

**Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience
Environmental Policy Statement 2017**

Energy Management

- The majority of our air conditioning and heating requirements come from a renewable energy source in the form of ground source heat pumps.
- Our electricity supplier is Airtricity who provide a percentage of renewable energy.
- We use energy efficient LED bulbs
- Gas & Electricity usage are monitored closely and every effort made to save energy where possible. This includes turning off appliances when not in use and having equipment serviced regularly.
- Our Electricity usage target for 2017 is .34 kWh per visitor.
- Our gas usage target for 2017 is 3.5 litres per €1000 of Cliffs View Café Revenue.

Waste Management

- Segregated bins are in place for both visitor and operational use
- We endeavor to minimise waste by evaluating operations and ensuring they are as efficient as possible.
- Organic waste is composted and, where possible, waste is sent for recycling.
- Compostable packaging and coffee cups & lids are used in the Cliffs View Café
- Regular litter patrol conducted by staff as part of daily duties. All staff are encouraged to pick up any litter they see.
- Having increased our recycling rates year on year for the past 8 years, we have set the target for 2017 at 58%

Water Management

- Waterless urinals and motion sensor taps in the public toilets reduce water usage.
- Water meters are regularly monitored to help identify any leaks.
- Our target for 2017 water usage is 6.5 litres per visitor.

Conservation

- The Cliffs of Moher are a **Special Protected Area (SPA)** under Irish & EU legislation.
This includes the area outside the walls as well as the cliff face. As part of an ecological reconstruction of the SPA closest to the visitor centre the damaged cliff top habitats were reseeded during the construction stage with local cliff top grass seed which had been harvested by hand during the two autumns prior to the construction phase. Visitor flow is managed to discourage visitors from entering the protected areas. We are committed to environmental conservation and education.
- We are a member of **Leave No Trace Ireland** and promote the objectives of this movement to our visitors. Staff have received certified Leave No Trace Awareness training
- We support environmentally sustainable tourism, with discounted admission charges for visitors arriving by bicycle or public transport or hiking.

Supporting our Local Community & Economy

- Where possible, the food for the restaurant and café are sourced locally.
- As one of the most popular visitor attractions in the west of Ireland, we are committed to promoting other attractions and local businesses in the area.
- We are involved in fundraising for local charities and are a major employer of local people in the community directly employing 40 staff on a year round basis and further seasonal staff. The centre (including tenant operations) provides direct employment for close of 100 staff at peak season.
- We are a member of the Burren Eco-Tourism Network of 50+ tourism related businesses committed to sustainable tourism in the area.
- We are actively involved in the Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark and have subscribed to the Geopark Code of Practice for sustainable tourism.

Our enthusiastic and committed **"Green Team"** is made up of staff from all workgroups and businesses operating at the **Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience** and meets regularly to discuss initiatives and results. If you have any suggestions how we can continue our efforts to please do not hesitate to contact a member of staff with your feedback.