



## GREEN POLICY AND ACTION PLAN

The Lyric is fully committed to reducing its impact on the environment. We include 'environmentally friendly' within our mission, and one of our Key Business Aims is 'to continue to reduce the theatre's long term impact on the environment and become a model of best practice for other cultural organisations nationally'.

This policy is a statement of our commitment to green, and is supported by a more detailed action plan which explains how we plan to achieve our aims. For further detail see the **Green Action Plan**.

### WHERE WE ARE

We measure our environmental performance by calculating CO<sub>2</sub> emissions on a monthly and annual basis:

Year	Carbon emissions in tonnes	Attendance
2009-10	748.50	116,224
2010-11	702.20	113,080
2011-12 – capital project	336.5	108,844
2012-13 – capital project	334.5	85,527
2013-14 – capital project	239.4	61,827
2014-15 – capital project	318.2	70,949
2015-16	712.8	155,828

The increase to 712.8 tonnes of carbon emissions in 2015-16 was an expected increase, due to the surface area expansion of our new building, increased users of our building and facilities including a new Bar and Grill and five new resident partner organisations, increased shows and young people's activity together with increased audiences and participants.

We use the Industry Green tool on Julie's Bicycle's website to measure our carbon footprint, which has sections for business and audience travel, waste, water usage and electricity, as well as number of performances and attendances.

For the last four years we have been awarded the highest 3\* Industry Green rating for cultural buildings by Julie's Bicycle, the first theatre to have achieved this accolade, and in 2015-16 was one of the first two theatres to receive 4 star Creative Green certification under Julie's Bicycle's recently revised scheme.

We have converted the majority of our current lighting to LED during the last four years, and have recently completed the upgrade of the house lighting in our main auditorium, retaining our Victorian aesthetic.

We display our building's Display Energy Certificate (DEC) rating (currently B); Display Energy Certificates are a summary of how efficient a building is, and must be displayed in all buildings owned by the public sector.

We joined the Arts Basket, a consortium of arts venues purchasing energy together, from April 2013 and use renewable energy. Since then the majority of our energy has been from renewable sources.

We operate 'paperless' systems in our Finance and Administration department, which significantly reduces the amount of paper we would otherwise use.

## **WHERE WE WOULD LIKE TO BE**

We aspire to continue to be at the forefront of sustainable practice among theatres in London and nationally, and to set trends for new and innovative ways of limiting our environmental impact, particularly in the development of our capital project.

Specifically, we aim to:

1. Continue to reduce our carbon emissions by 10% year on year, using 2015-16 as a new baseline year, given that it was the first full year of operation following the completion of our capital project and opening of the new Reuben Foundation Wing which increase the surface area of the Lyric building by 64%.
2. Focus on reducing the Lyric's carbon emissions from electricity usage, establishing robust monitoring systems to drive down our carbon emissions from electricity usage and building on the success of the Lyric's polar bear scheme to develop new staff engagement initiatives.
3. Focus on reducing the Lyric's carbon emissions from water usage, developing robust monitoring and introducing staff and audience initiatives such as a 'Give Me Tap' scheme.
4. To achieve a BREEAM rating of 'Excellent' for the Lyric's building following the completion of our Capital Project (BREEAM is a design and assessment method for sustainable buildings).
5. To continue to investigate installing solar panels on our main theatre roof and other potential capital investments in on-site renewable energy production.
6. To maintain our green sedum roof and launch a new staff garden space on the office terrace.
7. Following the successful conversion of our building lighting to LED, the Lyric will begin the process of changing show lighting to LED wherever possible, developing a long-term plan for our Studio Theatre to become a green production space, recognising that developments in this area are inextricably linked to lighting designers' current practices which theatres do not have direct control over.
8. To broaden our green engagement with staff, partners, artists, audiences, the local community and other venues by:
  - a. Developing further seasonal green campaigns, based on the success of our 21 Days of Action campaign in 2015.
  - b. Introduce wellbeing into our regular staff environmental actions.

- c. To focus on cycling, promoting it as a favoured method of transport for all users of our building, to complement the local Borough's plans for Hammersmith to become a more cycling-friendly environment.
9. To maintain the highest level Julie's Bicycle Creative Green venue rating, working with Julie's Bicycle and the London Theatre Consortium to remain at the forefront of green and sustainability issues in the sector.
10. To connect the Lyric's green commitments with the wider environmental movement through proactive engagement with national and international campaigns.
11. To continue to lead on devising a system to capture energy usage during productions, an area which theatres have traditionally found difficult to measure, working with the London Theatre Consortium and Julie's Bicycle, and extending this knowledge and best practice to other theatres in the sector.

## HOW WE ARE GETTING THERE

### Green Team

The Lyric Green Team is made up of a cross section of the organisation, all of whom who are passionate about driving down the Lyric's emissions and making the organisation more sustainable. Established in October 2010, the team meets monthly and uses the **Green Action Plan** as the basis for all meetings.

### Julie's Bicycle

A key source of advice and information for us is Julie's Bicycle. Established in 2007, Julie's Bicycle is a non-profit company working with the creative industries to co-ordinate best practice in sustainability and develop cultural leadership around climate issues to reduce the arts sector's greenhouse gas emissions. They help organisations understand their carbon impacts and provide clear, practical advice and support, based on the best available research, tools and resources.

We are a member of the Julie's Bicycle London Theatre Consortium, a source of sustainability advice, inspiration and peer support for 13 Off West End theatres (including the Almeida, Young Vic, Bush and Royal Court). The network provides us with a forum to work with other theatres and develop new ideas to make our theatre buildings and practices more energy efficient. We have provided individual support to a number of theatres, who have visited us at the Lyric to see how our environmental programmes work in practice.