



Environmental and Sustainability Policy

The Fenn Bell Conservation Project recognises that the conservation of flora, fauna and natural resources is intrinsically linked to the environmental impacts of businesses. This policy outlines how The Fenn Bell Conservation Project plans to improve its environmental performance by aiming to reduce the carbon footprint of its activities, procure goods and services. The Fenn Bell Conservation Project is committed to ensuring environmental sustainability is embedded into all decision making.

We recognise that our decisions can impact wildlife and therefore we commit to:

- Managing existing and new practices across the whole site to minimise the environmental impact of their activities.
- Ensuring the zoo's activities and operations have as minimal impact as possible on the environment.
- Supporting the principles of sustainable development and construction within all phases of the zoo development.
- Continuous improvement of our environmental performance in relation to our activities, utilisation of products and services on and off-site.
- The protection of the environment and preventing pollution from our site.

This Environmental and Sustainability Policy aligns with The Fenn Bell Conservation Projects mission statement and sets out the ambitions and targets to achieving our key aims related to sustainability. The Fenn Bell Conservation Project has also aligned our Environmental and Sustainability Policy with BIAZA's Sustainability Policy to ensure there is a cohesive approach amongst zoo-based organisations.

Our Targets

At The Fenn Bell we are focusing on six priority areas where we are working towards reducing our environmental impact and improving our sustainability. Our targets are:

1. **Improving Waste Management:** We are reducing the amount of waste which is sent to landfill by reusing resources where appropriate. We further recycle different waste streams including paper and oil and are committed to researching our own ways to biodegrade some of our waste. To avoid large amounts of waste at our business, we have switched to hand dryers across all our toilets instead of providing paper hand towels. We also aim to encourage litter-free lunches by only offering reusable plates and utensils to our customers.
2. **Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Sources:** We are reducing our energy and fuel consumption by installing new condensing boilers, installing energy efficient LED lighting, and have installed 200m² solar panels on our site. We further plan to install more renewable energy systems. We now use Octopus Energy which is a company that supplies 100% of its energy from community-based renewable energy projects across the country and is currently one of Europe's leading investors in



renewable generation. By switching to Octopus Energy and implemented sustainable energy practices we have been able to reduce our energy usage by 75%.

3. **Reducing Water Use:** We are reducing the amount of water we use through improved management, fixing leaks and collecting rainwater into water butts and moats.
4. **Using Resources Responsibly and Encouraging Sustainable Procurement:** We are promoting Fairtrade, organic, local, and seasonal products in our zoo, restaurant and gift shop. We are working towards ensuring that only sustainable palm oil is used in all products we purchase including food products, animal feed, and cleaning products. We are also working to source local alcohol to sell in our restaurant further helping to reduce our carbon footprint. As of 2020 single use plastics became almost entirely eliminated within our restaurant on site. We switched most of our products to Vegware, which is both compostable and biodegradable, we began only selling canned water and we started to only offer reusable bottles of vinegar and sauce stations with paper cups to our customers.
5. **Improving Training and Awareness of Sustainability:** We demonstrate green ideas to visitors with signs around the site on how to protect the environment and conserve local wildlife. We also educate about our sustainable and conservation practices via our website and in our school tours and visits.
6. **Enhancing Biodiversity on Site:** We encourage local wildlife to our site with woodland areas, natural grown field spaces, ponds, log piles, bird boxes and bat nest boxes.

Legal Considerations

The Fenn Bell Conservation Project Environmental and Sustainability standards of the site must comply with current and applicable laws, legislation and regulations. We will consider foreseen compliance obligations including regulations, official codes of practice and other requirements related to the environment and its protection and other standards of relevance to the zoo industry.

When working with other contractors we will ensure they are both compliant and demonstrate a professional respect for environmental impacts when working on our premise.

We commit to maintaining an Environmental Management System in line with the requirements of ISO14001.

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Managing the Environment

Here at the Fenn Bell Conservation Project, we are committed to protecting the environment by:

- Ensuring that environmental issues are always considered when making decisions.
- Reviewing all activities, products, and services to identify, quantify and evaluate their environmental impact.
- Ensuring that new developments are operated, designed and constructed to optimise their environmental performance.
- Improving habitats on our site for the benefit of native species of fauna and flora, including adding plants into our enclosures to enhance biodiversity on site.
- Monitoring biodiversity on our site by joining management schemes and campaigns such as BIAZA's Spotted on Site.

Resources & Purchasing

When purchasing products and resources for development of areas on site we ensure that:

- We demonstrate efficiency in the use of energy, water and material resources from sourcing to end of use, thereby assisting in the conservation of these resources.
- Any and all products used or derived from natural resources, such as timber and plants, are from sustainable sources. As well as complying with UK, EU and international trading rules such as CBD and CITES.
- We purchase environmentally preferable goods and services where appropriate. We also encourage suppliers and manufacturers to improve their offering in this regard at competitive prices.

Ethical considerations

We will ensure environmental concerns and sustainability is treated as a priority; however, it will be carefully balanced against both our financial, commercial and animal welfare needs.

Involved Persons, Responsibilities and Training

The Fenn Bell Conservation Project educational programmes provide opportunities for visitors of all ages to further their understanding of environmental issues and sustainable development.

The Fenn Bell Conservation Project encourages all staff to keep up-to-date on relevant environmental issues and offers chances for all staff to attend CPD courses to enhance their knowledge on effective management of environmental impacts.

The Fenn Bell Conservation Project does not exclusively separate out the responsibilities of managing the environmental impact of our operations. Sustainability and environmental compliance should be considered by all staff as a priority within their role. The Environmental and Sustainability Policy has been communicated and made available to all

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members of staff and volunteers. All staff, volunteers and relevant personnel are expected to follow this Environmental and Sustainability Policy and to act in a manner that is coherent with its principles. This policy will be reviewed whenever significant changes occur which will be communicated with all staff members.

Moving Forward

At The Fenn Bell Conservation Project, we are committed to reducing absolute greenhouse gas emissions in line with global aim to achieve net zero for all residual GHG emissions by 2035. In addition, we are committed to align our practices to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals as adopted by the UN. To ensure we reach our commitments we have set ourselves aims we would like to achieve in the next 10 years. Our aims are the following:

- Convert to complete renewable energy on site.
- Reduce non-reusable plastic products within our giftshop by switching to sustainable wooden and recycled plastic options.
- Decrease the business' carbon footprint by sourcing local for all aspects of the business, including the pub, restaurant and gift shop.
- Optimise the biodiversity value and function of land managed by The Fenn Bell Conservation Project in the UK, to complement national biodiversity strategies.
- Manage the design and construction of new enclosures, and refurbishment of our existing enclosures and buildings, to minimise environmental impact and embed sustainability principles from the outset.
- We aim to engage with local community projects that aim to reduce local poverty and hunger, in conjunction with goals 1, 2 & 3 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.