PROCUREMENT

Facts:
(1) Emergency Ambulance equipment had previously been delivered to the Brigade excessively packaged.
(2) Station groceries were purchased adding to food mile production.

Action: A green agenda has been incorporated into the tender process for Emergency Ambulance equipment. Station groceries are now sourced locally.

Achievement: The Emergency Ambulance equipment is now delivered directly with less packaging reducing the volume of domestic waste created. Local sourcing has in itself reduced CO₂ emissions from food miles.

Meet the Station

The implementation of the Green Plan would not have been possible without the dedication and commitment of both the current and retired staff in Kilbarrack Fire Station. Firefighters and Officers have bought into the idea of a shared responsibility for their Fire Station and this ethos is reflected in the behavioural changes in the staff which has been a fundamental driving force in the success of the Green Plan.

KILBARRACK FIRE STATION HAS REMOVED THE “WE MUST DO SOMETHING” APPROACH AND REPLACED IT WITH ACTUAL ACTIONS AND SUSTAINABLE TECHNOLOGIES.

The Oak Tree planted in Dublin Fire Brigade’s Commemorative Garden, Kilbarrack Fire Station

For further details please email us at fire@dublincity.ie

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About the Green Plan

Dublin Fire Brigade is committed not only to delivering an efficient and effective Fire, Emergency Ambulance and Rescue Service but also it is the Brigade’s vision to become world leaders of sustainability and recognised for their championing of energy and water consumption reduction, waste prevention, biodiversity protection and impacts on society. We intend to maximise our low carbon future and to empower people to effect change in our Fire Brigade and the local community itself.

To achieve this vision Dublin Fire Brigade has created a Green Plan which embraces a sustainable approach that will use world’s best practices, forward thinking and new technologies to:

- Significantly reduce energy and water consumption:
- Prevent and reduce the volume of domestic waste created:
- Save money by reducing the energy costs by up to 80%:
- And to create a Carbon Neutral Fire Station that can trade Carbon Credits.

Kilbarrack Fire Station has been named as the Flagship in the Sustainability Report 2010 for Dublin City Council and is fully aligned with the sustainability policy objectives as set out by the Corporate Plan and the draft Dublin City Development Plan 2011-2017.

Overview

The Green Plan is a means to secure a better understanding of sustainability and the production of green house gases. It is a comprehensive station plan outlining the problems identified, the actions taken and to be undertaken and the achievements attained to date under the following themes:

- Energy
- Water
- Waste
- Biodiversity
- Transport
- Society
- Procurement

**ENERGY**

**Fact:** The station used to produce 65 ton of CO₂ emissions and the gas boiler was 68% energy inefficient.

**Action:** A new heat management system has been installed with advanced controls in tandem with two new gas condensing boilers.

**Achievement:** Electricity consumption in Kilbarrack Fire Station has been reduced by 80%.

**WATER**

**Fact:** Kilbarrack Fire Station used to consume 5,000 litres of water per day.

**Action:** Rainwater harvesting system installed, which now provides the water for the fire engine.

**Achievement:** Kilbarrack Fire Station now collects 14,000 litres of water per week from the rainwater harvesting system.

**WASTE**

**Fact:** Kilbarrack Fire Station used to leak out over 10 ton of CO₂ each year through its building fabric. In addition 100% of consumerables produced in the station were going to landfill.

**Action:** The station has been retrofitted with sustainably sourced, certified wooden doors, doorframes, windows, window frames and window panels.

**Achievement:** Kilbarrack Fire Station retrofit has reduced the carbon emissions from the building envelope by 10 ton per annum. We now recycle 40% of all station waste.

**BIODIVERSITY**

**Fact:** Kilbarrack Fire Station had four key land areas that were not utilised and were difficult to maintain.

**Action:** A Biodiversity Action plan was developed and implemented for the station.

**Achievement:** Kilbarrack Fire Station now has four dedicated gardens on site protecting the eco systems that they have helped to create and nurture.

**TRANSPORT**

**Facts:**
1. Dublin Fire Brigade’s fleet has been running on standard fossil fuel diesel.
2. The station staff primarily used private motor vehicle transport to travel to and from work.

**Action:** A report on Biodiesel for Dublin Fire Brigade’s fleet was researched and produced. This report recommends the recycling of used cooking oil on site, which is then blended off site to produce 30% Blend Biodiesel.

**Achievement:** Kilbarrack Fire Station is currently piloting a trial of 30% Blend Biodiesel in its frontline emergency tender. 30% of staff now use a bicycle to travel to work.

**SOCIETY**

**Fact:** In the local community Dublin Fire Brigade’s interaction has predominately been responding to emergencies and promoting fire safety awareness. Interaction within the internal community is usually geared towards serving members.

**Action:** Kilbarrack Fire Station has expanded its role in the community utilising outreach projects and engaged the services of retired members in the biodiversity projects.

**Achievement:** The successful interaction between retired members and station staff has enabled completion of Dublin Fire Brigade’s commemorative garden for deceased members.