies nationwide, Cardboard packaging, glass, cans, used light bulbs and batteries are all recycled, we are committed to further reducing waste to landfill.
- As a member of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Ireland, we invite guests to recycle used batteries with us here in the hotel. WEEE Ireland is chartered to collect, treat and recover electrical, electronic and battery waste arising throughout Ireland. Batteries can be disposed of with hotel reception or with housekeeping.
- We work with Brother on their environmental policy for all our print cartridges. When you return your brother toner or ink cartridge to us using our free recycling scheme, you are helping to protect the rainforest. As part of our recycling scheme Brother has partnered with the award-winning charity Cool Earth which works alongside indigenous communities to halt rainforest deforestation. Since our partnership began in 2009 we have helped communities to flourish in some of our planet's most biodiverse, vital environments, protecting ecosystems that have stored over 37 million tonnes of carbon.

We have been analysing our CO2 emissions since 2017 and were pleased to report that the emissions in 2023 have significantly reduced per room down to 30.96 KgCO2 per room from a high in 2017 of 34.87 KgCO2 per room (excluding Covid years) and down to 17.59 KgCO3 per guest in 2023 from a high of 19.45KgCO2 per guest in 2017 (excluding Covid years).

## Sligo Park Hotel (Inc Leisure Club)

Year	Rooms	Guests	Occupancy
2017	31,813	57,044	64.001%
2018	33,032	58,363	66.541%
2019	35,670	61,921	71.851%
2020	16,804	30,819	33.851%
2021	22,550	38,448	45.431%
2022	32,900	58,674	66.271%
2023	36,211	63,736	73.011%

Year	Electricity y[kWh]	Gas [kWh]	CO2 from electricity [kgCO2/kWh]	CO2 from gas [kgCO2/kWh]	Total CO2 [kgCO2/kWh]	Total CO2 per room [kgCO2/Room]	Total CO2 per guest [kgCO2/Guest]
2017	1081910	2,776,527	472795	636658	1109453	34.87	19.45
2018	1071039	2,653,076	402068	608350	1010418	30.59	17.31
2019	978164	2,184,865	317414	500990	818404	22.94	13.22
2020	662091	2,227,306	195847	510721	706568	42.05	22.93
2021	773291	2,482,822	257506	569311	826817	36.67	21.50
2022	934802	4,022,172	316898	922284	1239182	37.67	21.12
2023	1081620	3,832,889	242283	878881	1121164	30.96	17.59

## Accommodation

- Our lost property from both the hotel and leisure centre, if not claimed, after a year is donated to the local charities like St Vincet De Pau.
- When carrying out refurbishment we donate any of our old furniture.
- Guest amenities such as toothbrushes, earbuds, shower hats, vanity kits are either bamboo or a biodegradable material.
- Miniature toiletry bottles have been replaced with larger luxury refillable dispensers. This action alone reduced our single use plastic by a 50,000 bottles per annum.
- We communicate with our guests and staff members on ways to conserve water, such as reusing towels and avoiding unnecessary laundering during a stay.
- A4 laundry sheets replaced with card to hang on door.
- Plastic from linen delivery returned to Elis our linen company each week.
- Laundry bags are made from 100% recycled material.
- Shower caps are made from recycled material.
- Slipper's plastic removed and paper packaging used from recycled paper.

## Restaurant, Bar, Banqueting, Conferencing and Events

- Jams and marmalades are no longer served in single use packaging in our restaurant, bar and staff canteen.
- Switched to compostable paper straws.
- Switched to compostable take away cups and lids.
- Stopped ordering disposable match boxes.
- Beer mats are made from recycled paper.
- New more efficient cardboard baler /crusher was purchased in 2023.
- Switched to a locally sourced bottled water supplier in 2023 which services all our conference rooms.
- Changed over from pens to pencils in all conference rooms in 2023.
- Reduced the size of conference jotter paper to 2 pages from 5.
- Plastic covering over tea/coffee stations which can be wiped down after use.
- Changing the chair store and crockery store around to save crockery/ cutlery from getting damaged and we can see what we have which saves double ordering.

## Kitchen

- Our kitchen equipment has been replaced with energy-efficient appliances.
- All fridges are monitored and serviced regularly to ensure they are running as efficiently as possible.
- Cardboard packaging, glass, cans, and plastics are all recycled.
- Used kitchen oil is collected by Frylite at the same time new oil is being delivered. Used oil containers are cleaned and reused repeatedly.

## Reception, Sales, Accounts, HR and Administration Offices

- We are consciously trying to reduce our administration paper waste by adapting digital processes across departments such as HR, accounts, sales and front office.
- Email receipts are now being offered at check out to all guests to reduce our printing at the front desk.
- Second screens in sales office at both the corporate sales desk and revenue desk have significantly reduced the need for printing paper.
- QR code for our guest directory has been placed on all our keycards.
- Key cards are on recycled paper now.
- Reuse of pens at the desk for guest check ins.
- Payments are made by bank transfer saving on cheques, and we send out all remittance advices by e-mail saving on paper and the carbon footprint of postage. We e-mail out invoices to debtors and send statements out by e-mail.
- All payslips are distributed via e-mail and no longer need to be printed.

## Leisure Centre

- Swim tog dryers have been placed in both ladies and gents changing rooms resulting in the removal of plastic “wet kit bags”.
- The ladies shower area has been fitted with sensor lights, the lights are only activated when there is someone in the section.
- Refillable shower bottles have been fitted to ladies and gents changing rooms reducing plastic waste.
- Fitness room is checked frequently by staff to ensure the air conditioning system is only on when classes are taking place, or the room is being used by members.
- Glass hot chocolate glasses are used during kids’ activities to reduce paper waste.
- Cleaning chemical waste has been reduced further by increased roll out of refills.

## Garden and Grounds

- New initiative for this year
  - Herb garden to be reintroduced by June 2024.
  - New planted area to the front of the hotel with planting in line with greening and sustainability projects to be completed by July 2024.
  - New willow arch which is interactive for families, will hold absorbed carbon from the atmosphere and will provide a habitat for wildlife, it’s leaves also enrich the soil each year to be completed by end of March 2024.

## Employee Wellbeing

- Daily briefings and monthly management and departmental team meetings.
- Annual staff survey.
- We were awarded A Great Place to Work Award in 2022 and 2023.

- Fáilte Ireland Employer Excellence Programme 2022 and 2023.
- All managers have completed the “Fundamentals of People Management” training November 2023.
- A yearly calendar of Health & Wellbeing events.
- We have an employee assistance program in place for all employees.
- Inform staff of the bike to work scheme to promote more sustainable transport options for employees.

## Green Initiatives for 2024

- We have signed up to Green Hospitality Program in 2024 and hope to achieve the Eco label award from them this year.
- Upgraded our main electrical panel feeding all the electricity to the hotel.
  - Installation of 18 electrical check metres on the system to assist in monitoring our electricity usage by end of April 2024.
  - Automatic switch over to generator when there is power cuts eliminating the issue of power surges by end of April 2024.
- Upgrade of our energy management system (Tickbox).
- Installation of our solar PV panels on the bedroom roofs to be completed by end of June 2024.
  - Reduce our CO2 emissions by a further 5% in 2024.
  - Reduce our electrical bill and demand for electricity from the national grid.
- All staff briefings and meetings to go paperless in 2024.
- We have identified 2 projects for our garden and grounds in 2024.
  - A bug hotel to be completed by May 2024.
  - Introductions of bird and bat boxes in the grounds to be completed by end of May 2024.
- Introduction of 2 new fast e-charger points to be installed by end of December 2024.
- Reintroduced herb garden by June 2024.