



Environmental Policy

The SeaChange Trust T/A Out There Arts is an independent arts development charity committed to minimising our environmental impact. We recognise we are facing a global climate emergency; we are putting measures in place, which we will monitor on a regular basis, to help us make sustainable environmental improvements across all aspects of our organisation and the events we deliver. As a National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) funded by Arts Council England (ACE) we are required to develop an Environmental Policy and annual Action Plan to improve our environmental performance and reduce our carbon emissions. These have been developed in accordance to the guidelines set out by Julie's Bicycle – ACE's Environmental Programme partner whose aim is to reduce environmental impacts and drive action across the arts and culture sectors.

Our Business

Great Yarmouth based but collaborating internationally, Out There Arts is a National Centre for Outdoor Arts & Circus. The focus on Circus and Street Arts grows naturally from this seaside town's rich performance heritage and provides an accessible medium for all kinds of projects and activities that helps us:

- Strengthen relations with internationally diverse communities
- Support artists and performers to develop work of the highest calibre
- Develop collaborative, ambitious partnerships to deliver new events and productions
- Build a creative workforce to support the development of street arts and circus
- Engage and support creative collaboration between local communities and professional artists to develop new work of the highest quality.

Throughout the year, Out There Arts works with communities, schools, producers, artists, festivals, and local and international partners on a number of projects. Much of this work is showcased at the Out There Festival, the region's largest free festival of street arts and circus which regularly attracts audiences in excess of 60,000 people.

Out There Arts is based at The Drill House, a Grade II listed building, constructed in 1867. The 9000 sqft creation space now hosts a regular programme of community participation activities, artist residencies and community events. Additional adjacent buildings have recently been developed to expand the capacity of our operations.

Our Impacts

We are committed to reducing the negative environmental impacts of our own activities, in particular those relating to:

- Our venue and office building: energy use and resulting carbon emissions
- Our venue and office operations: supplies, services (IT, Waste Management), subscriptions, equipment, website, consumables and maintenance
- Our festival and events: production and resource consumption including energy use, water use, consumables, services, suppliers (Hospitality/catering, equipment hire), waste management, transport/freight, travel, ticketing, merchandise, marketing assets
- Our business and audience travel: mode of transportation, frequency, distance and associated carbon emissions.

Our Commitments

We are committed to:

- Measuring our emissions, reporting and evaluating annually using the Creative Green (CG) Tools, developed by Julie's Bicycle, as well as completing the annual Industry Green Survey. Use environmental data to set out clear targets with benchmark indicators to measure our progress.
- Improving operational efficiency of our venue and office building: identifying and implementing actions to reduce energy and water use, reduce running costs, waste and increase recycling. Actions are restricted by Grade II listed building status; we will seek guidance and advice from trusted partners such as Great Yarmouth Preservation Trust.
- Fundraising for capital refurbishment to improve the operational efficiency of the Drill House and associated facilities. For example, solar panels, reduce energy costs, emissions, gain independence and new financial revenue stream.
- Reducing the impacts of business travel and staff commuting; avoiding unnecessary travel where possible, embracing a flexible work scheme and utilising digital technology e.g. Skype, Zoom, Microsoft Teams, and encouraging the use of zero or low-carbon travel modes such as: walking, cycling, and public transport. Regarding national and international business travel, where possible opting for land and sea modes of transportation rather than air.
- Work with audiences, suppliers and artists to positively influence travel choices and reduce travel-related emissions
- Integrating environmental and ethical considerations when choosing suppliers, contractors, services and sponsorship for our business and events activities e.g. choosing local suppliers within Norfolk & Suffolk, using local workforce from East of England, partnering with environmentally conscious organisations.
- Work within our networks (e.g. HSHAZ, Circostrada, CPP - Freshly Greated) to influence decision making by sharing our experiences (positive and negative), knowledge and learnings about the changes we make, sharing best practice and working towards bettering industry standards - ensuring environmental sustainability is included within the agenda and kept in mind.
- Reducing our digital footprint and IT impacts e.g. Green Website Hosting (Green Web Foundation), Website Carbon Calculator, and energy efficient IT equipment.
- Explore partnerships, initiatives, campaigns and schemes to promote and facilitate positive environmental change within our organisation such as Vision 2025, Culture Declares Emergency, FACET, Love Norfolk Hate Litter, Keep Britain Tidy, The Carbon Literacy Project, ecolibrium Theatre Green Book, Season for Change, Ecologi, Future Festival Tools, A Greener Festival.

- We are also committed to publicly communicating our Environmental Policy and Action Plan.

We are committed to working with our Board, Management Team, Staff, Suppliers, Funders and our External Stakeholders to ensure we consider and communicate the environmental impacts of our activities. We measure and evaluate our environmental performance and progress using the Creative Green (CG) Tools, developed by Julie's Bicycle for the arts and culture industries, as part of our NPO reporting requirements.

This policy is reviewed on an annual basis by our Board and is updated as and when necessary. The Policy is supported by an Environmental Action Plan. Each year we update our action plan, based on our environmental monitoring and measurement, a review of progress with our action plan from the previous year and feedback from engaging with management, staff and other stakeholders. Our action plan is reviewed and updated on an annual basis and approved by the Out There Arts Management Team.

This Environmental Policy is endorsed by:

Board of Trustees

June 2023