



## **Environmental Policy**

*"Art and culture have a huge role to play in breathing life into climate issues and to inspire people to take action." Alison Tickell, founder of Julie's Bicycle.*

Quay Arts acknowledges the critical importance of protecting our environment now and in the future. We are committed to reducing our environmental impact and continually improving our environmental performance as an integral part of our business strategy, operating methods and through our activity programming. We will continue to promote good environmental practice with all our stakeholders and to our community, championing behavioural change and sharing knowledge and examples of best practice.

We also appreciate that the island is an interconnected network of communities, nature and landscapes, as recognised by our UNESCO Biosphere Reserve status, and consider the impact of our activities within this local setting as well as globally.

### **RESPONSIBILITY**

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that this environmental policy is implemented; however, all staff, artists and tutors have a responsibility to ensure that the aims and objectives of this policy are met and that we are all actively working towards creating a better organisation and community.

A specific environmental working group of Trustees, staff, artists, and tutors has been formed to promote, monitor, and review this policy. The group will be responsible for encouraging best practice is embedded across all activity and to ensure resilience through effective climate leadership.

### **POLICY AIMS**

***Comply – Monitor – Improve – Reduce – Promote***

We endeavour to:

- **Comply** with all relevant regulatory requirements
- Continually improve and **monitor** environmental performance
- Continually **improve** and **reduce** environmental impacts
- **Promote** to all stakeholders, internal and external, environmental awareness

## **WHAT WE HAVE DONE SO FAR**

- Reduce dependence on fossil fuels by ensuring over 50% of our electricity is from a renewable source
- Regularly maintain heating/cooling systems to operate at peak efficiency
- Reduce energy consumption by using more efficient replacements for light bulbs and lighting instruments and other electrical equipment
- Develop and implement plans to improve thermal efficiencies of our building
- Strive to be as paper-free as possible
- Encourage the use of paperless ticketing
- Reduce the use of disposable goods
- Take environmental credentials into account when procuring products
- Use local, island-based suppliers where possible
- Reduce waste to landfill by managing all waste generated through a hierarchy of reduce, reuse and recycle before responsible disposal
- Sell and promote local artists work and locally sourced products in the shop
- Use electronic communication instead of travelling to meetings whenever possible
- Deliver cultural activities with environmental topics
- Host regularly, a Repair Café to promote behavioural change to the community
- Host weekly, the Intune Upcycle Orchestra, a group for disabled adults and young people to create and play instruments made from recycled materials
- Re use event and exhibition materials where possible

## **WHAT WE WANT TO DO**

By 2027, we are committed to:

- Measure our progress and review this policy as necessary to update and revise, in response to organisational, local, legislative, and global changes
- Highlight ecological concerns in our programmes and activities
- Work towards decarbonising our buildings through energy efficient repairs, fixture replacements and additions
- Continue to communicate with stakeholders our environmental aims and successes

- Fully utilise the support, resources, and measurement tool kits available from Julie's Bicycle, ACE, The Theatre Green book, and local Council schemes to ensure best practice and effective progress monitoring.
- Appoint a Board Environmental Champion
- Work closely with the IOW Biosphere Steering committee, adopting the 9 Biosphere principles, safeguarding the Quay Arts's long history of land use in relationship with the river, its wildlife and the surrounding environment, sharing Biosphere Knowledge and supporting the target of net zero on the Island by 2040
- Use 100% renewable energy when committing to new energy contract
- Support local action on climate change
- Eliminate the use of any single use plastics in the café and shop
- Promote greener travel with all stakeholders
- Organise local litter picking activities
- Deliver a climate change themed exhibition
- Work with artists and performers to ensure best environmental practices are being carried out when delivering programme activity
- Further embed environmental responsibility into all programming: educational in-reach and outreach, exhibitions, talks and performances and our general daily operations
- Carry out a digital review on how we store our documents and policies, researching different storage systems to see which one has the lowest environmental impact
- Undertake a Carbon Literacy training course in collaboration with Creative Island and implement findings and best practice
- Empower all staff to be involved in reducing our environmental impact and energy usage across all areas and activities
- Be accountable and transparent, and where possible share and collaborate with all stakeholders