

# Green Policy and Social Responsibility Statement

At Whitekirk Hill, we strongly believe in eco-friendly values in the way we run the business, not least our new range of low impact lodges. We believe that we must do everything possible to reduce the negative impact we have on the environment without compromising the experience that we offer to our members and guests alike. Tree planting coupled with sustainable grass and woodland management over 140 acres of our grounds are just a few of the steps we are taking to offer the best possible experience to our guests and local community.

We are committed to providing a high-quality goods and service whilst maintaining the local environment. We make special efforts sourcing our goods and services locally to support the East Lothian and Scottish economy, whilst maintaining good relationships with suppliers. In addition, we continuously adhere to special procedures to minimise the environmental impact of our activities, including improving our management of heat, light, power and water, conserving energy where possible and raise our staff & guests' awareness of their environmental impact whilst staying or working with us.

## Main facilities contribution to reduce our environmental impact:

- We provide seasonal menus whilst continuously sourcing food and drink locally wherever possible, thereby reducing our food miles.
- We aim to reduce our carbon footprint year on year by monitoring our output of pollution, emissions, waste and by controlling heat, light, and power consumption.
- We train, encourage and support employees to value and participate in sustainable business practices.
- We expect similar environmental standards from suppliers and contractors we use.
- We encourage, inform, and assist visitors to reduce their impact on the environment whilst staying at Whitekirkhill and when they leave.
- We work closely with the local community and support local charities and groups
- We encourage staff to think Green and train them in sustainability
- We Encourage Green tourism through all of our onsite walking and cycling trails as well as children's educational courses run throughout the year.
- We have installed a large solar field on our main facilities roof to reduce power consumption.
- We have installed 4 EV charging points made available free of charge to our guests to encourage travel by electric vehicles.

- We have installed bus stops to actively encourage visitors to use public transport when visiting us.
- We have provided generous bike storage facilities to encourage visitors to cycle to Whitekirkhill.
- We use local contractors for our ongoing building maintenance and lodge construction
- We try to reduce our plastic consumption to do our bit to stop microplastics polluting the sea and non-degradable plastics from going to landfill and have started phasing out items such as plastic straws, toothpicks, plastic dog waste bags.
- We operate a low input grass and woodland management system over our 140 acres of grounds to lower inputs such as petrol and diesel and to encourage habitat for wildlife to thrive.

## Our Lodges – Green credentials

All 9 of our recently completed Lodges boast the following.

- Designed to cause minimum ground disturbance.
- LED lighting throughout to reduce power consumption
- Air source heat pumps installed.
- Lodges orientated to provide maximum solar gain
- Triple glazed
- Maximum insulation levels
- Designed to passive house principles
- Waste recycling
- MVHR air handling systems
- Rainwater harvesting
- Unused food and beverages left by our lodge guests are collected and donated to the East Lothian Food Bank.