

The Biosphere and Wider Dumfries and Galloway Events and the Environment Charter

- **Help to conserve the natural resources of the Biosphere**

All events should minimise any negative impacts on wildlife and natural resources through **effective** waste and recycling policies, meaningful efforts to reduce or use alternative forms of energy and by avoiding sensitive sites / seasons for wildlife and biodiversity.

Sites / routes for activities should be able to withstand the anticipated visitor pressure / weather conditions.

Participants in events should be encouraged to use sustainable forms of transport.

- **Support the economy to benefit people and nature**

Procurement of goods and services should be focussed predominantly on businesses within the within D&G and the Biosphere areas of Ayrshire unless unavailable in our area.

All goods and services should seek to have the maximum environmental credentials – e.g. recognised as sustainably sourced, refurbished and recycled.

Events should encourage participants to extend their stay within the Biosphere.

- **Promote cultural heritage and local products**

Local food and drink provided at events should have positive environmental credentials and celebrate their association with the UNESCO Biosphere and South West Scotland.

Exploration of the wider Biosphere area should be encouraged to event participants, spectators and or family / friends.

- **Contribute to the health and well-being of the community**

Local communities should be involved in event planning to minimise any negative impacts and to identify opportunities to generate added value.

- **Develop knowledge, understanding and promote research**

Where appropriate events should seek to further our understanding of issues and implement actions associated with environmental and economic sustainability. **Raise awareness of the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere**

Promotions should actively acknowledge that the event is taking place in a UNESCO Biosphere that has been internationally recognised for its world class, landscapes, wildlife, culture and the commitment of local communities and businesses to operate in a sustainable way.

All events should actively promote sustainability awareness and education.

