



SUSTAINABLE TOURISM WALES ENERGY RESOURCE PACK

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WHY ENERGY EFFICIENCY IS IMPORTANT

Throughout the hospitality sector alone, UK businesses spend in excess of £1.3 billion in annual energy costs. But what is it that costs so much and what can be done to reduce this amount? To reduce your energy use and make financial savings, you will need to know how much energy you are using, and more specifically, where you are using it.



> TALKING TO YOUR TEAM

Never underestimate the importance of regular team briefings as it's very easy to let things slip. Including energy efficiency as a standard agenda item will help to embed habitual changes and encourage shared responsibility and accountability.

- Introduce mandatory reviews of energy use
- Create daily reporting tasks for staff – include excessive heating, defective doors and windows and unnecessarily left on lighting and equipment.

> TALKING TO YOUR VISITORS

Promoting and showcasing your sustainable practices will earn you green points. As well as promoting your own practice, encourage visitors to act by:

- Turning the heating down when the room gets too warm
- Opening windows rather than using the air conditioning
- Switching off lights and appliances when leaving the room

Did you know that 4 out of 5* people describe themselves as likely to choose a brand with a positive approach to environmental sustainability?

3 Lighting is Key

Keeping windows, skylights, and light fittings clean is key. Without regular maintenance lighting levels can fall by up to 30%. By installing the energy efficient lighting, you will save money and reduce your carbon emissions.

1 Optimise Your Systems

Heating, ventilation and cooling systems consume most of the energy used, especially in businesses that offer accommodation services. By making even the smallest of changes it is possible to save up to 20% on heating costs alone.

2 Reduce Draughts

Ensure that windows and external doors are closed when the heating is on, and encourage guests to follow suit. Keep your curtains and blinds closed at the end of the day during the winter months to help retain heat overnight.

4 Improve Building Fabric

Around two thirds of heat from a typical hospitality building is lost through the building fabric, such as walls, floors and ceilings. Consider the improvements that can be made to your premises when upgrading systems.

5 Insulate Appliances

Insulating appliances is an essential step to energy saving. By insulating ducts, walls, heating ventilation, cooling systems and water pipes you will significantly reduce energy consumption.

FUNDING OPTIONS

A number of banks offer green business finance with various eligibility criteria and loan sizes. Our resource efficiency advisors are available for you to talk through your needs. Here's a short list of where you can access finance:

- Development Bank Wales
- British Business Bank
- HSBC Green SME Fund
- NatWest – Green Loans
- Barclays Green Loan
- Virgin Money Sustainable Business Loan

QUICK ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE

1

Turn down the thermostat.
The ideal room temperature is between 19° & 20°.

2

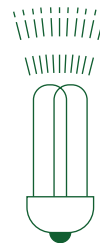
Measure and monitor your energy usage to see where you can make savings.

3

Check your water pipes to see if they need insulating!

OPTIONS

LED light bulbs last up to 70% longer than standard bulbs, so why not switch to these if you don't use them already?



Placing 'switch off' stickers above light switches can encourage behaviour change; the more often they are seen, the quicker your staff and customers habits will change.

Help to keep the heat in by sealing unused doors and windows, to further reduce draughts. For your hotel rooms, you can add draught excluders as well.



RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Business Wales - Energy Efficiency

The Carbon Trust: Saving energy without compromising comfort

Guide to energy efficient lighting - Energy Saving Trust

The Carbon Trust

Energy advice, guidance and cost calculator for businesses

If you would like further support on introducing energy saving measures into your business, get in touch with our team today.

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