



Sustainability Policy



SMC Conference and Function Centre (SMC) strives in every way to be as sustainable and environmentally friendly as possible and over time has implemented many “green” initiatives. This commitment was recognised recently when SMC was the winner of the Sydney City region of the NSW Business Chamber Business Awards 2015 for Excellence in Sustainability. SMC has adopted procedures to make every facet of the venue and its business operations sustainable and to generally use fewer resources. This initiative is such that SMC’s clients share in the process without any

disruption to their expectations of SMC as a quality event venue.

In November 2010, SMC engaged a consultancy to prepare a Level 2 Energy Audit Report. The report applauded the number of energy initiatives undertaken, whilst also highlighting additional opportunities to reduce energy and waste, and to enhance the venue’s “green” credentials. The report was a catalyst for SMC to identify environmental sustainability goals to be actioned. Key initiatives SMC has implemented are outlined below.

VENUE

SMC’s policy is to offer only the appropriately sized venue space for each event as well as to ensure they are not powering, lighting and air-conditioning any areas which are not being utilised.



PAPER

- SMC has digital signage (no paper required) for all 16 meeting rooms and uses recycled ink cartridges if printing is required, and recycled paper where possible
- The introduction of paper recycling boxes in all office areas has reduced paper wastage
- Information is passed on electronically to reduce paper wastage.
- Paper usage has been reduced by 99%



KITCHEN

- Ordering smaller, more frequent quantities of perishables means that the amount of kitchen waste has been greatly reduced. This, in turn, has improved the overall quality of produce
- Buying local and seasonal foods reduces the amount of energy and cost involved in transportation
- Procurement of three main suppliers for fruit, vegetables and meat, and dry goods, who deliver less frequently each week as a result of thorough planning
- Controlled recipes reduce wastage via carefully planned menus and catering portions
- All fruit and vegetables come in crates that are swapped at each delivery, to reduce cardboard waste
- OzHarvest is contacted to collect any unused food that can be donated
- All waste - including oils - is sorted according to its recycling category
- All wastage produced is monitored daily
- Kitchen food wastage has been reduced by 25%

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Over the past 24 months, all waste has been reduced from 210,600 kg/annum to a staggeringly low 31,200 kg/annum.





POWER, AIR CONDITIONING AND WATER

- Annual reduction in carbon pollution of approximately 737 tonnes (634 tonnes from lighting)
- The building is shut down each evening with the exception of security lighting
- Energy bills have been cut by \$190,000 by the installation of new lighting
- Lighting in the toilets is controlled by sensors and turns on only when a bathroom is entered, switching off automatically
- All of SMC's lighting uses low energy bulbs
- Air conditioning is turned on only in rooms which will hold events
- The remote Building Management System further controls power and air conditioning supply
- The hot water boiler is only turned on when required to reduce gas usage
- Electronic hand activated taps and altered flush cycles in toilets have reduced water usage by over 35%

SMC has achieved:

- Water savings of 35% (8232 litres per day)
- Gas savings of 70%
- Electricity savings of 79%
- Maintenance cost savings of 60%
- All of SMC's plant and equipment carry preventative maintenance programs to ensure that they work at peak efficiency



TRANSPORT

- SMC is centrally located and accessible by public transport
- The closest transport link is Museum Station (300 metres or 4 minute walk) and then Central Station (700 metres or 8 minutes' walk)
- Bicycle racks are available nearby on Castlereagh Street and Goulburn Street
- If required, delegate car parking can be found at Secure Parking station, diagonally opposite SMC. For applicable parking hours and daily rates, [click on this Secure Parking, Goulburn Street web-link](#)



SMC Conference and Function Centre is committed in its endeavours to ensure that this iconic property and its services are synonymous with best practice sustainability, and will continue to seek out ways to reduce power, lighting, water usage and wastage.