

## Environmental Sustainability Policy

The Barbican is a world-class arts and learning centre, pushing the boundaries of all major art forms including dance, film, music, theatre and visual arts.

The Barbican recognises the impact that our operations and activities can have on the environment and is committed to reducing these impacts by setting and achieving clearly defined objectives and targets, as well as developing frameworks to achieve continual improvement.

Due to the nature and scale of the Barbican we recognise that we have a leadership role to play and are developing our systems with the ambition of being acknowledged as exemplars of best practice in environmental management.

The Barbican identifies with the definition of Sustainable Development as “Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” as set out in the Brundtland Report for the United Nations World Commission of Environment and Development.

The Barbican is a department of the City of London Corporation and works towards the City’s corporate and sustainability aims, in particular the City of London Corporation’s Sustainability Policy and Responsible Business Strategy.

### Our Impacts

The primary environmental impacts generated by our estates and activities are: fossil fuel energy consumption, water consumption, waste generation, use of materials and resources, and staff, artist and audience travel.

Given our reach to audiences and the nature of our open spaces we have the opportunity to generate positive environmental impact by:

- inspiring staff and audiences to live and work more sustainably.
- sharing best practice with arts, education and other organisations.
- encouraging biodiversity in our open spaces.

### Our Commitments

The Barbican is committed to:

- Meeting or exceeding the requirements of all relevant environmental legislation, regulations and other compliance obligations.
- Ensuring minimal environmental impact from construction, refurbishment and maintenance activities.
- Promoting sustainable procurement and efficient use of materials and resources including energy, water, materials and other resources.
- Avoiding waste where possible and increasing reuse and recycling rates.
- Avoiding, where possible, the use of hazardous materials and products, and take all reasonable steps to protect the environment.
- Promoting environmental awareness among our employees, audiences, visiting companies and those working on our behalf and encourage them to work in an environmentally responsible manner, and creating opportunities for them to take ownership of initiatives that support environmental and sustainable practices.

- Promoting artistic response to issues related to the environment and sustainability, to broaden understanding and support the creation and develop of public dialogue in these areas.
- Communicating our environmental and sustainability commitments and practices to all relevant parties.
- Encouraging the use of sustainable forms of transport.
- Exploring ways of increasing biodiversity in our estate.

### Sustainability Steering Group

The Sustainability Steering Group is made up from members of staff from both the Barbican and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Being neighbours within the same iconic listed Grade 2 Barbican estate, and sharing a number of integrated services and management responsibilities, the two organisations have developed a joint approach to managing sustainability, this being part of our 'Common Platform / Operational Alliance' approach.

The Sustainability Steering Group's mission is to ensure that both organisations make ethical and environmentally-sound decisions in all facets of the business and encourage others to do the same. The group exists to co-ordinate and communicate various initiatives including this policy and associated action plan.

The group meets six times per year and is made up of members of staff from both organisations and includes representation from the student body and senior management.

### Communication

Sustainability issues are communicated internally to staff through clear notices and guidance on the intranet, including links to any relevant policies, the Sustainability Steering Group will continue to advocate green issues, and will meet regularly to explore new initiatives along with more sustainable ways of working.

We will continue to communicate our green successes with audiences and other interested parties. Sustainability will feature on our website, which will include highlighting awards and other recognition for work achieved.

### Our Action Plan

In order to achieve our ambitions and continual improvement we will continue to develop and review our environmental sustainability action plan which sets out actions that are completed, ongoing and scheduled. Although it remains the case that we are not starting from scratch with many successful initiatives undertaken and awards received to date.

### Audit, Monitoring, Reporting and Review

Environmental impacts will be assessed and audited annually by the Sustainability Steering Group which will inform the review process for the policy and action plan. Significant findings from audits will be reported to the Barbican's Senior Team.

This policy and associated action plan will be reviewed on a regular basis by the Sustainability Steering Group who will report at least annually to the Barbican's Senior Team.

To ensure alignment and to support our strategic partnerships we will continue to:

- monitor our gas, electricity, water and waste usage, and report via Arts Council England's Sustainability Partner, Julie's Bicycle.
- ensure linkage between the City of London and the Barbican's teams.

Review Date: 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Reviewed by: Sustainability Steering Group

Approved by: Barbican Management Team

Applicable City of London Corporation Policies and Strategies are:

[Sustainability Policy](#)

[Responsible Business Strategy](#)