

# Brighton Marina



## Navigating a Sustainable Course

Brighton Marina leisure, retail and residential destination attracts 8 million visitors per year. With such a high profile, General Manager Rui Gomes is keen to demonstrate the company's commitment to energy efficiency and environmental best practice, understanding that it not only appeals to visitors, but also to the marina's business operators who want to see their surroundings and rent sensibly managed.

Since 2008, the marina have reduced their annual electricity usage by 45,000 kWh, cut water consumption by 900,000 litres and achieved a 99% landfill diversion rate. Rui explains this has been achieved through quick-win measures smartly implemented. "We take a systemic approach. After researching and seeking specialist advice, such as that provided at the UTILISE Workshop I attended, we set objectives and prioritise initiatives based on payback periods. Confident then in our project specification, we go to tender seeking experienced contractors and value for money. We monitor results closely and use the information gained to feedback into the marina's wider sustainability strategy."

To reduce electricity consumption the marina focused on common area lighting. A combination of timers and movement and daylight sensors were installed to ensure lights switch-off or dim when not required. LED lighting was fitted in stairwells, shopping areas and toilets, reducing maintenance time on top of achieving energy cost savings.



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To lower water usage, Save-a-Flush bags were placed in toilet cisterns and seven waterless urinals installed in the office and public blocks. The measures saved over 900,000 litres per annum, and helped the marina scoop a Loo of the Year 4 Star Award!

### Annual Savings

#### Energy:

45,129 kWh, £14,857, 24 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>

#### Water:

900,000 litres, £2,457

#### Waste reduction:

217 tonnes, £17,000

Recycling facilities are provided for both visitors and operators. With mixed recycling services cheaper than landfill collections, income received from baling cardboard and any remaining general waste sent to an energy-from-waste plant, Brighton Marina have reduced their annual waste costs by over £17,000.

Rui is keen to encourage the marina's business operators to follow their lead. He has teamed up with Low Carbon Essentials to host a UTILISE Workshop and share experiences and advice for best practice.

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Low Carbon Essentials offers free Environmental Audits, UTILISE Workshops and Renewable Energy Studies to small and medium sized businesses in the South East. Contact for details.