TEACH SOLAIS FHÁNADA

Polasaí Inbhuanaithe / Sustainability Policy 2026–2027

Ár Misean / Our Mission

Faoi ionspioráid thírdhreacha, theanga agus chultúir, tá ár bhfiontar sóisialta fréamhaithe sa phobal. Cuireann muid turasóireacht inbhuanaithe chun tosaigh ar leithinis Fhánada ar bhonn domhanda chun tairbhe don phobal áitiúil.

Inspired by our landscape, language and culture, our social enterprise is rooted in the community. We promote sustainable tourism at Fanad Lighthouse globally, to benefit our community locally.

Ár bhFís / Our Vision

In the setting of Fanad Lighthouse, we are constantly reminded of the fragility of our environment and our responsibility to protect it.

We are committed to encouraging slow, sustainable tourism, helping visitors appreciate our natural surroundings, maritime heritage, Irish language and local culture.

We aim to minimise the environmental impact of our activities while ensuring that tourism benefits the local community.

Aidhmeanna / Our Aims

- To operate as a responsible social enterprise that benefits the local community.
- To reduce waste, energy consumption and our overall environmental impact.
- To support local employment, suppliers, artists and craftspeople.
- To protect and promote the natural and cultural heritage of Fanad.
- To encourage visitors and staff to make environmentally responsible choices.
- To communicate our sustainability efforts openly and honestly.
- To continually review and improve our practices.

Fuinneamh / Energy

Fanad Lighthouse is committed to reducing energy consumption across our visitor centre, accommodation and other facilities.

We encourage staff and guests to conserve electricity by switching off lights, heating and equipment when not required.

As part of our ongoing development, funding has been secured for the installation of solar panels on the visitor centre roof. This planned investment will support our longer term ambition to reduce reliance on conventional energy sources.

We will continue to explore appropriate energy-efficiency improvements while respecting the historic character of our buildings.

Uisce / Water Conservation

We recognise the importance of responsible water usage and encourage conservation throughout our facilities.

Our commitments include:

- Encouraging guests and staff to use water responsibly.
- Identifying and addressing leaks or unnecessary water usage.
- Exploring practical water-saving measures when upgrading facilities.

Dramhaíl agus Athchúrsáil / Waste and Recycling

Reducing waste is an important part of our day-to-day operations.

We have taken practical steps to reduce single-use materials, including eliminating disposable takeaway cups and plastic water bottles from our operations.

We also aim to:

- Use refillable and reusable products wherever practical.
- Choose environmentally conscious cleaning products.
- Maintain appropriate recycling facilities.
- Reduce unnecessary printing and encourage digital communication.
- Minimise packaging waste where possible.
- Encourage visitors and staff to make responsible choices.

Soláthar Freagrach / Responsible Purchasing

We recognise that our purchasing decisions can have a positive impact on both the environment and the local economy.

Where practical, we prioritise local businesses, suppliers, artists and craftspeople.

Our gift shop showcases products from local makers, supporting traditional skills, creativity and small businesses.

Our café also aims to support local food producers and suppliers, strengthening connections within Donegal's food and hospitality sector.

We will continue to consider sustainability, packaging and responsible sourcing when selecting products and suppliers.

Turasóireacht Inbhuanaithe / Sustainable Tourism

Fanad Lighthouse is located within an exceptional coastal landscape, and we recognise our responsibility to help protect its natural beauty, wildlife and heritage.

Through our guided tours and visitor experiences, we encourage visitors to appreciate the history, culture and environment of the Fanad Peninsula.

We promote a slower approach to tourism, encouraging visitors to spend time exploring the wider area and supporting local businesses.

We also recognise the importance of responsible visitor management, particularly in relation to the surrounding coastal environment.

Iompar agus Bonneagar / Transport and Infrastructure

We recognise the environmental impact associated with visitor travel, particularly in a rural coastal location.

As part of our ongoing infrastructure improvements, additional car parking has been developed to improve visitor access and site management.

A bicycle shelter is also planned, supporting visitors who choose to explore the peninsula by bicycle.

We will continue to consider opportunities to encourage more sustainable travel and improve visitor facilities.

An Pobal agus an Ghaeilge / Community and the Irish Language

As a community-rooted social enterprise, Fanad Lighthouse is committed to supporting the social, cultural and economic life of the Fanad Peninsula.

We contribute through:

- Providing local employment and supporting local suppliers.
- Promoting the Irish language as a living community language.
- Supporting local artists through exhibitions and the gift shop.
- Organising and hosting cultural, heritage and community events.
- Encouraging visitors to explore and support the wider Fanad area.
- Protecting and maintaining an important maritime heritage landmark.

The Irish language is central to our identity, and we aim to ensure its continued visibility throughout our visitor experience and communications.

Oideachas agus Feasacht / Education and Awareness

We believe that tourism can help develop a greater appreciation of the natural environment and cultural heritage.

Through our exhibitions, guided experiences, interpretation and communications, we aim to encourage visitors to understand and respect the landscape, wildlife and maritime history of Fanad.

We also encourage staff to contribute ideas and participate in improving our sustainability practices.

Cumarsáid Fhreagrach / Responsible Communication

We are committed to communicating our sustainability efforts honestly and responsibly.

We recognise that sustainability is an ongoing process and that improvements take time.

Our communications will:

- Accurately reflect the measures we have implemented.
- Clearly distinguish between completed projects and future plans.
- Avoid misleading environmental claims or greenwashing.
- Promote local producers, craftspeople and businesses.
- Encourage respect for the natural environment and local community.

Feabhsú Leanúnach / Continuous Improvement

Sustainability is an ongoing commitment rather than a completed task.

We will continue to identify practical opportunities to reduce our environmental impact, support our community and improve the visitor experience.

Our approach will reflect the resources available to us, the particular challenges of our coastal location and our responsibilities as custodians of an important heritage site.

Athbhreithniú / Review

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure that it reflects our current operations, achievements and future priorities.

Policy updated: October 2026
Next review: October 2027