



## **Climate Change & Sustainability policy**

Developing a climate and environmental action policy for The Civic Theatre is an important step toward promoting sustainability and reducing the venue's ecological footprint. Below is a comprehensive policy outline that covers various aspects of environmental action:

### **1. Energy Efficiency and Conservation:**

- Conduct 3rd energy audit to identify areas for improvement. (ref Codema)
- Implement new LED energy-efficient lighting systems, appliances, and HVAC systems.
- Set energy reduction targets and regularly monitor progress.
- Encourage staff to turn off lights, equipment, and appliances when not in use.
- Explore the possibility of using renewable energy sources, such as solar panels or wind turbines. (ref SDCC & Codema)

### **2. Waste Management:**

- Minimise single-use plastics and encourage the use of reusable and recyclable materials.
- Set up clearly labelled recycling bins throughout the venue.
- Compost organic waste generated by the theatre's café or restaurant.
- Reduce paper usage by digitising processes like ticketing and communication.
- Establish a waste reduction goal and track waste generation and diversion rates.

### **3. Water Conservation:**

- Install water-efficient fixtures and faucets to reduce water consumption.
- Regularly inspect and repair any leaks to prevent water wastage.
- Educate staff and patrons about water conservation measures.

### **4. Sustainable Procurement & Practices:**

- Prioritise purchasing products, supplies & services that are locally sourced, eco-friendly, and sustainably produced.
- Choose materials with a lower environmental impact for construction, maintenance, and renovation projects.
- Consider the lifecycle impact of products and materials, including disposal.
- we ask all artists and technicians to utilise the venue's existing facilities e.g. Please bring your own water bottles and hot drinks containers to reduce waste. Fresh drinking water is available backstage, and the fully equipped kitchen allows for the preparation of hot beverages.

### **5. Transportation:**

- Encourage staff and patrons to use public transportation, cycling, or carpooling.
- Provide secure bike storage facilities and promote cycling to the venue.
- Offer incentives for using eco-friendly transportation methods, such as discounted tickets.

### **6. Green Spaces and Biodiversity:**

- Encourage Design and maintenance of green spaces around the theatre to promote biodiversity?
- Plant native and pollinator-friendly vegetation.
- Avoid the use of harmful pesticides and chemicals that could harm local wildlife.

### **7. Outreach and Education:**

- Raise awareness among staff, patrons, and the local community about the venue's environmental initiatives.
- Host educational events, workshops, and seminars related to climate and environmental issues.

- Collaborate with local schools and organizations to promote environmental awareness.

#### **8. Monitoring and Reporting:**

- Establish a regular reporting mechanism to track progress on environmental goals.
- Make the environmental action policy and progress reports accessible to the public on the theatre's website.

#### **9. Continuous Improvement:**

- Regularly review and update the policy to reflect changing technologies, best practices, and community needs.
- Solicit feedback from staff, patrons, and experts to identify areas for improvement.

#### **10. Collaboration:**

- Partner with local environmental organisations, government agencies, and businesses to enhance the impact of sustainability efforts.
- Participate in community-wide initiatives that align with the venue's environmental goals.

Creating a climate and environmental action policy for The Civic Theatre involves both short-term and long-term strategies. The policy should be adaptable, aspirational, and aligned with broader sustainability goals, while also considering the unique challenges and opportunities of the theatre's location and operations.

These small steps help promote climate action, and we plan to implement further measures in the future.