**ORIEL DAVIES ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND ACTION PLAN 2023**

**ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**

Protecting the environment is vital for the conservation of precious natural resources and the continued health of our planet. Oriel Davies recognises its responsibility to protect the environment and is continually working to reduce the environmental impact of the work we do. This Environmental Policy and Action Plan is a working document and will be reviewed and updated at regular intervals.

The climate crisis is not about the climate alone. It involves a complex web of issues

that inextricably intersect with other environmental, social, ethical, political and justice

crises. By focusing purely on science, data and stats, this interrelation can sometimes

seem less than apparent.

We map and monitor our suppliers

We map and monitor our programmes: our approach is decolonial and reparative

We map the communities impacted by climate and environmental injustice in our

community and raise their voices

We understand our responsibility to the environment and consider the impact of our

decisions

We refuse to receive funding, collaborate and partner with polluting and extracting

companies, and including fossil fuel companies and other carbon-intensive industries,

such as industrial agriculture or mining, for example.

**KEY AIMS**

Administration, Building and Facilities Management

• Comply with all relevant environmental regulations and legislations

• Reduce our carbon footprint

• Reduce the use of non-renewable energy resources

• Monitor and evaluate energy consumption for regular analysis

• Reduce waste produced across the organisation

• Reduce, reuse and recycle goods wherever possible in all aspects of the business

• Use local suppliers and resources

• Raise staff and building user awareness through training, signage and facilities

Staff and Stakeholder Engagement

• Increase accountability by appointing a team of staff to lead on environmental issues

• Advocate for artists to consider the environmental impact of their work

• Reduce the environmental impact of travel by staff and artists

• Advocate for audiences to consider the impact of their travel to our events and provide advice and incentives to support this

Project Management and Programming work

* Ensure the projects and events we produce are as environmentally friendly as possible.
* Raise awareness and promote discussion on environmental issues through our work.
* Encourage artists to make work highlighting issues around climate change.
* Encourage partners, artists and facilitators to consider environmental impact of workshops, events and activities.

Fundraising and Campaigns

• Practice ethical fundraising and share knowledge with the sector

• Support environmental campaigns and campaigning organisations

• Continue to participate in existing networks while building new networks across the sector and across borders

Our environmental action plan is divided into three main areas:

• Our building

• Our staff and office

* Our work

**ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN**

**OUR BUILDING**

**ENERGY CONSUMPTION**

Current Measures

Heating

* + We monitor and regulate individual room temperatures within our control, switch off heating in rooms which are not in use and use minimum settings in toilets and transient spaces.
  + We have double glazed E efficient glass through most of the building.
  + We monitor weekly/monthly usage through meter-readings and bills.
  + Reduced our gas usage by 4.5% on prior year.

Lighting

* + We switch of lights in rooms not in use and use natural light where possible.
  + We use low energy bulbs wherever possible and replace spent bulbs with energy efficient alternatives.
  + We recycle lighting tubes.
  + We monitor weekly/monthly usage through meter-readings and bills.
  + Reduced our electricity by 22% on pre-covid usage.

Equipment

* + We ensure that all building users turn off electrical equipment (including computers) when not in use and switch off at the plug where appropriate.
  + We only run dishwashers when full.
  + We use reusable crockery (not disposable) wherever possible.
  + We use A-C rated equipment.
  + We dispose of computers and electrical equipment by recycling or reusing

Staff Actions

We ask that all staff:

* + Switch lights off when not needed.
  + Turn computers off when not in use.
  + Unplug electrical devices not in use and overnight.
  + Talk face-to-face or use instant messaging systems with colleagues rather than emailing.

2023-2024

Additional Measures

* + Increase draft proofing, lagging and insulation throughout the building.
  + Install LED lighting where possible.
  + Plan replacement of boiler within next 7 years
  + Keep up with technological innovation.
  + Investigate further alternative energy sources.
  + Set 18 degrees as ideal building temperature and fit thermometers.
  + Buy Eco decorating materials.
  + Sell excess goods on ebay

**WATER USAGE**

Current Measures

* + The building is equipped with flow taps.
  + We use rainwater harvesting for watering plants.
  + We use water saving devices in all toilet cisterns.

Individual Staff Actions

We ask that all staff:

* + Are economical in use of water (turning off taps, using low flush etc)
  + Notify Building Manager as soon as possible of any leaks.
  + Only run the dishwasher when full

2023-2024

Additional Measures

* + Monitor our water usage weekly, investigate high usage, leaks and pilot building-wide incentives to reduce usage.

**WASTE**

Current Measures

* + We recycle papers, cans, glass, cardboard, plastics and batteries through provision of recycling bins in the office.
  + We recycle light bulbs, printer and photocopier cartridges and IT hardware through third party providers wherever possible.
  + We use rechargeable batteries for battery operated devices.
  + We reuse and recycle furniture and all goods wherever possible, offering unwanted usable items via Furniture Scheme or other platforms (Circular Economy)
  + We store any items with potential for future use.
  + We use all recycled paper.

Individual Staff Actions

We ask that all staff:

* + Use recycling bins for appropriate waste and encourage building users to do the same.
  + Only print when necessary and use double-sided print or scrap paper wherever possible for printing or note taking.

2023-2024

Additional Measures

* + Audit our DIY materials and check all we use are environmentally friendly.

We use Powys County Council waste management. We asked them:

Q1. What waste and recycling collection streams are on offer?

Q2. Where is the initial disposal facility?

Q3. Where is the end disposal facility?

Q4. What happens to the waste? Are you able to tell us what is anaerobically digested, what is incinerated, what the second life of the waste that is recycled is, and how these items are used?

* As always with waste, the most important focus should be on reduction. Recycling requires energy, incurs a carbon footprint, and should be the last resort for material disposal. Think: ‘Refuse, Reuse, Reduce, Repurpose’.
* Go Even Further  From our research, we know that even when using the best waste management services on offer, some commonly used materials will end up being incinerated. There are some ways around this:

[ReFactory](https://www.reworked.com/) specialises in the ‘harder to handle’ materials. They take waste material and re-introduce it back into the supply chain through the manufacture of bespoke products. By using their [mixed plastic recycling boxes](https://www.reworked.com/product/plastic-recycling-box/), ReFactory will collect your ‘hard to recycle’ waste plastic (that isn’t eligible for your local recycling services) and send it to their recycling facility in Hull, where it is repurposed into building materials, shop fittings, and furniture. Reworked even offer a take-back scheme for the items they produce, so that they can be infinitely recycled after use.

**Circular Economic Theory**

The Circular Economy is an economic model that is restorative and regenerative by design.

In a circular economy, economic activity builds and rebuilds overall system health. The concept recognises the importance of the economy needing to work effectively at all scales - for big and small businesses, for organisations and individuals, globally and locally. It is based on three principles:

* Design out waste and pollution
* Keep products and materials in use
* Regenerate natural systems

*Definition courtesy of*[*Ellen MacArthur Foundation*](http://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/explore/the-ciircular-economy-in-detail)*.*

* + Develop a directory of environmentally aware suppliers.
  + Monitor all waste streams and implement more building-wide incentives to reduce waste.
  + Make sure all Oriel Davies marketing print is produced using environmentally friendly methods and materials.

**CLEANING**

Current Measures

* + We use recycled toilet paper and hand towels throughout the building.
  + All sanitary waste is incinerated not put into landfill.
  + We use eco cleaning materials from a small local manufacturer where re-usable containers are used.
  + We use an A-rated dishwasher.

**CAFÉ / KITCHEN**

Current Measures

* + We use reusable materials including cutlery, crockery and linen.
  + We recycle waste materials wherever possible, including all glass, tin and plastic and paper and card.
  + We minimise use of water by only running dishwashers when necessary.
  + We use locally sourced, fair-trade organic seasonal produce and drinks where possible.
  + We offer free tap water.
  + The kitchen operates on a zero-waste policy and aims to have minimal food wastage.

2023-2024

Additional Measures

* + Increase purchases from local and Fairtrade suppliers.
  + Work towards all organic products
  + Trial incentives to discourage use of take away cups.
  + Only offer 100% biodegradable cups

**ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN**

**OUR STAFF AND OFFICE**

**STAFF TRAINING AND AWARENESS**

Current Measures

* + A ‘green’ agenda item is included in weekly staff meetings to promote awareness by and contributions from all staff.
  + The team review and update this policy in line with the action plan and current legislation. Regular annual monitoring may dictate that policy upgrades occur more frequently.
  + Our environmental policy and action plan is included in our Staff Handbook
  + Ensure that staff are aware of our environmental goals.

Individual Staff Actions

We ask that all staff:

* + Contribute to actions for our environmental action plan.
  + Are aware of the action plan and take part where possible.

2023-2024

Additional Measures

* + Appoint team member with specialist environmental expertise.
  + Develop efficient ways to capture data for better reporting.
  + Provide training and attend conferences related to green issues.
  + Include eco actions in staff contract.
  + Review Eco actions in annual appraisals and in induction of staff

**TRAVEL & TRANSPORT**

Current Measures

* + We use green travel / zoom where possible.
  + Signed up to local Electric Vehicle club.
  + We provide support to staff in finding best practice travel options.
  + Cycle parking is available nearby.
  + We promote environmentally friendly transport options to visitors.

Individual staff actions

We ask that all staff:

* + Consider the impact of their journey to work and travel on foot, by bicycle or by public transport where possible.

2023-2024

Additional Measures

* + Monitor/collect building users’ means of transport for specific events and day-to-day use.
  + Create policy for artists’ travel and encourage artists to commit to it.
  + Record project mileage

**PURCHASING / SUB-CONTRACTING**

Current Measures

* + We research suppliers with good green credentials.
  + We request green credentials from new suppliers.
  + We value suppliers and subcontractors who adhere to and echo our policies and standards (especially around the issues of sustainability, environmental concern and ethics)

2023-2024

Additional Measures

* + Develop and circulate a clear set of guidelines for selection process.
  + Develop and circulate a list of exemplary suppliers for projects.

**FINANCE / IT**

Current Measures

* + We use a local bank branch.
  + The majority of banking is done online.
  + The majority of invoices are sent electronically.
  + We have an ethical fundraising policy endorsed by the board.
  + We encourage artists to seek responsible funding for their projects.

2023-2024

Additional Measures

* + Continue to seek an ethical bank account.
  + Offer an ethical pension option.

**MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS**

Current Measures

* + We print minimum quantities of marketing materials.
  + We produce all printed materials on recycled paper and card.
  + We ensure that any packaging used is recycled / recyclable / made of biodegradable materials where possible.
  + We use vegetable-based rather than petroleum-based ink.
  + We recycle all waste print materials.
  + We continually investigate alternatives to print (e.g. online products, digital alternatives) and maximise digital alternatives where appropriate
  + We ensure maximum information on our environmental policy is provided through our website and on marketing materials.

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2023-2024

Additional Measures

* + Keep up our environmental focus and consider more projects around environmental issues.
  + Encourage re-use and reduction of materials.
  + Always use recycled paper
  + Advertise all eco activity at any opportunity.

**AUDIENCE IMPACT**

Current Measures

* + Our hire information and website display how to get to our building by public transport.
  + Building users are asked to use the recycling facilities.
  + We offer online options in preference to posted print materials.
  + We promote our environmental work throughout the building, in our annual report and through our website.
  + Our projects encourage audiences to think about issues around the environment and climate change.

2023-2024

Additional Measures

* + Better promote our environmental work as an example of best practice for our audiences
  + Develop initiatives to capture travel data from audiences.
  + Make our environmental policy, action plan and staff handbook and successes available online.

**WORKING WITH ARTISTS**

Current Measures

* + Our hire information and website display how to get to our building by public transport.
  + Building users are asked to use the recycling facilities.
  + We offer online options in preference to posted print materials.
  + We promote our environmental work throughout the building, in our annual report and through our website.
  + Our projects encourage audiences to think about issues around the environment and climate change.

2023-2024

Working with Artists

* + Better promote our environmental work as an example of best practice for our audiences
  + Develop initiatives to capture travel data from audiences.
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**Packaging**

The materials below are sustainable alternatives to familiar packaging solutions for the transportation of artworks, display items, production materials and furniture, for companies, galleries, organisations and individuals operating within the arts sector. This research has been conducted by GCC London volunteers.

**Packaging Solutions**

**Wrapping & Storage**

* [Artpakk](http://www.artpakk.com/) | Based in UK
* [Kvatt](https://www.kvatt.com/) | Based in UK
* [Spongy bags](https://www.spongybags.com/) | Based in New York, with offices in London
* [Stiffy bags](https://www.stiffybag.com/) | Based in UK
* [Biyomap](https://www.biyomap.com/en/home-en/) | Based in The Netherlands
* We use blankets to protect artwork. Blankets can also be used for short distance deliveries.

Bubblewrap / Film Alternatives

* [BioViron](https://www.bioviron.com/) | Based in UK
  + Compostable foam and film
* [Kite Packaging](https://www.kitepackaging.co.uk/) | Kite does not specialize in green alternatives, yet in being a large packaging material supplier they offer a few biodegradable and compostable products
  + [EcoFlo compostable and water soluble peanuts](https://www.kitepackaging.co.uk/scp/protection-and-wrapping/ecoflo-void-fill/#anchor-sc-tab-details) – also available from the manufacturer [Greenlight Packaging](https://greenlightpackaging.com/products/biodegradable-loose-fill/)
  + [Paper-based bubble wrap](https://www.kitepackaging.co.uk/scp/bubble-wrap/paper-bubble-wrap/)
* [Ecovative](https://www.ecovative.com/) via [Magical Mushroom](https://magicalmushroom.com/) (UK manufacturer and distributor)
  + Mycelium-based packaging that can be [custom made](https://mushroompackaging.com/form) to size
* [Mondi](https://www.mondigroup.com/en/home/) | Based in UK
  + [Compostable biofilm](https://www.mondigroup.com/en/products-and-solutions/functional-films/technical-films-products/biobased-films/)
  + [Corrugated board](https://www.mondigroup.com/en/products-and-solutions/corrugated-solutions/corrugated-solutions-products/corrugated-sheets/)
* [Stora Enso | Based in Finland](https://www.storaenso.com/en/products)
  + Wood Foam
* [Fibi-buffer](https://fibibuffer.com/) | Based in The Netherlands
  + Compostable thick foam
* [Natureflex](https://www.natureflex.com/uk/) | Based in UK
  + Cellulose film packaging
* [Ecopackaging Solutions | Based in UK](https://www.ecopackagingsolutions.co.uk/)
  + Compostable peanuts/void fill
* [Ranpak](https://www.ranpak.com/uk/products/geami-wrappak-ex-mini/) | Based in UK
  + Paper-made wrapping
* [iVEX](http://www.ivexpackaging.com/) | Based in Canada
  + EnviroWrap recycled bubble cushioning

Tissue Paper / Film

* [Ecocraft](https://www.eco-craft.co.uk/packaging/recycled-tissue-papers.html) | Based in UK
  + Recycled tissue paper
* [MarinaTex](https://www.marinatex.co.uk/) (still in development) | Based in UK
  + Compostable film made from fishing by-products

Tape

* [Ecocraft](https://www.eco-craft.co.uk/catalogsearch/result/?q=packaging+adhesives+and+tapes&404=1) | Based in UK
  + Paper tape & compostable clear bags
* [Ecopackaging Solutions](https://www.ecopackagingsolutions.co.uk/product-page/paper-kraft-fragile-tape) | Based in UK
  + Compostable “fragile” tape

Crates

* [Artproof](https://www.artproof.eu/service/packaging/) | Based in Estonia
  + Custom made crates
* [RokBox](https://rok-box.com/) | Based in UK
* [Turtle](https://turtlebox.com/en/) | Based in UK, via Constantine
* When possible, aim to reuse and/or share crates with other galleries

Corners

* [MOCAP](https://mocap.co.uk/vinyl-corner-covers.html) | Based in UK
* [Kite](https://www.kitepackaging.co.uk/scp/solid-board-edge-protection/) | Based in UK
  + Paper corners

Tubes

* [Kite](https://www.kitepackaging.co.uk/scp/protection-and-wrapping/triangular-postal-tubes/) | Based in UK
  + Plastic free triangular tubes

Reuse/Recycle

* [CAN](https://www.canarts.org.uk/) | Based in UK
* [Precious plastic](https://preciousplastic.com/)
  + Community workshops that recycle plastic waste into products/objects

As always, wherever possible, packaging materials should be kept and reused.

It is important to note that ‘compostable’ does not necessarily mean that the material will break down in landfill.

If compostable packaging ends up in mixed recycling, they can contaminate other materials and clog up machinery. Compostable materials should not be placed in your food waste either, as they require a different process to decompose.

Certified compostable materials need to be placed in certain conditions (highly pressurised in temperatures of over 160 degrees) in order to break down. Many waste management services don’t have the infrastructure to support this, so the majority of compostable materials end up in landfill.

Beware of packaging ‘greenwashing’, and always check a particular material with your waste management company if you are unsure.

Please note that the materials listed here have not been tested by Oriel Davies for long-term or archival usage. Where surface reactivity is a concern, it is advised that the materials listed are trailed in advance of long-term use or paired with suitable surface materials.