



## **'Fish City'**

### **Sustainable Seafood Sourcing Policy**

**'Every profession bears the responsibility to understand the circumstances that enable its existence'-Robert Gutman.**

This policy sits within a suite of wider company Sustainability Policies which seek to examine and control the impacts the 'Fish City' business has on the environmental, economic and social fabric of not only it's locality, but a wider global view.

#### **FISH CITY SUSTAINABILITY MISSION.**

We envisage a community of responsible and educated citizens who are environmentally conscious, practice social responsibility in their daily lives and inspire others to do the same.

We commit to operating in an economically, socially and environmentally responsible manner whilst balancing the interests of diverse stakeholders.

We strive to be a leader in corporate citizenship and sustainable development, caring for our employees and customers, seeking to enrich the quality of life for the communities in which we operate, and serve as good stewards of society and the environment.

At Fish City we believe that the health and happiness of future generations is dependent on us committing to sustainable ways of living and working. We recognise that it is our responsibility to reduce any negative impact we may produce upon the environment and raise the awareness to our staff, guests and communities so that they can help us achieve our goals for sustainability.

We are committed to integrating leading environmental practices into our business and to continually explore new ideas for improving our environmental performance.

Our wider sustainability view covers a number of very practical issues. We are focusing on practices aimed at:

- Energy Management – To reduce our consumption of energy (Electricity, LPG, Fuel Oil, Diesel and Petrol) with the aim to becoming carbon neutral;
- Waste Management – To reduce the overall volume of waste as well as maximise recycled proportion;
- Supplier Management – To work with suppliers that share our sustainability commitment;
- Staff – To raise environmental awareness and make sustainability part of our staff culture; and
- Guests – To raise awareness and actively promote and encourage green tourism initiatives.

It is within this context that this **Sustainable Seafood Sourcing Policy** is anchored.

We are committed to ensuring that all seafood products used in our processes are harvested sustainably. This means that seafood is harvested at levels that maintain their availability for present and future generations.

**To achieve this, we:**

- will not serve seafood from supplies that are 'Red Rated' at MCS [goodfishguide.org](http://goodfishguide.org) (or similar assessment);
- will preferentially source seafood from responsibly managed fisheries and farms, such as those rated 1-3 at [goodfishguide.org](http://goodfishguide.org) or are certified by recognised ecolabels or standards such as MCS, ASC, Organic, Global GAP, GAA BAP (2star or better)

**Continuous Improvement.**

We aim to increase the number of MSC certified products sold.

We will partner where necessary with organisations, communities and bodies to identify opportunities to improve upon the sustainability of seafood products, even beyond that which is required by statute.

For illustration: such opportunities may be around the harvesting methods which reduce discards; distribution methods that reduce food miles; or improving handling

to maintain the quality of the product. We will seek to develop incentives for suppliers that choose to be part of this process.

### **Local and Seasonal Promotion.**

We will endeavour to source products that are harvested and processed in our local communities. Sourcing products from close to where they are sold helps to support our local communities in terms of our economic and social sustainability. Importantly it will also contribute to the environmental integrity of our product by decreasing food miles.

### **Accepted Harvesting methods.**

We will not purchase any seafood that is harvested using illegal methods.

We will use only products harvested using legal means in regulated environments and will work proactively with the industry to encourage investment in gear and technologies that reduce seafood productions impact on the environment.

We will endeavour to prioritise it's sourcing to those harvesting methods that have the least impact on the environment and the ecosystem and that have the least amount of discards.

### **Seafood education.**

We at Fish City view ourselves as advocates for the promotion of the use of seafood as a lifestyle choice. To that end, we are committed to educating our staff, customers and wider communities on seafood sustainability issues. We have a schools based programme aimed at delivering learning opportunities to local children.

Potential suppliers will be required to contribute to that programme. Strategically, we aim to promote the issue of cleaner oceans and in this respect will pay particular attention to issue of degradation of plastics (and other detritus) at sea and the subsequent effect plastic is having on the sustainability of seafood.

We will make information available to our customers and communities in a variety of engagement formats that allows them with information they need to make responsible and informed purchasing based on their own values around community, the environment and their health.

## Transparency.

In order to ensure the credibility of 'Fish City' statements, positions and actions, transparency in our Policy and Programme is essential.

For us 'transparency' means the following.

- ✓ Making the **Sustainable Seafood Sourcing Policy** public.
- ✓ Releasing annual goals and actions in achieving those goals.
- ✓ Making education material relating to seafood, available to the public which includes, but is not limited to:
  - In situ product labels and signage;
  - Websites and Social Media engagement opportunities; and
  - Public Relations and Marketing Strategy, including materials designed to support communication and engagement with the public and our target audiences.

End

Signed:



GRAINNE LAVERY

FISH CITY, BELFAST.