

## **POLICY ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

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This Policy is set within the framework of Orchestras Live's Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan 2018-22 (approved March 2017), and is reviewed annually.

Orchestras Live recognises that it has a part to play in meeting the global challenges of climate change and securing environmental sustainability and that rapid and urgent action is needed. We are therefore committed to aligning our activities to the Paris Agreement – limiting global warming to no more than 2°C. This will impact not only on our work – delivery and operations – but also on that of our partners in the orchestral sector and beyond.

At the same time, we recognise that environmental sustainability is integral to the economic resilience and flourishing of our organisation and the communities we work with.

We aim to be a best-practice creative leader, with environmental, social and economic sustainability at the heart of our policy, planning and programmes to create high quality live orchestral experiences which are accessible to all.

Our Environmental Policy informs and guides all aspects of the organisation's work - in the provision of its services, its operations management and in its responsibilities as an employer.

### **1. Principles**

Our Environmental Policy sets out our commitment to the following principles:

- to comply with, and exceed where practicable, all applicable legislation, regulations and codes of practice;
- to integrate sustainability considerations into all our business decisions;
- to ensure that all staff are fully aware of our Environmental Policy and Action Plan and are committed to implementing and improving it;
- to minimise the impact on sustainability of all office and transportation activities;
- to make partners and suppliers aware of our Environmental Policy and Action Plan, and encourage them to adopt sound and sustainable management practices;
- to review, annually report, and continually strive to improve our sustainability performance.

### **2. Use of resources**

- Orchestras Live aims to minimise its use of paper and other office consumables.
- Where feasible, we use locally produced, recycled and renewable products; Orchestras Live encourages staff to purchase goods and services that cause the least harm to the environment.
- Office waste, such as paper, plastics and computer supplies and redundant equipment, is recycled wherever possible.
- We aim to reduce energy consumption by purchasing energy efficient equipment and not leaving electrical equipment switched on or on stand-by when not in use.
- We to support the efforts of our landlord at Kings Place in minimising the environmental impact of our office premises.
- We aim only to use suppliers that adhere to sustainable principles and minimize our use of chemicals which are harmful to the environment.
- We ensure that timber furniture, and any other timber products, are recycled or from well-managed, sustainable sources and are Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified.

### **3. Transport and Business travel**

Orchestras Live is committed to reducing the environmental impact of business travel and staff commuting.

Orchestras Live recognises that in order to service our partnerships across the country and develop new ones, significant distances need to be travelled. It is also recognised that in those areas that are difficult or impossible to reach via public transport, travel by car is often the most practical and time efficient means of transport.

Before planning meetings with partners or internal meetings within the dispersed staff team, Orchestras Live staff always consider whether a journey is strictly necessary, or whether the outcomes of the proposed meeting can be achieved by telephone, email or use of other technology such as Skype. Orchestras Live encourages staff and trustees to walk, cycle and use public transport and car sharing where possible for work related activities, bearing in mind the special needs of those with disabilities. Orchestras Live is a member of CycleScheme, through which employees can obtain a new bicycle in a tax efficient manner.

### **4. Digital technology**

Orchestras Live recognises the benefits of incorporating new technology to enhance efficiency and supports environmental sustainability. We keep abreast of new developments to:

- Reduce the need for travel by using technological solutions to facilitate meetings;
- Support better communications internally and externally;
- Improve our internal processes so that they are efficient and reduce our carbon footprint.

### **5. Creative activity**

As a creative organisation Orchestras Live has particular opportunities to influence the environmental agenda within the cultural community and wider civil society. We believe we have a critical role in working with our partners to devise creative responses that support the transition to an environmentally sustainable future.

### **Status of this policy statement**

This policy statement is reviewed annually.

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*Reviewed 15 May 2019*