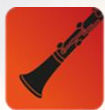


Environmental Policy



The
People's
Orchestra



Mission Statement

The People's Orchestra (TPO) is a Registered Charity based in the West Midlands. We are a pro-am orchestra, engaging and empowering musicians of all levels, educating and mentoring talented artists to reach professional performance standards.

Our charitable aims are to advance, improve, develop, and maintain public education, and appreciation of, the arts and music in all aspects, including through the presentation of public concerts, recitals, and the maintenance of musical ensembles.

Our mission is to create accessible orchestral and choral music, delivered through a positive ethos that breaks down barriers; in our performances we celebrate the music of our everyday lives by integrating film, games, and TV scores, show and popular music into our performances, alongside premieres and newly commissioned work. Through these recognisable access points, we attract and delight audiences of all ages and backgrounds.



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Key Environmental Impact

The People's Orchestra, as a creative community and charitable organisation, recognises the importance of the climate and its relation to environmental crises.

We believe that we all need to take responsibility for our carbon contributions. For this reason, The People's Orchestra is taking responsibility by developing policies that will offset our Carbon footprint and will work towards achieving Net Zero Carbon by 2050.

TPO is committed to reducing its environmental impact at a strategic level and to challenge both operational decision making as well as individual behaviour. We aim to encourage positive environmental thinking amongst our staff, volunteers, and placements.



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TPO works to reduce Carbon Energy Consumption by:

- installing energy efficient fixtures, fittings, and equipment
- encouraging staff to reduce unnecessary consumption through the promotion of energy saving actions.
- We continually work with the buildings managing agents to actively reduce energy consumption
- We are committed to ensuring energy use is kept to a minimum with office lighting monitored on motion sensors.

Sustainable Development Policies Include:

1. Encouraging staff members to use local transport options e.g., bus/train/bicycle/ metro when possible, or support staff members to share travel
2. TPO identifies opportunities for recycling and minimising waste and implements initiatives to achieve this. The firm utilises the office facilities

for recycling for all cardboard, paper glass, plastic, and aluminium cans

3. Where appropriate, duplex printing on ink save mode is encouraged, technology utilised to reduce the production of paper-based communication.
4. TPO is increasing the use of online resources to replace paper editions. Any paper used is produced from sustainable sources and bears the FSC logo
5. The use of thermos containers to keep water hot to avoid excessive use of kettle ensuring water will not be wasted and will be only used when needed.
6. TPO ensures that environmental considerations are taken into account by supporting local suppliers and contractors wherever possible, including social enterprises and catering suppliers and their commitment to Fairtrade products.

Commitment & Approach

As a regional charity, the impact we have on wider, global environmental issues is limited. However, we are committed to making changes to our supplies and activities to further reduce that impact in all facets of our work, and continually improving our environmental performance as an integral part of our operation, with regular review points to assess the sustainability of our model and reassure our audiences, supporters, and associates about our ethical commitments.

This environmental policy will be implemented by CEO Sarah Marshall and the board; however, all staff, volunteers and beneficiaries have an additional responsibility to ensure that the aims and objectives of the policy are met within the purview of their own role.



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We pledge:

1. To ensure that all resources will be used efficiently.
2. We will buy 100% recycled and recyclable paper, along with low toxicity ink, for our printing requirements wherever possible.
3. Music scores will be sourced in electronic formats wherever possible, in preference to hard-copy scores that are currently ordered from the United States.
4. Heating will be adjusted with energy consumption in mind.
5. We will source Fairtrade tea and coffee for the office.
6. We will restrict ourselves to taking only trips which are necessary, thus reducing the need to travel. Additionally, we will promote the use of public transport among those attending concerts, making additional efforts to accommodate the needs of those using bicycles or other environmentally friendly
7. The People's Orchestra as an organisation will wherever possible ensure that products and materials purchased to support our work have been produced in ways which do not harm the environment. Additionally, recycling and reusing products utilised on a day-to-day basis.
8. Easily accessible recycling facilities in our offices, will be used as often as possible.
9. Encourage all staff, volunteers and members to use reusable products, such as water bottles, to lessen the need for single-use plastics. Additionally, the use of disposable cups in the office, at rehearsals and at concerts will be minimised.
10. Wherever possible, work will be completed online, lessening the quantities of paper used.

modes of travel, and sending information and tickets in the form of a downloadable PDF.

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11. We will use licensed and appropriate organisations to dispose of waste.
12. We will adopt local suppliers for bar operations during live events and ensure that empty bottles are recycled.
13. We will convert our own transport to an electric engine and maintain it rigorously to ensure ongoing efficiency.
14. The People's Orchestra will promote best practice in addressing environmental issues in everyday life and work; and encourage staff and volunteers to take action along the lines of a healthier lifestyle through use of public transport and car sharing where possible.
15. We will observe existing environmental legislation as a minimum standard and seek to out-perform current legislative requirements where practical.

As part of our procurement plan, we promise to:

1. Source future supplies of carbon neutral printing paper, recycled notepads and pens from The Green Office (www.thegreenoffice.co.uk).
2. Use branded metal containers or recycled mugs in preference to disposable cups, from Everything Branded (www.everythingbranded.co.uk) or another suitable supplier.
3. Switch to Fairtrade tea & coffee, available locally from Tesco or Asda.
4. Contact Zero EV (www.zero-ev.co.uk) with a view to converting our transport to an electric engine.
5. Contact Sustainability West Midlands (www.sustainabilitywestmidlands.org.uk) to ascertain what support and funding may be available for reducing environmental impact within our shared premises.

The Next Steps:

We are committed to encouraging all staff across the range of services we provide to promote and maintain an environmentally friendly, sustainable approach to the activities we undertake.

We will continue to educate and encourage our staff about implementing our environmental policies.

We will also implement an action plan that covers a three-year period that will be reviewed and revised annually.



Environmental Action Plan 2022-24

	Action	Why	How/Who	Progress 2022/23	Progress 2023/24
The People's Orchestra	Board to adopt policy and identify member as environmental champion	Raise awareness, review and revise plans and their implementation	As part of draft Business Plan: ask Sarah Marshall to be environmental champion		
	Monitor Impact	Comply with funding requirements, identify baseline impact, and track progress	General Manager		
Classes, performances, and events	Identify 2 key areas of building operation/ Maintenance for improvement	Potential to make a difference	General Manager		
	Review timings of events to minimise audience/participant travel	Reduce fossil fuel consumption	Administrator		
Procurement	Use environmentally friendly venues as far as possible	Reduce Environmental impact.	Project Manager		
	Procure environmentally friendly office supplies	Minimise impact of printing paper, ink, and other office supplies.	Administrator		
Business Travel	Use public transport as much as possible	Reduce fossil fuel consumption	Reimburse staff, where applicable/ Accountant		



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Objectives and Targets 2022-27

Objective	Target	KPI	Responsibility
Establish energy performance monitoring	Reduce energy use by 3% 2024/25, 4% in 2025/26 and 5% by 2026/27, compared with 2021/22	Absolute kWh use	General Manager
	Reduce CO2 emissions by 5% annually, compared with 2021/22	Absolute CO2 emissions per annum	General Manager
Reduce total waste volumes and increase % recycled	Reduce total volume of waste to landfill by 10% annually, compared with 2021/22	Total volume waste to landfill per annum	General Manager
	Increase recycling rate by 10% annually, compared to with 2021/22	% Of total waste recycled per annum	General Manager
	Reduce volume of paper used by 10% annually, compared with 2021/22	Kg of paper consumed per employee per year	General Manager

The People's Orchestra was founded by Sarah Marshall in 2012. After six months as an Arts Council England funded project, The People's Orchestra became the very first orchestra in the UK to become a Charitably Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

The People's Orchestra was set up to fill the gap in music provision for musicians leaving education, who wanted to continue performing to a high standard. The challenge was set to create a whole new type of ensemble, performing film, games and light popular music for a newly developing audience.

Initial auditions showed great promise for a new format of orchestra, with too many great flute players to choose only two! In true community style, the orchestra began accepting all instruments, traditionally orchestral or beyond, for those who played to the standard the orchestra was targeting.

Eight years on and whether you play the violin on the weekends, are unable to make every rehearsal or you have not picked up the trumpet for 20 years - everyone is welcome.



Charity No: 1151321

Town Hall, Lodge Road, West Bromwich
West Midlands, B70 8AY
01215692616

<https://thepeoplesorchestra.com/>

@ThePeoplesOrch



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