

# **Environmental Policy**



The Scottish Golf Environment Group (SGEG) recognises that while representing the Scottish Golf Union (SGU) and its 550 plus member golf facilities, it has a unique responsibility in respect of protection of the environment.

Through its funding from the SGU, the R&A and Scottish Natural Heritage, SGEG will promote Environmental Best Practice and Sustainability in Nature Conservation, Sustainable Turfgrass Management, Landscape and Cultural Heritage, Water, Waste and Energy minimisation and efficiency to all SGU Member Clubs, new golf developments and associated organisations.

SGEG will aim to minimise the environmental impact of its own activities and demonstrate its commitment to integrating high standards of environmental responsibility into all of its own everyday management and operations.

The Project Manager has the responsibility of ensuring that the following internal policy principles are implemented and that performance is monitored:

## **Legislation**

SGEG will ensure that as a minimum it will identify and comply with all relevant environmental legislation and any other voluntary or binding requirements to which it subscribes.

## **Waste and Energy**

SGEG will promote waste minimisation and optimise the efficient use of energy within its own workplaces through the SGU Green Office Policy. It will encourage re-use or recycling wherever possible and support the use of energy from sustainable renewable sources, whenever appropriate.

## **Purchasing and supplier performance**

Through its procurement policies and practices SGEG will require its suppliers of goods and services to operate to high environmental performance standards. As stated in the SGU Environmental Policy, suppliers will be asked to demonstrate their commitment to environmental best practice where appropriate. SGEG will specify wherever practicable the purchase of more sustainable products and office supplies.

## **Transport and travel**

SGEG will encourage the use of car sharing, public transport and home working by its employees where appropriate. It will encourage the use of systems such as teleconferencing as a substitute for travelling and it will address the issue of energy use and emissions from all company vehicles.

## **Biodiversity**

SGEG will lead by example by assisting the SGU in delivering benefits for biodiversity through management of its grounds and buildings, both owned and leased.

## **Golf Event Management**

SGEG will encourage the SGU to follow Scottish and European guidelines to ensure that all its Events are planned and run with minimal impact on the environment while being cost effective.

## **Communication and Education**

SGEG will communicate openly about its environmental policy, plans and performance. It recognises the contribution made by its staff to achieving these goals and aims to motivate employees to conduct their operations in an environmentally responsible manner. SGEG will take a lead in raising the level of public understanding of environmental issues within the Golf Sector.