

PENTABUS

Environmental Policy and Action Plan

Pentabus is the nation's rural theatre company. We are committed to producing new work & tours to communities across the UK and beyond. We are committed to working in an environmentally and socially sustainable way. We use the [Theatre Green Book](#) as a toolkit for making productions and expect creative teams, staff and freelancers to adopt the toolkit and work with Pentabus to achieve the aims set out for the production. Being green is at the heart of our work and that we continue to champion being an environmentally responsible organisation.

The company has moved from the old school, a draughty and energy inefficient building to a newly refurbished tenancy at Ludlow Assembly Rooms which is accessible via public transport. We now operate from a self-contained office in a shared and public building. As tenants we encourage our Landlords to be environmentally sustainable.

The company tours productions all over the UK. Our travel costs are significant, but we have considerable storage space which makes possible our longstanding culture of repair/reuse/recycle at the heart of our theatre-making practice. Based in a rural landscape and producing theatre that examines the place of the rural world in today's society, we believe Pentabus has a responsibility to be at the forefront of green theatre practice. We are starting from a position of strong values on environmental impact and have had a commitment to making best use of our resources for a long time. We first put in place our first Environmental Policy in 2015 with an Action Plan and ensure that we are continuously monitoring and learning for best practice.

The Executive Director and Producer will be responsible for reviewing the environmental policy and are our green champions.

We continue to monitor energy efficiency; we have created a register of materials that we use for our productions and log how we repair/reuse/recycle. Further to this for all productions we hold an environmental briefing session with all members of the team led by our Producer and Artistic Director. On our board we have a trustee who is the environmental advocate. We continue to use Julie's Bicycle's Creative IG Tools and remain closely affiliated with Julie's Bicycle as an organisation.

Last Reviewed: August 2024

Next Review due: August 2025

Our main impacts on the environment are:

- **Productions:** use of materials, waste, transport
- **Business and Audience Travel:** fuel use and carbon emissions, coupled with poor public transport options

- **Touring:** fuel use and carbon emissions

Environmental Data Collection

We will undertake data collection in relation to improving environmental performance and reducing carbon emissions in the following areas:

- Waste
- Travel – Business
- Travel – Production
- Production materials

Key commitments and ambitions

- To accurately map our carbon footprint and aim to achieve a year on year reduction in our carbon footprint across the board
- Greening our productions and tours and procurement of supplies and services where possible, aiming to better our Theatre Green Book targets & practises which is currently at intermediate level
- Making recycling the norm, and waste the exception
- Reducing business travel (i.e. increased use of Zoom etc), and using public transport as often as possible or sharing lifts when public transport is not an option.
- Opting for lower carbon transport modes when touring, where possible
- Ensure compliance with minimum environmental legislation and seeking to exceed this
- Embedding our environmental commitments with our staff, our board and freelancers
- To be a champion organisation in the region for our creative approach to environmental sustainability
- Regularly review our energy use, monitor and review regular internal targets and share our information with peers and networks.

PENTABUS THEATRE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN 2024 - 2027

Area of focus	Objectives	Date to be achieved by	Led by
Office	Recycle printer cartridges, batteries, paper, glass, plastic and tins	In place – continue	Pentabus Core Team
	Employees and Freelancers contracts to include a commitment to act in accordance with Environmental Policy and Action Plan	In place - continue	Executive Director
	Use Fairtrade tea and coffee and compost our waste	In place - continue	Pentabus Core Team
	Print only when we need to, print double sided and reuse envelopes.	In place – continue	Pentabus Core Team
	Make sure no light, heating or equipment left on when not in use.	In place – continue	Pentabus Core Team

	Order materials online and send invoices and purchase orders by e mail. Continue 'paperless' book-keeping.	In place – continue	Pentabus Core Team
	Recycle all old IT equipment	Research and identify IT recycling providers & use as required.	Executive Director
	Travel by train where possible for business trips, car sharing or use Zoom etc for meetings.	In place - continue	Pentabus Core Team
	Reduce use of plastic and encourage all freelancers working with us to adopt this practice. Always working towards zero single plastic.	In place - continue	Pentabus Core Team
	Reducing our storage due to move, ensuring repair/reuse/recycle	Ongoing	Executive Director and Producer
	Relocation of the office has implemented a reuse/recycle/repair approach. Paint was donated by Edward Bulmer Paints – a natural paint company	Completed	Executive Director
Production	All freelancers to attend an environmental briefing session at the start of a project	Ongoing	Artistic Director/ Producer
	Continue to catalogue our costume and props store so items can easily be reused	Ongoing	Producer/ Assistant Producer
	Sell on or donate unwanted costumes or props via eBay, freecycle and charity shops as appropriate	Ongoing	Producer/ Assistant Producer
	Encourage a mindset of alteration, repair and reuse rather than buy new.	Ongoing	Artistic Director/ Producer
	Encourage local sourcing of materials and ensure the suppliers list is updated.	Ongoing	Producer and Creative Teams
	Use FSC certified timber for all set and staging construction	Ongoing	Producer/ Production Manager
	Our productions are low energy and use LED lighting technology	Ongoing	Artistic Director/Producer
	Limited kit hire, and tour with own kit	Ongoing	Artistic Director/Producer
	Encourage cast and crew to travel by public transport or share lifts	Ongoing	Producer
	Use Scenery Salvage to recycle our old sets and dispose of materials responsibly	Ongoing	Producer/ Production Manager

	Remain a partner company with Julie's Bicycle. Complying with all Julies Bicycle requirements.	Ongoing	Executive Director
	Use non-PVC materials for banners and choose corrugated plastic board over foam-core	Ongoing	Producer/ Executive Director
	Minimise or prevent the use polystyrene in props	Ongoing	Producer/ Production Manager
	Provide touring company with a picnic set to encourage sustainability on tour and reduce the need for single use plastic	Ongoing	Producer
	Continue to use Theatre Green Book to set the aims and targets for each production and tour.	Ongoing	Artistic Director/ Producer/ Production Manager/ Designers
	Reduced amount of tape used	Ongoing	Artistic Director/Producer
	Company meals are vegetarian and locally sourced	Ongoing	Artistic Director/Producer
	Food served at trustee meetings is vegetarian and locally sourced	Ongoing	Executive Director
Audience	Encourage the use of news and updates via email rather than post. No direct mail to audiences since 2017.	Ongoing	Executive Director/ Producer
	Make the public aware of our environmental policy and progress through our online activities and social media campaigns	Ongoing	Executive Director/Producer
	Capture audiences' mode of transport and distances for Julie's Bicycle	Ongoing	Executive Director
Monitoring	Support the team & board with ongoing training opportunities and updates on best practice	Ongoing	Executive Director
	Trustee Lead attends ACE board only training online sessions, and shares at quarterly board meetings	Ongoing	Executive Director/Trustee
	Continue to use JB Creative IG Tool and report to the Board at all Board meetings on company position and progress, ensuring Environmental Responsibility is on all Board agendas	Ongoing	Executive Director
Sector Leadership & Collaboration	Work collaboratively as part of the Producing and Touring Companies Network to ensure the UK touring sector is proactively making changes to prevent the climate emergency and build a robust framework for	Ongoing	Executive Director

	accurately capturing and reporting on the environmental impact of touring work – ultimately to make it as environmentally responsible as possible.		
	Attend sector workshops around rural touring and sustainability, and championing best practice	Ongoing	Producer