



Theatre Collection

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

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Associate Director (Culture and Collections), Library
Services

Review Date: Annually by TC

Renewal Date: June 2029

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Theatre Collection: Environmental Sustainability Policy

Policy Statement

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the University of Bristol's Vision and Strategy document (2020-2030) and Sustainability Policy 2017-2023 which the Theatre Collection is guided by, and the Theatre Collection's Environmental Sustainability Action Plan. The University also produces an annual Sustainability Report.

The University of Bristol's Vision and Strategy sets out "Intensifying our focus on sustainability, climate change and the future of our planet" as one of its ten goals. It will do this through "through our education programmes, cutting-edge research, campus transition to net zero, civic engagement and advocacy. We will build on our fossil fuel divestment strategy, public declaration of a climate emergency and Green Capital credentials."

The Theatre Collection is committed to reducing its impact on the environment, balancing the needs of the collections held, with minimising the impact of its activities on the environment and by proactively complying with all applicable legislation.

As part of Library Services, Theatre Collection staff have an active involvement in the University-wide Climate Action Plan (CAPs) initiative. A climate action plan allows each school and division to identify the actions specific to them that will lead to the greatest carbon reduction and impact. Currently, over 1000 individual actions have been committed to across the University.

This policy is communicated to all members of the TC's workforce at induction and is publicly available.

Environmental Management System

The University of Bristol's Environmental Management System aims to provide a mechanism for managing the environmental impact of the University's activities, its legislative compliance and obligations and delivering continual environmental improvement. The University's Sustainability policy will be delivered using the environmental management system ISO14001, 'net positive principles' and will help deliver the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

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In the case of the TC moving to new premises, the University and TC will adopt a passive first approach and aim for BREEAM 'excellent' or 'very good' rating in any new building.

Theatre Collection Activities

In line with the University's EMS system and as part of the TC's commitment to reduce its impact on the environment, the following areas have been targeted:

- **Input into the New Library Design**
Library Climate Action Group will continue to monitor the environmental impact of the planned new University library build which will be the future home of the Theatre Collection.
- **Energy usage report for Library SMT**
When possible, by working with partners in other parts of Professional Services, e.g. the Sustainability team, to access any available data re energy usage in library-controlled spaces. The report will give us the evidence base we need to help us assess whether we are providing our essential services in an efficient way.
- **Produce user guides for each type of library space**
Library Climate Action Group will coordinate the production of local guides to establish for each space what is within the Library's power to influence and what must be conducted collaboratively with other teams. For example: Is it possible to have separate control over different areas within a building? Could energy be saved if this was so? How can we ensure our buildings are heated efficiently without impeding accessibility?
- **Produce a divisional Sustainable Procurement Policy**
The Library will develop a divisional Sustainable Procurement Policy in partnership with the central sustainable procurement team, to help minimise climate impact.
- **Analysis of service contracts held by Library Services**
We will interrogate the service contracts we purchase for equipment such as photocopiers and security equipment. This work will inform our divisional Sustainable Procurement Policy.
- **Input into collection de-accessioning policies**
The Climate Action Team will input into the existing de-accessioning policies from an environmental sustainability perspective.
- **Monitor sector wide advice on e-resources**

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- **Report on implications of becoming 'plastic free'**
Including analysis of library signage, packing materials, stationery, monitoring sector wide advice on book coverings and monitoring IT Purchasing policies
- **An electric powered Library Van has replaced the previous petrol powered one**
- **Monitor travel trends and promote a 'virtual first' approach to travel**
We will adopt a divisional policy of 'virtual-first' to minimise real world travel and monitor reports on travel for trends, and develop the use of Virtual Reading Room facilities

Staff from Library Services have had an active involvement in discussions with the University's banking supplier, advocating for divestment of investment in fossil fuels.

Work will also take place to bring in wider participation from Library colleagues and begin regular Climate reporting to SMT. Our new Library Services SharePoint site will be the first point of reference for divisional climate sustainability information.