

## **ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY STATEMENT: 2023-24**

We know the climate crisis is a real threat to our audiences, artists, region, and planet. We're committed to putting environmental responsibility at the heart of our venue, working with artists, clients, and audiences to reduce carbon emissions and make positive change.

We're working towards a 2030 net-zero pledge for our [Scope 1 and 2 \(direct\) emissions](#). To get there, we're going to invest in our building to make it as energy efficient as possible. We're proud to be part of the Gateshead District Energy Scheme, which means that we'll be powered by 100% renewable energy by 2030.

Music is powerful. So, we'll bring climate-focused performances to our stages as part of our socially aware programming. Recent examples include [Kerrin Tatman's Requiem for a Fading World](#) and Anna Hughes' *Fell Silent*. We're proud members of [Music Declares Emergency](#) and we're calling for change in the wider music sector. We'll travel and tour in an environmentally responsible way, choosing land-based public transport wherever we can.

Beyond our direct emissions, we're conducting case studies to understand the impact of our Scope 3 (indirect) emissions. We're focusing on audience and artist travel, our supply chain, and our investments and pensions. We'll use what we learn to influence our future plans.

We're aiming to reduce our carbon emissions year on year. We report these annually to Julie's Bicycle and share them publicly. We want to be a beacon of best practice, sharing knowledge with artists, collaborating with other organisations and inspiring our audiences.

### **What are we working on this year?**

In 2023-24, our focus will be:

- Our building: Making plans and raising funds for works to improve energy efficiency through to 2030.
- Touring: Developing a three-year carbon budget to manage carbon emissions from Royal Northern Sinfonia's touring.
- Communications: Developing an annual plan to ensure the environment is a regular topic of conversation for our staff and audiences.
- Data collection: We'll continue to collect, report, and evaluate emissions data. From 2024, we'll start to gather travel data for visiting artists too.

This Environmental Policy Statement is complemented by our 2023-24 Environmental Action Plan, which includes more detail and targets.

Signed: Scott Morrison  
Position: Environment & EDI Lead  
Date: 22 June 2023  
Review Date: 30 June 2024  
Edition: 13