

THE CAVENDISH WINS CONSIDERATE HOTELIER OF THE YEAR 2007

The Cavendish Hotel was crowned the overall winner of the "Considerate Hotelier of the Year 2007" for the steps it has taken in reducing its impact on the environment. The hotel also gained a Highly Commended in the WRAP Waste Challenge category.

The awards, run by the Considerate Hoteliers Association, recognise hotels which are leading the way in energy, waste and water management, as well as sustainable food sourcing.

Considerate Hoteliers is an association of like minded hoteliers, whose purpose it is to encourage, assist, cajole and motivate fellow hoteliers to adopt sustainable environmentally friendly and socially responsible practices.

Ciaran Fahy, General Manager at The Cavendish commented, "We joined Considerate Hoteliers two years ago as our first commitment to being more responsible in how we operated our business. All the changes we implemented are aligned to our overall business objectives and have reduced our operating costs with little investment, other than management time to implement the new processes."

Around 60% of the materials that hospitality businesses routinely throw away could be reused or recycled. To substantially reduce this percentage The Cavendish now recycles everything from glass, paper and batteries, to fluorescent lamps, toner cartridges and waste cooking oil. The old uniforms are recycled through the charity Scope, while the bedding is recycled through St Mungo's charity.

The Green Team at The Cavendish also identified and implemented a number of new work practises, such as housekeepers no longer flush the toilets as part of guest room checks; maids being retrained to ensure that taps are not left running when cleaning the bathrooms; washing machines are only operated on the eco setting once fully loaded; and water savers have been fitted to all guest toilets.

It has been found that hotels can reduce energy consumption by almost 20% through regular staff training and small investments such as energy efficient lighting in appropriate areas of the building.

The Cavendish is dedicated to using local and organic produce wherever possible, while the hotel's preferred partners include: Belu bottled mineral water, a company that invests 100% of profits in clean water projects, Fairtrade, Café Direct, and the Duchy of Cornwall.

The hotel's latest initiative is to replace its lifts with energy efficient lifts.

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