

Pleasance Theatre Trust - Environmental Policy

Introduction

The Pleasance is committed to environmental sustainability and minimising the ecological impact of our operations wherever possible. We pledge to take responsibility for our footprint and empower employees to make positive changes within their sphere of control to minimise any adverse effect of the company on the environment. The below policy sets out our guiding principles, our long term environmental objectives for the organisation, how improvements will be set out and reported on and information about the breadth of the Pleasance Theatre Trust's operation.

Principles

Reduce the negative environmental impacts of our activities by reducing, reusing, repairing, recycling and recovering resources wherever possible while improving our infrastructure in the pursuit of an efficient and environmentally aware operation.

- **Develop** a culture of sustainability amongst our team, our visiting companies and venue partners by placing sustainability at the core of what we do.
- **Engage** local suppliers, partners and contractors with environmental credentials to reduce the distance our products travel, and reduce any environmental impact those products and companies may have on our behalf.
- **Promote** recycling and green waste management in our office spaces, bars and Front of House areas, and productions.
- **Guide and support** our audiences, visiting companies and staff to travel by public transport, cycling or walking wherever possible.
- **Minimise** fossil fuel energy usage in our premises by moving to more efficient systems for heating/cooling, creating a travel policy and reviewing where we source our energy.
- **Limit** water usage by upgrading to more efficient facilities.
- **Reduce** electricity usage in our theatre spaces by transitioning to more efficient electrics including new lighting technologies - phasing out traditional incandescent lighting sources.
- **Divest** away from carbon intensive industries by reviewing the banking and pension arrangements for the organisation.
- **Encourage** the biodiversity of our local areas by engaging in community green projects and activity that promotes local wildlife.
- **Present** work that informs and engages audiences on the topic of climate change and the climate emergency.

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Aims & Objectives

The long term goal of the Pleasance Theatre Trust is to become a net zero theatre by 2030. This brings us in line with the targets set by our local authorities (Islington Council & the City of Edinburgh Council), the Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society and our London landlord's Workspace.

Planning & Reporting

We aim to achieve net zero by 2030 through the delivery of a series of annual action plans. Which details our schedule of aims and improvements for the year ahead while assigning responsibility for delivery.

From 2021/2022, a report on the year's activity including a carbon calculation using Julie's Bicycle's Creative Green Tools will be included as part of our annual report.

We will continue to use the Julie's Bicycle Creative Green Tool to track our carbon emissions.

Delivery of this action plan and subsequent reporting will be the responsibility of the *Sustainability Steering Group* that meets regularly with representatives from relevant departments to review our environmental impact and promote how both small and large improvements can be made. They meet monthly and are comprised of the following members:

- Alice Gorman, *Graphic Designer*
- Hamish Ellis, *Head Of Technical (Edinburgh)*
- Rosa Collins, *Marketing Officer*
- Georgie Franklin, *Box Office Manager*
- Jack Sears, *Box Office Deputy Manager*
- Greta Mitchell, *Events and Front of House Manager*
- Laura Schofield, *General Manager*
- Charlotte McShane, *Operations Coordinator*
- Dave Burn, *Technical Manager London*
- Jonny Patton, *Programmer & Producer*

This steering group will report directly to the board of trustees and have been gathering from all areas of the business to ensure that every area of our activity is impacted and included in the drive towards net zero

We will continue to seek fundraising to pursue our goal of net zero by 2030.

About the Pleasance Theatre Trust

The Pleasance Theatre Trust operate a permanent theatre year-round in London and present a programme of work at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in August. While artistically linked, each of these locations are distinctly different and our influence over decisions relating to the building, operation, utilities and any third party partners differs from place to place.

Pleasance Theatre Trust strives to make positive changes and decisions where we have direct or indirect control over the emissions produced (scope 1 & 2 emissions). Where we don't have direct influence over the emissions produced in association to our operation (scope 3 emissions), we will endeavour to positively influence stakeholders and partner organisations

Below is an overview of the Pleasance Theatre Trust's purview broken down by location and site.

Pleasance Islington

Pleasance Islington is our permanent year-round venue, which houses two performance spaces - the Mainhouse (198 capacity) and Studio (54 capacity). The Pleasance Theatre Trust are responsible for the contents of the building as a whole including the operation and infrastructure while our landlord and leaseholder Workspace are responsible for the building's shell.

Pleasance Edinburgh

In Edinburgh, the Pleasance Theatre Trust presents work at 3 main sites during the Fringe - the Courtyard, Dome and Edinburgh International Conference Centre. Each of these sites is operated slightly differently and in partnership with different organisations delivering different parts of the infrastructure. The Pleasance Theatre Trust will endeavour to work with our venue partners to make beneficial changes and improvements, however we ultimately aren't the decision makers for factors pertaining to the building, its infrastructure or utilities.

Below is a breakdown of each of our festival sites.

Courtyard

The Courtyard Site includes the buildings surrounding the main & rear courtyard at 60 Pleasance, the quaker house, the rooms at 48a Pleasance as well as the sports hall, undercroft and top floor gymnasium of the Edinburgh University Centre for Sports & Exercise. We operate 18 venues on this site in partnership with our landlords the Edinburgh University, The Edinburgh University Student Association and the Edinburgh University Centre For Sports & Exercise. Our landlords are responsible for the buildings and their upkeep, utilities and maintenance, while the Pleasance Theatre Trust oversees the building and running of the venues & box offices. The Edinburgh University Student Association are responsible for food & beverage on site, delivering this in-house or contracting to third party concessions.

Dome

The Dome Site includes the building at 1 Bristo Square and the plaza immediately outside. We operate 5 venues on this site as well as pop-up venues in the outside plaza that differ from year to year in partnership with our landlords the Edinburgh University and The Edinburgh University Student Association. Our landlords are responsible for the building and their upkeep, utilities and maintenance, while the Pleasance Theatre Trust oversees the building and running of the venues & box offices. The Edinburgh University Student Association are responsible for food & beverage on site, delivering this in-house or contracting to third party concessions.

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EICC

The Edinburgh International Conference Centre site includes the building at 150 Morrison Street. We programme 5 venues on this site, however the EICC are responsible for the entire operation of this site including the building and its upkeep, utilities maintenance, food & beverage as well as the building and operation of the venues & box office.

Training

All members of our full time team will undergo annual Environmental Awareness Training provided by iHASCO with more specific supplementary courses and sessions completed on an individual or departmental basis.

Artistic Programming

In addition to improvements to our operation, we are committed to tackling the climate crisis through the work that we showcase across our programme. Programming work which explores sustainable touring, including prioritising performance works that educates on the topic of climate change as well as stories from more marginalised groups who are disproportionately impacted by its effects.