



Environmental and Ethical Policy & Action Plan

Policy

According to a 2018 report conducted by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), climate change could be irreversible by 2030 if global warming is not kept to a maximum of 1.5C, and urgent action is needed to avoid its catastrophic effects which will include flooding, species extinction and a potentially huge refugee crisis as people flee parts of the world which have become uninhabitable.

As an organisation, **sound** is committed to reducing its environmental impact and greenhouse gas emissions as fast as possible. We believe that in order to limit the destruction caused by climate change, we need to look beyond carbon offsetting and at more urgent actions and lifestyle choices.

At the same time, unfair global economic practices keep part of the world's population in poverty, and **sound** is thus committed to using Fairtrade products wherever possible.

We believe it is possible to establish and demonstrate a new, genuinely sustainable, way of delivering the arts, and we will implement the actions below to contribute to this.

Action Plan

Key principles: REDUCE – REUSE - RECYCLE

What we produce

- Brochure
 - Aim to use recycled paper for all productions.
 - Aim to reduce brochure size and reduce print run for the festival brochure.
- Go Compose / Get Composing leaflets
 - Aim to do mainly digital marketing and limit print for school music departments.
- Banners
 - Have a timeless design that means we don't need to re-skin banners every year (and only change them when they break).
 - Consider use of only one colour.
- Teeshirts
 - Produce less teeshirts and only use organic cotton. Ask volunteers who don't want to keep teeshirts after festival to give them back so that they can be reused the following year.
- Concert programmes
 - Put these online so audiences can download onto mobile devices.
 - Have poster at event with main information and QR code to link to programmes.
 - Do a very small print run with basic information.

- Ask artists to present their concerts aurally (put this in their contracts).

Day-to-day operations

- Use electronic devices until they break: use local repairers to maximise their life span.
- Look at *sust-it* website for most energy efficient models.
- Use eco-friendly devices where they exist (eg fairphone).
- Recycle.
- Reduce print generally.
- Do double-sided printing, print on recycled paper or where possible on scrap paper.
- Turn heating-levels down in the office.
- Only use flights if absolutely necessary. Team should travel by public transport and train where possible.
- Use skype where possible, if not get the train. Hierarchy: Electronic ➤ Public transport ➤ Car

Transport of artists

- Encourage the use of trains in the UK (train 1/5th carbon emissions of planes) – write to artists attending the festival to explain.
- Contact LNER and Caledonian Sleeper to try and set up some sort of sponsorship agreement.
- Avoid inviting groups or accepting invitations from places where the only means of transport to/from Aberdeen is by long-haul flight.
- Encourage UK residents and Europeans to travel by train.
- Join Aberdeen car club so that we can use electric cars for airport pick-ups etc. And/or get visiting artists pre-paid bus tickets.
- Encourage musicians to get buses within Aberdeen: reimburse only ½ of taxi costs as an incentive.
- Employ driver for festival.

Catering

- For catering purposes prioritise vegetarian or vegan food.
- Only use reusable crockery and plates: purchase mugs/glasses/plates from charity shops and jumble sales.
- Use only fairtrade products or local produce where possible (if not possible, prioritise UK then European producers).
- Use only European wine.

Projects

- Increase the number of artistic projects performed linked to climate change and the environment.
- Have a festival theme in 2021 on Climate Change / Nature / Ecology. Only invite artists prepared to forgo travelling by plane. Encourage projects linked to the environment.
- Explore the possibility of distributed performances / live-streamed from artists living e.g. in the Americas.

- **PUBLICISE EVERYTHING SOUND IS DOING TO INCREASE AWARENESS.**
 - **PUT A CLIMATE CHANGE PAGE ON THE WEBSITE.**
 - **BE SECTOR LEADERS.**