



Environmental Policy

1. Introduction and aims

Collective acknowledges our responsibility to reduce our emissions wherever possible, and as an organisation we are committed to working towards Net Zero by 2030, in line with the City of Edinburgh Council's target.

This is underpinned by monitoring, reporting and evaluation which will feed into carbon budgeting that will be in place by 2025.

2. Responsibility

All staff at Collective share a responsibility to our environment, and this policy supports our team to take measures to reduce their own carbon footprint while at Collective. Green Champions on staff and board will lead on projects to reduce our carbon footprint with support from other staff where necessary.

We will take particular care in the following areas where our environmental impact is most significant:

3. Buildings

- Utilities – our largest emissions are from gas and electricity. Plans for changes to our buildings in order to reduce our carbon footprint are logged in our Environment Action Plan.
- Waste management and recycling – we follow waste management best practice and work with waste management companies who record our carbon footprint so we can include this in our monitoring and evaluation processes. We have removed public landfill bins to encourage visitors to sort rubbish before disposal.

4. Travel and transport

- Travel – We encourage our staff and partners to use active or public transport, and we do not use flights within the UK, except where unavoidable (e.g. train strike). We will introduce a carbon budget for international travel in 2025.

- Transport of works – When loaning artworks internationally, we work with partners to present the work within the UK and Ireland during the same journey, reducing the carbon footprint of the transport.
- Transport of trading items – Where possible we choose local suppliers for our trading.

5. Purchasing

- Office supplies – We use recycled paper wherever possible and monitor and avoid printing where possible.
- Phones, IT and cloud storage – We encourage staff not to store unnecessary emails on the cloud. We purchase refurbished IT and phones. We buy or lease energy-efficient equipment wherever possible. We will start monitoring our digital footprint in 2025.
- Programme, fabrication of works and exhibition builds - We reuse materials wherever possible, engaging with partners like the Circular Arts Network to do so. We work to maintain temporary structures within the gallery spaces between shows, avoiding the use of extra timber and other materials.
- Catering and events – We will reduce our carbon footprint by eliminating meat and meat products from our kiosk and internal catering. We will encourage partners to consider vegetarian catering for environmental reasons.
- We do not supply single use plastic and where possible choose suppliers who do not package products in single use plastic. Our Kiosk will use compostable packaging.

6. Community

- We will communicate our efforts to be more environmentally friendly in order to support others to adopt carbon-conscious ways of working.
- We will use our position as a conduit between artists and audiences to share new ideas around our environment and reducing our impact on the world.
- We will embed environmental responsibility throughout our organisation and networks by building sustainability into contracts and job descriptions.

Approved by Collective's board in October 2025.