



TINDERBOX ENVIRONMENTAL & SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Tinderbox is committed to minimising the adverse environmental effects caused as a result of its activities and will continually assess working practices with the aim to reduce the environmental impact of its programmes and operations. While this continues to help save / manage costs to ensure business resilience, meet funding requirements, and enhance company reputation, the primary purpose of this policy is to reduce environmental harm and to bring about positive environmental change.

Tinderbox is committed to continued efforts to re-use, repair, rethink, reduce, refuse, and recycle, and will comply fully with environmental legislation, where possible exceeding regulatory requirements concerning the protection of the environment.

We are a part of the Green Arts Collective, established in 2019 in Belfast to empower the arts community to respond effectively to the Climate Crisis within our practice. The Green Arts Collective meet regularly and share resources and ideas.

The IPCC Special Report in October 2018 stated that “rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society” are required to address the Climate Crisis, and we are therefore committed to putting environment and sustainability on the agenda at regular Board Meetings to explore what more we can achieve as an organisation.

Current Working Practice:

Operations & Administration

- o Employees are encouraged to cycle to work with bicycle rack and showers available
- o Travelling by train/bus or car sharing is encouraged for necessary business trips in NI & Ireland
- o Air travel is rare and when used, carbon offsetting is included
- o Office radiators are thermostatically controlled and switched off during warmer months
- o All stationery is ordered online and paper and envelopes are 100% recycled
- o Stationery items, i.e. box files, folders and lever-arch files are re-used where possible
- o Avoid solvent-based marker pens – use water-based colours instead
- o Ask suppliers to reduce packaging, complain about over-packaging where it exists
- o Refuse brochures, print mailouts and other promotional material from suppliers
- o Most correspondence is carried out online rather than post
- o Print off fewer documents for meetings and promote sharing
- o A4 paper printed on both sides where possible, with the office printer default setting as 2-sided
- o The printer/photocopier is leased and has recently been upgraded to a more efficient model, with ink cartridges removed by the supplier for recycling
- o When other IT equipment is to be upgraded in future, it will be replaced with energy efficient models
- o All old IT equipment is re-cycled through an environmentally responsible IT recycling company
- o Computer equipment is switched off overnight rather than left on standby
- o Recycling procedure is in place for paper, card, plastic and glass
- o Green cleaning products are in use



Production

- o Production budgets include a 'closed loop' budget line to help address and reduce waste
- o Where possible sets and costumes are reused and are altered / repaired rather than renewed
- o Hiring or purchasing second-hand costume where possible is always considered before buying new
- o Hiring or purchasing reconditioned equipment where possible is always considered before buying new
- o The use of stage lights and equipment is managed – they are never on when not in use
- o Resources are shared where possible with other arts organisations, such as technical equipment, props, costume and storage
- o Public transport is encouraged amongst audience members, for example social media post with bus route information for venue
- o Touring is reduced in recent years and any future increase will be subject to a review of value vs environmental impact. Measures such as the use of public transport and electric vehicles will be explored.

Marketing

- o The majority of marketing activity takes place online, through social media and email
- o Print material such as posters, flyers and programmes have been reduced
- o We are exploring the possibility of an online programme to further reduce print

Catering

- o Catering is only provided where appropriate
- o Food purchased by the company is meat-free, and vegan where possible
- o Coffee is Fairtrade and supplied by Rain Forest Trust
- o Where possible, source local good quality produce to reduce transport and packaging

The Future:

Tinderbox will continue to examine internal working practices and work creatively within the sector to reduce environmental impact and improve sustainability.

An Environmental Action Plan will be developed, using resources from Julie's Bicycle.

Tinderbox will continue to be an active member of the Green Arts Collective.

Created / Updated: October 2019

Next review due: continuous during 2020, with annual review in October 2020