

Tillery Valley endeavours to take environmental considerations into account in all its activities and in the service it provides to its customers, and as such, sustainable development has become an intrinsic part of our food production processes. For us sustainable development encompasses key target areas of energy, waste, water, transport and procurement and we acknowledge a responsibility in each of these areas that goes beyond the requirements of legislation. We are fully committed to the prevention of pollution and to comply with all applicable environmental legislation.

We understand that sustainable development is an evolving process and is something that we have embraced as our company has grown over the recent past by our commitment to continual improvement. We are therefore in a strong position to take advantage of any future developments in this area.



Sustainability and Environment



Tillery Valley
Cwmtillery Industrial Estate
Abertillery
Gwent NP13 1LZ
T +44 (0) 1495 211555
F +44 (0) 1495 213839
www.tilleryvalley.com



Key Target Areas

Waste

- Tillery Valley has maintained and built on its ISO14001 certified Environmental Management System and has driven waste management to new levels.
- The site also retains its BRC certification, Grade A status which was first achieved in 2006.
- We are committed to the minimisation of waste, including:
 - Food material** – production yields and food waste are measured during each production shift and actions are taken to minimise waste based on these measurements.
 - Packaging** – Transport packaging is kept to a minimum through the use of returnable delivery baskets.
- Other resources:
 - Planned Preventative Maintenance** of our equipment reduces non productive downtime and minimises the risk of generating waste products.
- Through the supply of excess chilled and frozen products and the provision of training funds for volunteers, Tillery Valley has been working with the national food poverty and food re-distribution charity, FareShare, for over two years, to provide nutritional food to the homeless and needy.

Recycling

- Tillery Valley recycles over 200 tonnes of cardboard, 65 tonnes of steel, 95 tonnes of plastic and 12 tonnes of aluminum each year.
- Over recent years we have strived to improve our recycling rate and thus it now operates at the impressive value of between 75 and 82%.
- Through hard work by the whole site total waste has reduced by 16% YOY which equates to over 210 tonnes less per annum.
- We use alternative disposal methods for our food waste such as composting through local environmental service providers Wormtech which currently uses an in-vessel system to compost the food waste produced by Tillery Valley.
- For each tonne of food waste sent for composting, approximately 400kg of compost is produced.

Energy

- Gas consumption has been reduced YOY by an average of 31% through a range of measures and continuous monitoring.
- We utilise ammonia in our refrigeration systems which, in addition to being recognised as highly efficient, does not deplete the ozone layer or contribute to global warming.

- We were awarded the Carbon Trust certification in 2010.

Water

- Tillery Valley is committed to the efficient use of water in all activities without compromising the hygiene or safety of our products.
- We are committed to looking at environmentally sound processing alternatives wherever possible in order to reduce unnecessary consumption of water resources.
- Through a range of initiatives including hose pipe reduction and removal of a spray chilling booth, over the past year, our water consumption has been reduced by 33% and effluent reduced by 44% of volume.
- The implementation of simple measures such as limiting the water pressure at all taps and hose pipes have helped to reduce unnecessary water usage and the volume of discharge to the sewerage system.
- We have made a commitment to a continuous improvement of effluent discharge quality.

Transport

- We aim to reduce food miles by back-loading our delivery vehicles with our suppliers' ingredients wherever possible.
- Tillery Valley provides a total customer package therefore helping to limit the number of deliveries to a customer's premises.
- Vehicles are serviced regularly to ensure they operate as efficiently as possible.
- Our vehicles operate to a 52mph limit reducing carbon emissions and increasing miles per gallon (mpg).

Procurement

- We are contributing to reducing food miles by purchasing locally, when available. A close working relationship is established with suppliers in order to enhance overall performance.
- Where possible, we purchase goods in bulk to reduce food miles and support the local economy. For example, we source some of our lamb from farms in direct vicinity to the factory.
- At Tillery Valley we continually review procured products and processes to ensure that best practices are in operation at all times and that supplier activities are aimed at contributing to sustainability objectives.
- Tillery Valley Purchasing profile: 93% of our suppliers are UK-based with approximately 37% of our purchasing spend being in Wales.

The Future

Continual Improvement

- Tillery Valley is dedicated to the implementation of a continual environmental improvement plan aimed at demonstrating improvements on an ongoing basis.
- We are committed to addressing our impacts on the environment by the implementation of an Environmental Management System. As part of this system the following have been implemented:
 - An environmental policy that is communicated to all persons working for the organisation and is publicly available.
 - The monitoring of environmental performance and competence.
 - Communication of all environmental issues, both internally and externally.
 - Procedures have been implemented to identify, monitor and maintain documented data on environmental indicators such as energy consumption, water consumption and discharge, fuel usage, and waste production.
 - We have identified potential emergency situations and their environmental consequences and have established procedures to avoid and control these.
 - Quantities of Carbon Dioxide released through energy consumption and from transport that is under our direct control is monitored and recorded annually.

Sustainability matters

- Government policy is that environmental considerations must be taken into account in all the activities and services of the NHS with meal provision being one such service.
- In addition to the five key areas outlined above, Tillery Valley appreciates that as a provider of delivered meals to the NHS it has a duty to help to protect, promote and improve the nation's health. Protection and management of the environment have obvious connections to health improvement.
- Food has a direct impact on health as a result of diet, nutrition and food safety issues. Tillery Valley has worked closely with suppliers to omit colours, preservatives and additives from the vast majority of our ingredients to provide more wholesome, healthy products.
- Production processes utilised at Tillery Valley have been shown to maximise the nutritional value of our products. For example our products are aligned with National Association of Care Catering (NACC) standards ensuring the most vulnerable customers receive the nutrition they require.
- Tillery Valley will continue to recognise and address all environmental impacts produced as a result of providing a delivered meal service.
- We will monitor our actions, policies and planning activities to ensure continued compliance with all relevant environmental legislation and regulations.

Our Targets

- As part of our continual improvement plan, we are aiming to:
- Reduce total packaging use.
 - Engage with suppliers on more environmental initiatives.
 - Continue to target the reduction of key indicators such as energy, fuel and waste.

