

Environmental Commitments

Palace House is committed to understanding, measuring, improving and communicating its environmental performance and to engaging management, staff, volunteers and visitors in that process. The organisation's specific objectives to reduce its environmental impact are set out in its Environmental Action Plan (available on request) but its principal areas of focus are:

- To promote sound environmental management policies and practices in all areas of the organisation's work and to increase awareness of environmental responsibilities amongst Board, staff and volunteers;
- To work with our catering partners on site and appropriate partners locally (e.g. Jockey Club Estates) to promote appropriate environmental policies;
- To implement policies and procedures that contribute to a reduction in the National Heritage Centre's carbon footprint including reducing the consumption of fossil fuels;
- To minimise waste and pollution, and to operate effective waste management procedures (particularly in relation to the management of horse waste, packaging and food waste);
- To reduce water consumption;
- To promote a purchasing policy which gives preference, as far as practicable, to products and services which cause the least harm to the environment and to avoid use, wherever possible, of environmentally damaging substances, materials, and processes;
- To maintain the buildings and grounds of the National Heritage Centre in an environmentally sensitive way;
- To encourage modes of transport by staff and volunteers which minimise environmental impact;
- To support visits by members of the public with modes of transport which minimise environmental impact (e.g. train and bicycle) through the provision of appropriate visitor information and facilities;
- To communicate issues of environmental sustainability to the visiting public through appropriate displays, site-wide interpretation and via our website.

If you are visiting with your class, group or students, you might notice

- ✓ Recycling bins in the Education Centre and group picnic room
- ✓ Automatic lights in certain areas which only come on when there's somebody using the space
- ✓ Maximisation of natural light use where possible
- ✓ Rainwater taps in the RoR yard (rain is collected from our roof) and a rainwater collection system which is used for flushing toilets
- ✓ Solar panels which help heat water for the kitchen and for the toilet blocks
- ✓ Bicycle racks. We are in the centre of the town so easily accessible via public transport or bicycle.

- ✓ We have a biomass boiler which recycles some waste products and reduces our Carbon Dioxide emissions from heating by approximately 90%
- ✓ Carefully managed green space in our paddock area

Our full Environmental Action Plan is available on request.