



# ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

## What can we do to achieve our objects of association and care for the environment?

### Basic

- Comply with environmental legislation, mainly applicable to us are
- Emissions
- Recycling
- Noise
- waste

### Go further

When thinking about the environment we are thinking about the ecological and social implications of our actions as a company and individuals. It is key to recognise that we do not have all of the answers and that this is an evolving mindset and action plan, we are not perfect, but, if we commit to 'learning as we go' we will ensure a continued presence at the forefront of environmental care.

### Waste

Consider any materials used, follow the 7 or 8 r's of sustainability

- Rethink – e.g. what material are we using to make the set from, how are the biscuits I'm buying for the meeting packaged? The first point is to challenge our conventional acceptance that this is just what is available or this is just how it is made.
- Refuse – If unsustainable materials are suggested by a designer use the opportunity to give them a creative challenge and refuse the materials. If the biscuit packaging cannot be recycled, find a type that can...
- Reduce – before thinking about recycling, consider what is actually needed as additional resources.
- Reuse and repurpose – For the new set is there something we already own that can be upcycled for the new show? Does someone else have a set or prop that they no longer need that can be adapted in a new way. Additionally, do we own anything that could be used by other creatives? Consider donating or lending props and sets to others.
- Repair – before you throw something away, check if someone can repair it locally. It can be cheaper than replacing and contributes to local society and economy.
- Recycle – Investigate recycling options, when to use curbside pickup, the local recycling centre or an independent organisation. Sometimes the automatic option needs a rethink, consider if there is a more efficient way of recycling and/

or another way you can contribute to the environment through your recycling.

- Rot – What can be composted? How can we ensure that we are not sending compostable waste to landfill? Is there a way to operate so that nothing the company uses ends up in landfill?

### Energy consumption

- Get the most energy efficient equipment available in the budget, thinking also about the longevity of the item.
- Turn off anything that consumes energy when not in use.
- When making a new set we will consider the energy usage in how it is made.
- Where possible use renewable energy sources. Question the host organisation about their energy provider if the opportunity presents itself or you can create the circumstances for the question.

### Transport

- Can you cycle, walk, roller skate or use any other self-propelled means of getting to your destination on time and in a state to do what you need to do? If the answer is yes, do it.
- When self-propulsion isn't an option, what is the most energy efficient way? Car share, public transport, electric vehicle, smaller engine vehicle – check your options.
- Consider local opportunities for suppliers, spaces, interactions etc. travel less and use materials and goods that have travelled less. (This also contributes to the local environment and social responsibilities)

### Natural environment

- Use materials from sustainable sources that are ethically obtained and maintained. Does the product you are buying have relevant certification as sustainable and ethical? E.g. Rainforest Alliance, Fair Trade etc.
- Abide by COSHH regulations in any chemical usage and where possible use natural alternatives.
- How can the site-specific/ site-responsive work we make sit within the natural environment? Plan to avoid negative environmental consequences from project inception, having environmental considerations as part of the very first production meetings.
- When possible consider how you might offset any of your own carbon footprint, plant that tree you've always been planning to, set up the window box for your pollinators.

## Consider Local Actions and Opportunities within a Global Context

- Create work in response to local spaces, climate conditions and found materials.
- Perform in public spaces that are easily accessible.
- Be inspired by reusing, upcycling, and sharing resources.
- Substitute generic set elements with localised resources.
- Address global issues through local and personal stories.
- Challenge the mindset of 'what can I do to mitigate damage' and engage with actions and processes that can leave a positive impact.

## People

- Encourage active engagement with the environment and support others to do the same.
- Create environments that are safe physically, mentally, and environmentally.
- Work towards a less hierarchical model and strive for a collaborative process and way of being that endorses creativity over competition.
- Build engagement with individuals, artists, and communities to foster shared practice and resources.

## Follow up

- This should be a living document able to respond to best practice and new thinking.
- Policy, strategy and actions will be audited annually, as an additional measure Environment will sit as an ongoing agenda item for all general directors and members meetings
- All staff, volunteers and members will be provided with access to the policy and where needed guidance provided through the appropriate or nominated person.

## In Practice

- To encourage all staff and teams to think about transportation and find more sustainable ways to travel
- To ask that people working together bring reusable cups and bottles (TSTC will always

attempt to provide facilities where liquids can be refilled)

- To encourage those working together to avoid purchasing single use plastics and where possible bring lunch in reusable containers. (TSTC will aim to always provide facilities for cold storage should it be needed)
- TSTC will always aim to provide those working with the company a comprehensive list of local businesses who align with their environmentally sustainable ethics and aim to do this to also support local independents.
- When working in a place, indoors or out, TSTC will always provide the means to recycle waste generated.
- Where possible TSTC will promote the use of battery, wind and solar generated power and explore options to sustain working practice off grid.

*TSTC are proud supporters of the Ecostage Wales Pledge and work alongside the group to develop new and evolving practicalities for sustainable theatre making.*



Signed on behalf of the board of directors by Naomi Underwood

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