



CULTURE, HERITAGE & ARTS ASSEMBLY.

ARGYLL & ISLES

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

CHARTS recognises and values the Argyll and Isles environment that captivates residents and visitors alike, and we strive for sustainable outcomes from all our programmes of work. At the same time, we understand the issues of sustainability in rural and remote places are often challenging - with often poor efficiency in our facilities and our infrastructure, and significant travel distances for all.

We are aware of the important role cultural, heritage and arts activities and events, have in affecting a cultural change in attitudes towards the environment and climate change.

This document sets out CHARTS environmental policy in relation to the services it delivers and in organisational terms.

TRAVEL

Concerns around the sustainability of travel are central to all that we do.

Staff & Board Travel

- We encourage meetings at venues closest to the majority of attendees
- Where feasible for CHARTS staff and board, more than one meeting will be carried out in a single day in the same location
- We encourage the use of public transport and consider accessibility to public transport in agreeing the location of regional meetings and events
- We encourage car share wherever possible
- To address regional membership we have location tour plans to limit carbon footprint of CHARTS staff and board members
- We encourage membership and project partners to support the CHARTS environmental policy
- We connect with other Scottish rural meetings and events, whenever possible, to limit necessity of repeat travel
- We offer access to video conferencing where possible

- To seek sponsorship from a van hire company, enabling performers to tour in efficient vehicles.

Members Travel

- Members are encouraged to travel by public transport where possible, or to car share, when attending CHARTS events.
- The carbon footprint of any member journeys that are financed by CHARTS is monitored.
- We hold quarterly Steering Group Network Meet Up events across our region, in order to reduce the distance travelled by members in order to take part in networking opportunities.

Audience Travel.

- We recognise that we cannot directly influence the travel choices made by audiences, particularly in remote areas where the public transport infrastructure is poor.
- We consider and plan for video-conferencing, online webinars and/or live streaming as alternative options, during programme planning, for those who can't travel to CHARTS events.
- By supporting CHARTS and membership-led, high quality arts and heritage activities and events in rural communities, rural audiences do not have to travel as far for cultural experiences.

Future Actions/Ideas:

- To encourage membership to provide public transport details on their own websites, social media, and online ticketing platforms.
- To promote membership car sharing and use of public transport where possible on the CHARTS website, when advertising CHARTS hosted events.

PRINTING

We are developing our organisation to be a digital-first organisation, however we recognise that printed materials are at times necessary in order to be inclusive.

Publicity Materials

- Where print is arranged by CHARTS, only suppliers who print on paper from environmentally sustainable sources are used.

Membership and Audience Contact

- Membership contact is encouraged using email, the website and linking into documents via the CHARTS digital office.
- Online feedback forms are created as appropriate

- Social media platforms are used for feedback, as appropriate

Meeting and Event Materials

- We have a minimal-paper policy for all events run by CHARTS
- Useful papers for events are shared digitally with all attendees either in advance or shortly after the events.

Future Actions/Ideas:

- To use the Attendify event app and only print event schedules for those who specifically request them.

Office Printing

- We have a minimal-paper policy for the day-to-day running of CHARTS, and staff and Trustees are encouraged to only print when necessary.

ENERGY

Our commissioned staff team and board members work remotely, using a combination of home offices, co-working spaces and meeting places. We do not have direct control over energy use in these work spaces, or in the venues used by our membership, however we advocate for improved efficiency in all that we do.

Building Efficiency – Training & Advice

Future Actions/Ideas:

- To signpost Creative Carbon Scotland resources to our promoters via our knowledge

WASTE

We do not have direct control over waste disposal in our co-working spaces or the venues used by our membership and project partners, however we advocate for improved efficiency in all that we do.

Recycling Facilities – Training & Advice

- We provide recycling facilities at our events, in order to encourage best practice.

Future Actions/Ideas:

- To signpost Creative Carbon Scotland resources to our membership via our knowledge base.
- To offer advice regarding recycling facilities to membership, as and when required.

- To investigate demand for and the cost of bulk buy options with our Steering Group regional network and other membership, as appropriate

Office Recycling Facilities – Training & Advice

- We encourage all staff to separate waste in their home offices.
- We monitor the amount of waste generated in each home office on a monthly basis.