

Environmental Policy



Argyll Estates recognises its responsibility for the environment and will ensure compliance with all relevant current and future legislation. Where appropriate, we will also endeavour to be compliant with appropriate codes of practice.

We are committed to minimising the environmental impact of our operations and continue to operate side by side with our neighbours and stakeholders. In particular, we will achieve this through our commitment to:

- comply with all relevant legislation and regulations;
- improve resource efficiency (including our use of water, energy and raw materials);
- regularly review the environmental impact of our activities, endeavour to reduce our overall environmental impact and prevent waste using best practice techniques;
- review and enforce our sustainable procurement policy to align with good practice;
- source produce locally, where possible;
- work with key suppliers to encourage them to develop environmental best practice; and
- sustain a programme of continual improvement in environmental performance incorporating suitable measurement and monitoring mechanisms.

The company will foster environmental awareness and understanding in all employees, suppliers, customers and subcontractors. Where practicable, the company will provide information and assistance to customers on environmental issues arising from its products and services.

Improvement will be continuous, and the company will report internally and externally on its progress against its goals and objectives.

Improvements

Argyll Estates has improved its environmental impact in the following ways:

- Biomass plant installed to replace oil-fuelled boiler
- Installed dual-flush and auto-flush toilet systems
- Installed auto-stop taps in visitor toilets
- Replaced paper handtowels with energy efficient hand dryers
- Most light fittings now replaced by energy efficient lookalikes
- Paper bags replaced most of our plastic bags in 2012 in Gift Shop/Tearoom
- Paper/cardboard/glass recycling bins around outside visitor areas
- SSE Hydro scheme on the Estate
- Scottish Power Windfarm on the Estate
- Community turbine and hydro scheme on the Estate
- Recycling used printer cartridges and returning to manufacturer.

Action Plan

Argyll Estates has set out the below items that it recognises needs improvement:

- Complete install of energy efficient light fittings
- Electric car charging points will be installed in future
- Hydro scheme has approval and planning permission
- Replace electric heaters and use only the highest rated energy efficient oil heaters
- Phase out cleaning products where the ingredients include Phosphate or Chlorine
- Improve access to recycling bins inside the Castle.