

# Environmental Action Plan



Updated December 2022

## Introduction

Theatr na nÓg recognises that we are in a climate emergency and that it has a responsibility to the environment beyond legal and regulatory requirements.

We are committed to reducing our environmental impact and continually improving our environmental performance as an integral part of our business strategy and operating methods, with bi-monthly review points.

We will encourage our staff, volunteers, the creative teams we work with, audience members and our stakeholders to do the same.

All employees have a responsibility to ensure that the aims and objectives of the plan are met.

# Aims

We endeavour to:

- Comply with and exceed all relevant regulatory requirements.
- Continually improve and monitor environmental performance.
- Continually improve and reduce environmental impacts.
- Incorporate environmental factors into all business decisions.
- Increase employee awareness and training.

## Approach

We have conducted an audit of all aspects of the business, examined our current position and looked at ways we can reduce our impact on the environment.

We will continue to identify ways we can move towards becoming a carbon neutral company. We will calculate a baseline for our emissions from energy, transport, and waste to track our progress. We will use the baseline of the Theatre Green Book (TGB), to form our baseline for future productions, and progress from here.

# Scope 1 Direct Emissions:

## Impact area: Transport

**Goal:** Reduce our carbon footprint, and use of fossil fuels.

**Progress:** We are prioritising our work with local venues thus reducing travel and increasing investment in that area. Public transport/car sharing used wherever possible.

### Actions:

- Follow all TGB recommendations on touring.
- When booking tours, look at the most direct route, reducing need for multiple trips

## Impact area: Gas

**Goal:** Supplied by energy companies using 100% renewable energy. Current consumption reduced.

**Progress:** Gas moved to Engie - A French company working towards more sustainable renewable energy. We have invested in our IT infrastructure to enable mobile working. This has enabled us to work flexibly, reducing our time in the building.

**Actions:** Monitor consumption monthly and annually. Set a target of reducing our energy consumption by 10% in the first year (23/24)

## Impact area: Outside space

**Goal:** To create a green space that will benefit the surrounding environment, encourage nature to flourish.

**Progress:** NPT Youth Fund funded a group of young people at Cefn Saeson School to conduct a project which involved volunteering within the community. The project was called Cynnydd, but this has not been revived.

**Actions:** Explore options to start new project involving young people in the maintaining of the space, looking at the potential for growing vegetables, and composting.



## Scope 2 Indirect Emissions:

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### Impact area: Energy

**Goal:** Supplied by energy companies using 100% renewable energy & Current consumption reduced

**Progress:** We have installed a smart electrical meter to provide more accurate usage reporting. A closer monitoring of electrical usage.

#### Actions:

- Consider moving electricity and gas whenever contracts are up for renewal to most sustainable.
- Monitor consumption monthly and annually.
- Reduce our energy consumption by 10% in the first year (23/24)



### Impact area: Building

**Goal:** New electrical appliances purchased have a minimum energy efficiency rating of A. Investment in the building so energy efficiency improvements are made.

**Progress:** We have changed lighting to LED and changed the switches to one central bank so they can be easily found and not left on. Windows are double glazed. Options for solar panels to be explored when building is fully insulated.

#### Actions:

Continue actioning the no and low-cost measures the Resource Efficiency Report produced by Sustainable Communities identified:

- Change all the lighting in the downstairs office and kitchen to LED
- Add insulation in the ceiling voids.

## Scope 3 Indirect Emissions from Organisational Activities:

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### Impact area: Transport

**Goal:** Reduce our carbon footprint. Rehearsal and showtimes optimised to allow a decreased use of private vehicles.

**Progress:** We encourage use of public transport for everyone and promote and support car sharing. We have raised issues of audience travel in discussions for shows in 23/24.

**Actions:** Electric car charging points installed as soon as there is a demand. Follow TGB's recommendations.

## Impact area: Consumables

**Goal:** All cleaning and toiletry products are environmentally friendly, cruelty free and vegan. Tea, coffee, and other consumables from sustainable sources.

**Progress:** We have switched to eco-friendly, cruelty free and vegan kitchen and bathroom products. When we are sourcing disposable items for events, such as paper cups and food boxes, our minimum criteria are that they are recyclable but ideally compostable.

**Actions:** Create a procurement policy for the company and ensure all staff and freelancers follow it.

## Impact area: Paper

**Goal:** Paper usage kept to minimum.

**Progress:** Recycled paper is bought and printed double sided. As much as possible is done electronically to reduce paper waste. This includes invoicing, contracts, booking and registrations forms. Paper free meetings and rehearsals encouraged. Notes are taken on electronic devices instead of notebooks or on scrap paper.

### Actions:

- Monitor our printing and photocopying to make sure we do not slip back to printing things unnecessarily.
- Continue to promote paperless scripts and sheet music by ensuring these are produced in compatible formats.

## Impact area: Staff.

**Goal:** Staff members are inspired to reduce their personal carbon footprint. A sustainable culture is engendered throughout the company.

**Progress:** We have added our environmental policies into our welcome packs. Staff are encouraged to use the search engine Ecosia. The General Manager has completed Carbon Literacy training and is now accredited. The General Manager is now officially responsible for Environmental Sustainability as part of their remit.

A commitment to sustainable production practices has been included in the advertised job description for the new Production Manager.

### Actions:

- Engage staff in all parts of the sustainability strategy.
- Nominate a sustainability sponsor on the board.

## Impact area: Waste

**Goal:** Single use plastic is minimal. Everything is recycled where possible. Quantity of recycling and waste is reduced

**Progress:** Staff and visitors are educated about what items can be recycled. Everyone takes responsibility to reduce their waste and recycle everything possible.

**Actions:** Improve signage and upgrade recycling collection points. Refocus efforts on the reduction of waste by considering the waste hierarchy in everything we buy. The 5Rs: From most to least desirable, Refuse, reduce, reuse, repurpose, recycle.



## Impact area: Technical Equipment

**Goal:** Only using low energy technical equipment.

**Progress:** We have worked to reduce our use of tungsten lighting and switch to use of in-house LED instead.

### Actions:

- Replace obsolete equipment with low-energy options
- Where possible, only hire low energy equipment
- Implement the actions from the TGB.

## Impact area: Digital

**Goal:** As little data stored in the cloud as possible. Efficient IT systems kept up to date. Digital emissions reduced.

**Progress:** Staff encouraged to regularly clear emails and delete spam.

### Actions:

- Raise staff awareness of the emissions of data storage to encourage deletion of unnecessary documents and emails stored in the cloud.
- Audit our IT systems for energy efficiency.
- Create a page on the website to highlight our commitment to sustainability, recent achievements, and future ambitions.

## Impact area: Productions

**Goal:** Creating productions to the highest standards and certifications

**Progress:** Incorporating sustainability into all business decisions.

### Actions:

- Theatre Green Book baseline to be implemented for future productions as a minimum.
- Track progress on various areas of productions, including transport usage, materials used.

## Impact area: Artistic Intent

**Goal:** Creating programming that educates and brings awareness to environmental issues and how to reduce our emissions.

**Progress:** Biodiversity, environmentalism, sustainability, and conversation are themes that appear in many of our

productions. In 2022, Operation Julie explicitly addressed the climate emergency.

### Actions:

- Continuing to create shows with a focus on sustainability & make sure information in these shows is accurate and up to date.
- Explore ways the company can support local climate efforts.

