



## Environmental Policy Statement

At Lady Gregory Hotel, Leisure Club & Beauty Rooms, we are truly committed to working towards becoming a green hotel by playing our part in achieving environmentally friendly surroundings for all of our staff and guests.

### **Working Together**

We collaborate with all stakeholders to collectively develop the Geopark as a sustainable tourism destination. We attend as many training and networking events as possible throughout the year, we participating as actively as we can with subgroups formed from Burren Eco Tourism Network, and we enthusiastically avail of all opportunities presented in the form of training and courses that help us all collectively achieve our goals.

### **A cared-for landscape**

We actively participate in conserving our natural and cultural heritage through the promotion of the principle of Leave No Trace.

### **A well-understood heritage**

We offer quality information and interpretation to communicate our stories and the unique character of our place to guests. We achieve this through information on our region being readily available on our website so future guests are aware of the wealth of heritage they can enjoy in our region. Guests once they are at the property have access to the local knowledge of our staff as well as a well-stocked Burren.ie information stand

### **Vibrant Communities**

We work to ensure that tourism makes a positive social contribution so that it benefits our community as well as our guests. This involves actively support local groups such as our recent sponsorship and host of the Vicki Phelan Campaign and Portrait Tour for Gort Cancer Support who deliver vital services to clients in the South Galway & North Clare regions.

### **Strengthened Livelihoods**

We contribute to the local economy by maintaining and supporting local employment, by sourcing services and produce locally wherever possible, and by engaging with other businesses in promoting our region as a sustainable tourism destination.



### **Sustainable tourism management**

We work to an Environmental Action Plan, which includes actions and targets for improvement that are reviewed annually. We have effective systems for monitoring and adequately managing our waste, water, wastewater, energy, travel impact and purchases.

At Lady Gregory Hotel, we are dedicated to reducing our environmental impact and championing sustainable hospitality. Our most significant achievements to date include major investments in renewable energy and smart technology to power and optimize our operations.

#### **Harnessing Solar Energy for a Greener Future**

As part of our commitment to sustainability, we successfully installed a state-of-the-art, roof-mounted solar panel system in 2025 to generate clean, renewable energy for the hotel. This system significantly reduces our dependence on fossil fuels, lowers our carbon footprint, and contributes to a more sustainable future. By integrating solar power into our daily operations, we are taking a proactive approach to energy efficiency while maintaining the highest standards of guest comfort and service.

#### **Optimizing Energy Use with Smart Heating Controls (2025)**

In 2025, we also implemented a smart heating control system throughout the hotel to optimize energy consumption. This advanced system ensures that heating is automatically adjusted based on occupancy and usage patterns, preventing unnecessary energy waste. By intelligently regulating temperatures in guest rooms and common areas, we enhance guest comfort while significantly reducing our overall energy usage.

### **Other Key Sustainability Initiatives**

- **Energy-Efficient Pool Management:** In addition to upgrading our pool heating system in 2023, we have installed a high-performance pool cover to minimize heat loss and reduce energy consumption. This enhancement also conserves water by reducing evaporation
- **Elimination of Single-Use Plastics:** We have removed all single-use plastics, including mini toiletries, in favour of more sustainable alternatives.
- **E-invoicing & Digital Communication:** To minimize paper consumption, we prioritize electronic invoicing and online communication.
- **Energy Efficiency:** Motion-activated lighting has been installed in public restrooms and back-of-house staff areas to optimize energy use.



- **Waste Management:** A comprehensive waste segregation program is in place to reduce landfill contributions
- **Resource Conservation:** We adhere to the principles of reduce, reuse, and recycle to minimize resource consumption.
- **Equipment Maintenance & Upgrades:** Regular servicing of major plant equipment ensures operational efficiency, including the recent upgrades to our pool heating system.
- **Sustainable Procurement:** Wherever possible, we bulk purchase to minimize packaging waste and prioritize locally sourced meat, fish, and vegetables to support regional suppliers and lower our carbon footprint

Through these initiatives, we are setting a benchmark for responsible tourism while offering our guests a more eco-conscious and enjoyable stay.

*"Our goal is to reduce our carbon footprint while maintaining guest comfort and ensuring the efficiency of our operations. We achieve this by implementing sustainable practices that improve energy consumption, minimize waste, and reduce water usage wherever possible. As a member of the Burren Ecotourism Network, we benefit from invaluable resources, expert guidance, and the support of industry leaders. This collaboration plays a crucial role in helping us achieve our sustainability goals."* **Aileen O'Grady - Company Director**