



# Green Imaginate: What We Are Doing

#### Sustainable Procurement

- We minimise packaging waste and emissions by ordering in bulk, ordering greener products from greener suppliers, or buying items in local shops.
- We consider whether we could hire, borrow or share certain items rather than purchase them for our exclusive use.
- For events, we always choose vegetarian catering (which is less carbon-intensive than meat), and request that the venue does not serve food or drinks with plastic utensils, cups or straws (except in cases when the latter supports accessibility).
- Our Festival brochure is printed on Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) mixed paper which is a combination of FSC 100% and Recycled content.

### Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

- We reduce waste going to landfill by giving unneeded materials and equipment to charity shops or textile recycling, or selling or donating items through a local forum.
- For materials that cannot be reused, we recycle as much as possible, and work with our landlord and local authority to improve the recycling facilities available to us.
- We have stopped using paper towels at our premises, and use washable hand towels instead.

## Travel

- As part of our Carbon Management Plan for 2018-21, staff are choosing lower carbon forms of transport (e.g. train instead of plane) for several journeys each year.
- We do not take domestic flights, barring exceptional circumstances.
- We monitor our travel emissions through ClaimExpenses.com.
- We consider whether we need to take each trip, and consider alternative ways of achieving our aims, e.g. through videoconferencing, attending annual events less frequently, and combining multiple trips into one.

#### **Training**

- We provide an environmental induction for each new member of staff, covering office sustainability initiatives, encouragement of low-carbon travel, and why this is important to us.
- We provide an environmental induction for Festival volunteers, including sustainability at venues, low carbon travel at the Festival, and communicating the rationale behind these efforts.

#### Governance

- We have created the role of 'Climate Change Champion' on our Board, to encourage Board-level consideration of the sustainability of our activities.
- Our Risk Register includes climate risks, e.g. extreme weather events and pressure to reduce air travel impacting on our ability to programme international work.





## Producing, Production and Programming

- We do not include bottled water in tech riders, and we work with venues to ensure there is free drinking water available for artistic and production staff.
- When booking tours, we endeavour to plan the most efficient route possible, to minimise travel emissions. We aim to use electric vans for touring once the technology is more readily available.
- We consider the climate impact of bringing international companies to our Festival. We strive to find the right balance between presenting the highest quality work, providing a platform for stories from diverse perspectives and regions, and reducing our contribution to climate change.
- We try to minimise the carbon intensity of Festival productions, e.g. by scheduling them to run for longer and/or by helping international companies arrange a Scottish tour before or after the Festival, to provide more cultural value for the same quantity of long-distance travel emissions.
- We actively support the development of work for young audiences which deals with climate and other environmental themes, by artists in Scotland, which can form part of our Schools Programme. This will be a priority area in our 2021-26 Strategic Plan.

## **Funding and Finance**

- We have signed the <u>Oil Sponsorship Free pledge</u>, as we have committed to not accept financial support from any oil, gas or coal extraction or production company.
- We budget for the higher costs of sustainable choices, e.g. sustainable procurement, train travel and paying staff and artists for extra time spent travelling by train instead of plane.

## **Environmental Reporting and Legislation**

- We report our carbon emissions annually to Creative Carbon Scotland and Festivals Edinburgh.
- We have set out a Carbon Management Plan, which details how we will reduce the carbon emissions which we cause through staff and Festival delegate travel, between 2018 and 2021.
- We comply with all environmental legislation and approved codes of practice.

#### **Green Networks and Collaborative Working**

- We are an active member of the Green Arts Initiative.
- As a member of <u>Festivals Edinburgh</u> we helped shape, and play our part in achieving, the Environmental Strategy and carbon reduction plans for Edinburgh's 11 major festivals.
- We initiated and play an active role in the cross-organisation Green Team for our building, allowing us to suggest and participate in cross-organisational sustainability initiatives.
- We communicate why we take all of the above actions, to extend our impact beyond our organisation's individual actions to the venues, schools, audiences and wider arts sector with whom we work.