Environmental Policy Statement

Our Company and Vision

At **Birmingham Hippodrome**, we recognise that what we do today affects the environment for current and future generations. Culture has an important part to play in the fight against climate change, and as one of the UK's busiest regional theatres, located in Europe's youngest and most diverse city, we want to do our bit to create positive transformation.

We are committed to addressing our long-term sustainability across all three pillars - social, economic and environmental. As part of our Five-Year Plan (2023-28), we're investing in capital projects to reduce our impact on the environment and become more accessible - a goal we call 'Hippodrome Tomorrow'. Tackling our environmental impact will take a company-wide effort, which is why 'Sustainable' is one of our core Values.

To achieve this, we have established a continuously improving management system, which has been implemented and maintained by top management and teams across the organisation. The ISO 14001 Environmental Management System is complemented by objectives set through the framework of Theatre Green Book.

Environment Protection

To ensure the highest standard of environmentally responsible business management and meet the obligations of ISO 14001, in this Environmental Policy Statement **Birmingham Hippodrome commits to:**

— preventing pollution,

— fulfilling all compliance obligations,

— conscious and sustainable resource use,

— fostering greater awareness and respect for the environment among our visitors and the communities and organisations we engage with

— continually developing our understanding of our impact on the environment and appropriate mitigation strategies,

— continually improving the environmental management system throughout our organisation's building and operations,

— further enhancing our environmental performance by setting and meeting key objectives.

Scope

We operate an arts facility in the centre of Birmingham, receiving touring shows and staging our own produced work. We also run several free, large-scale public festivals in Birmingham. Our building is home to Birmingham Royal Ballet, FABRIC, and other tenant partners.

Across our festivals and stages, we welcome hundreds of thousands of visitors every year and engage with local communities through our education and youth theatre programmes.

Our environmental management system covers all aspects of our building, operations, and productions, driving better sustainability outcomes for all our stakeholders.

Setting Objectives

In July 2025, we published a set of 10 Commitments to environmental action based on the guidance of Theatre Green Book, the industry's leading authority on sustainable theatre buildings, operations, and productions. These objectives are backed up by a comprehensive action plan to guide our progress.

1. **Data:** We will capture and publish information on our greenhouse gas emissions to track our progress against set targets.
2. **Resource:** We will ensure sustainability is a key consideration in our procurement and implement procedures to encourage our staff and contractors to reduce, reuse, and recycle wherever possible.
3. **Digital:** We will assess and adapt our digital processes to improve efficiency and reduce our digital emissions.
4. **Training:** We will upskill our staff, empowering them to make sustainable choices in their work and encouraging innovation for the environment throughout our business activity.
5. **Operations:** We will monitor our building's impact on the environment and start to reduce this through transformative capital works.
6. **Communication:** We will communicate with our staff, visitors, and external stakeholders about our actions to support sustainability.
7. **Visitors:** We will encourage our visitors to make sustainable choices while engaging with our programme in our venue and beyond.
8. **Creative programme:** We will measure the carbon impact of our in-house productions and festivals using trackers such as Theatre Green Book or Julie's Bicycle, and make steps towards curating a varied programme which responds to the challenges and opportunities of the climate crisis.
9. **Partnerships:** We will connect with arts organisations, local government, and others (such as community groups) responding to the climate crisis to offer mutual support and share best practice.
10. **Governance and Values:** We will drive forward our organisational values through our leadership and embed sustainability into our governance structures, ensuring that the environment is considered in our key decision-making processes and all staff uphold these commitments.

We will continue to use these commitments as a framework to set environmental objectives appropriate to the evolving scale, scope, and context of our organisation's activity.

By regularly reviewing and updating these objectives we will work to continually improve our environmental management system to enhance our environmental performance.

Jon Gilchrist
CEO of Birmingham Hippodrome

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