

Environmental Policy

At The Gonville, we care passionately about our environment and advocate the use of environmentally responsible practices in our daily operations. Sustainability is a priority for our business, and this policy ensures our operations are carried out with a commitment to protecting and enhancing the environment wherever possible. As a hotel based in central Cambridge, we especially recognise the need to preserve our environment and biodiversity due to the impact we have on the health of our local ecosystem and the well-being of our community.

Beyond this, we recognise that our activities have an environmental impact as part of the global tourism industry. We acknowledge the need to implement long-term sustainable management practices throughout our business to actively contribute to reducing the impact of the hospitality industry at a local, national and global level.

This policy has the full support of Craig Vines, General Manager.

At The Gonville Hotel, we are committed to:

- Complying with environmental legislation, with a commitment to reducing the carbon footprint of the hospitality industry.
- Ensuring environmental concerns are integrated into decision-making at all levels of the business, as well as promoting collective attitudes towards safeguarding the environment.
- Preventing and monitoring the use of harmful chemicals within daily operations, including chemical cleaning products, air pollutants and pesticides.
- Contributing to the local community and local efforts to combat environmental damage within Cambridge.
- Contributing to the international community and global efforts to combat environmental damage, helping to reduce the carbon footprint of the hospitality industry.
- Monitoring our carbon footprint with a view to reducing and minimising it over time.
- Measuring and managing the consumption of resources and the waste generated by the hotel, with a view to reducing environmentally damaging practices.
- Managing water and energy consumption, reducing single-use plastics and improving recycling.
- Being open and informative about our sustainability journey, while working with the hospitality industry to improve practices universally.

- Creating and meeting target dates for our environmental reduction commitments.
- Preserving biodiversity in and around the hotel grounds, as well as within the local community.
- Using organic, eco-labelled, Fairtrade and seasonal products wherever possible.
- Limiting and monitoring food miles.
- Encouraging guests to participate in the hotel's environmental initiatives.
- Raising awareness of environmental and sustainability issues through regular staff training and guest-facing information.
- Applying circular economy principles.
- Promoting green travel to team members and guests.

Social and Cultural Commitment

At The Gonville, we are committed to:

- Upholding our labour and recruitment commitments, including compliance with the Equality Act 2010 and the Modern Slavery Act 2015. We maintain an unbiased recruitment process without discrimination and provide a safe and secure working environment.
- Providing benefits for our staff, including food and drink during shifts, access to the Hapihub site and a complimentary one-year stay.
- Conducting risk assessments as part of our Health and Safety Policy and Crisis Management Plan.
- Maintaining an anti-corruption and anti-bribery policy.
- Opposing commercial, sexual and any other form of exploitation or harassment, particularly involving children, adolescents, women, minorities and other vulnerable groups.
- Supporting the equal treatment and rights of all people.
- Recruiting staff across all positions, including management, without discrimination on the grounds of age, race, gender, religion, disability, socio-economic status or other protected characteristics, while encouraging applications from local residents and underrepresented groups.
- Engaging with the local community and encouraging positive relationships between the hotel, its team and its guests.

- Exploring our hotel supply chain and striving to work with more local suppliers.
- Maintaining a green and ethical procurement policy.
- Informing suppliers of the hotel's sustainability commitments and requesting information about their own sustainability practices to assess whether they meet comparable standards.
- Maintaining a Green Team at the hotel to keep staff informed and ensure initiatives continue to progress.
- Supporting the establishment's involvement in sustainable tourism planning and management locally.

Our Current Green Journey

Here at The Gonville Hotel, nestled in the heart of Cambridge and proud to be a four-star establishment, we believe that exceptional hospitality is about more than just service; it is about giving and caring.

We understand our responsibility to our local community and environment. This policy is a testament to our commitment to Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) principles. It guides our actions today and shapes our aspirations for tomorrow, reflecting our dedication to making a positive impact through every guest experience and every decision we make.

We have also partnered with Green Tourism to help ensure we meet and exceed industry standards while proudly promoting our commitment to sustainability.

Green Tourism (<https://www.green-tourism.com/>) is an internationally respected accreditation programme offering bronze, silver and gold awards. These awards are recognised worldwide as indicators of good environmental practice and provide a way to progress on our sustainability journey, while acting as a hallmark of green quality for environmentally conscious visitors. The Green Tourism certification programme promotes a greener, cleaner environment for people, places and our planet.



Final Statement

At The Gonville, our dedication to environmental stewardship is unwavering. We wholeheartedly endorse environmentally responsible practices in our daily operations, prioritising sustainability as a cornerstone of our business ethos.

This policy underscores our commitment to safeguarding and enhancing the environment in every aspect of our operations. Situated in the heart of Cambridge, we understand the profound importance of preserving our local ecosystem and biodiversity, recognising our role in supporting the well-being of our community.

Moreover, as a member of the global tourism industry, we acknowledge our responsibility to implement sustainable management practices that mitigate our environmental footprint. Through proactive measures, we strive to make a positive impact at local, national and global levels, contributing to the collective effort to reduce the environmental impact of the hospitality sector.

Signed by:



Craig Vines

General Manager



Lizzie Baker

Head of Green Committee

Date the policy was created / last updated:
21/10/2026