



LEVEL Centre Environmental Policy

Updated by: Lucy Barnes - Arts Administrator/Green Team Lead

Last Reviewed: Wednesday 4 October 2023

Next Review: Wednesday 6 March 2024

- 1) About:

Mission

We celebrate the art that 'difference' makes

Vision

We unlock the unique talents of disabled creatives. We show the world how powerful 'difference' can be.

LEVEL Centre is a contemporary arts centre that 'Celebrates the Art that Difference Makes. We're open year-round with an exciting programme of visual art exhibitions and digital installations, alongside artists residencies and creative workshops in visual, digital and performing arts. We champion creativity for, by and with learning disabled people, disabled creatives and the wider community.

Everything we do has a value, our support goes beyond creativity, offering experiences that make a difference.

There is no one quite like us. We're:

- Purpose built for disabled artists
- Rurally based but with national impact
- Contemporary in everything we do
- Pioneers in accessible digital practice
- Considering access, every time
- Taking risks to create extraordinary art
- Sharing work made with a 'difference'
- Supporting wellbeing through creativity

LEVEL Centre operates with 2 full time and 2 part time employees and is based in Rowsley. Derbyshire Dales local council declared a climate emergency - **30.05.2019**. We aim to be an environmentally responsible organisation and are aided by this ambition as we have been operating in a modern, purpose built building since 2008.

- **2) Motivation for taking environmental action:**

LEVEL is a purpose built centre that opened in 2008. We are motivated to find ways to improve our building and activities by taking environmental action within our available resources. We collaborate with our funders and comply with our funders environmental policies and monitoring and use this data to inform our plans and policies.

We are committed to reviewing our suppliers annually to make informed decisions for energy savings and where possible using ethical suppliers.

We are committed to delivering 1 environmental project or awarding 1 artistic residency per year through our artist residency programme that focuses on environmental themes.

- **3) Environmental Ambition and Impact:**

LEVEL Centre's environmental ambition is to reduce our energy consumption and carbon emissions to become net zero by the year 2030. LEVEL Centre is an active participant in the Arts Council England Buildings Net Zero Energy Programme and the Board Environmental Champion Programme through Julie's Bicycle. We will achieve our ambition through building maintenance as well as responding to the data collected for the centre's operations and production.

The first review date of our targets is March 2024.

LEVEL aims to achieve the following targets by 2030:

Building:

- LEVEL Centre aims to reduce our carbon emissions by a minimum of 25.2% to 11.27 tonnes CO2e as measured by Creative Climate Tools Energy Target by 2025
- LEVEL Centre aims to reduce residual waste to landfill by 10% each year as measured by Creative Climate Tools
- LEVEL Centre aims to upgrade all lighting to LED equivalents by March 2026

Production/Activities:

- LEVEL Centre aims to report on all productions through Creative Climate Tools.

- LEVEL Centre aims to prioritise sustainable office management through e-marketing, reduced printing, online invoicing and reduced print runs. As laid out in our Communications Strategy.
- LEVEL Centre aims to create a fully integrated sensory garden by March 2026. The garden will include plants and crops that increase biodiversity and manage conservation.

Operations:

- LEVEL Centre aims to have 50% of operational supplies be from local suppliers or those with an environmental conscience.
- LEVEL Centre aims to upgrade all lighting to LED equivalents by March 2026

Travel:

- LEVEL centre aims to capture and review a sample of data on carbon emissions generated by staff and audience travel to create a strategy on reducing carbon emissions. This can then be used as an average to work from.
- LEVEL Centre will prioritise online meetings where possible

- 4) Key Environmental Commitments:

LEVEL Centre is committed to:

- Ensuring compliance with environmental legislation.
- Reporting required environmental data to Julie's Bicycle annually
- Attending seminars to stay up to date with developments and reviewing policies and guidance supplied by Julie's Bicycle, Theatre Green Book, Independent Theatre Council, Arts Marketing Association etc.
- All staff and a board representative to undertake Climate Literacy Training.
- Continuing with a Green Team of staff and board representatives that meets twice a year to review environmental data and propose actions.

- Dedicating either an artist residency or an environmental project to contribute to change and promote awareness.
- Maintaining an active membership in networks including Arts Council England Building Net Zero Energy Programme and the Board Environmental Champion Programme.
- Undertaking an annual sample questionnaire including a question on transportation methods to understand our carbon footprint.
- Improving the building's performance through essential maintenance.
- Understanding energy consumption and will display an energy certificate.
- **5) Implementation:**

This policy is supported by an Environmental Action Plan which specifies how the policy will be implemented

Environmental Action Plan can be found here:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1A_3gyGwoM_YDakgvwUd3JHOJobvrqhCX4gOIFfuEK28/edit?usp=sharing

The Arts Administrator alongside the Green Team is responsible for reviewing and updating the Environmental action plan annually.

Responsible person to review all environmental targets against data collected over this period.

Responsible person to review relevant and accurate resources/information regarding environmental legislation and update the policy accordingly.

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- **6) Resources:**

<https://zero.giki.earth/>

<https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/>

<https://bigcleanswitch.org/>

<https://makemymoneymatter.co.uk/>

<https://olioex.com/>

<https://www.savewatersavemoney.co.uk/>

<https://www.ethicalconsumer.org/>

<https://wearesail.org/carbon-literacy-training/>

<https://juliesbicycle.com/our-work/creative-green/creative-climate-tools/>