



ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

June 2023

OUR IMPACT:

The Music for Youth charity works with thousands of children and young people each year. Young people are increasingly worried about the environment with surveys showing 70% of young people are worried about the world they will inherit. It is critical that we look after the planet and that our efforts to do so are meaningful and visible.

Each year Music for Youth stages a programme of festivals in concert venues and community spaces and this is where the vast majority of our CO2 emissions are produced.

This policy sets out the ways in which we aim to reduce and ultimately eliminate the carbon footprint resulting from our events. Music for Youth seeks to create a sustainable operating model to minimise our activities' adverse environmental impact. Our Environmental Policy aligns with our Arts Council England's Investment Principles Plan and is informed by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

3-YEAR AMBITION: Carbon Neutral by 2028

By 2026 MFY will reduce its current carbon footprint by 80% (30% in Y1, 25% in Y2 and 25% in Y3). Working with Julie's Bicycle using the Creative Climate Tools, we will monitor our strategic commitment to be carbon neutral by 2028. Our annual carbon footprint audit covers partner organisations, service providers, procurement, transport, live event production, energy usage and recycling. More broadly, we will work closely with the industry to reduce carbon usage and improve environmental sustainability and are already on target to achieve a 30% reduction in our Y1 carbon footprint. Our current office is doing much to reduce its carbon footprint**

MAIN CHALLENGES:

- The average emissions embodied in a ticketed event is approximately 5 kg CO2 for a music venue*
- Our employees work in a hybrid model commuting to a central location
- Audience and participants travel great distances to take part in our events

OUR JOURNEY SO FAR:

1. We are working with Julie's Bicycle and report to ACE on our progress
2. We have created an organisational culture that emphasises reducing, recycling, and re-using products, both internally and amongst our stakeholders.
3. We have reduced the carbon footprint both from our office location and through the events we stage by reducing print and other manufactured items by 30%.

*https://www.researchgate.net/figure/GHG-emissions-per-annum-from-the-UK-music-market-recorded-and-live-performance-totals-at_fig2_228490002

**<https://www.somersetshouse.org.uk/sustainability>

SUSTAINABILITY ROADMAP:

1. Reporting and Governance

- The Sustainability Champion at Music for Youth acts as a point of contact for all staff members' ideas and queries relating to environmental sustainability.
- Annual Carbon footprint audit (Jan)
- The Environmental Policy and Environmental Action Plan are both reviewed every year and updated where necessary. The next review date for both documents will be June 2024.
- Music for Youth works with the Board of Trustees, Senior Management Team and staff to continually monitor and evaluate the impact of our activities.
- Carbon reduction success measures to be included in annual impact report

2. Supply Chain and Partners

- We work with all stakeholders to promote the values of this policy and ensure that Music for Youth's events mitigate any negative environmental impact.
- Ensure that the service providers that the charity employs have a demonstrable approach to mitigating their own environmental impact.

3. Energy Usage

- Responsibly manage the office's consumption of energy use, water use and waste - identifying and implementing efficiencies, re-using products and recycling where appropriate.**

4. Audience and Participant Engagement

- We are reducing the carbon emissions caused by our events by eliminating the use of latex and other materials.

5. Waste and Recycling

- Effectively manage the use of goods such as stationery, computer hardware, and other office consumables to reduce waste. Sourcing and promoting products that minimise the environmental impact of both production and distribution including using 100% post-consumer recycled paper.

6. Business Travel and Employee Commuting

- Monitor staff business travel and commuting and identify ways where achievable, to reduce the negative impact of these activities.

Latest Progress

Link https://mfy.org.uk/media/zfecw4uu/mfy_impactreport_2022-1.pdf