



THREE CHOIRS FESTIVAL LTD

Environmental Policy

Table of Contents

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY	2
STATEMENT AND RESPONSIBILITIES	2
SCOPE.....	2
ORGANISATIONAL AIMS.....	3
IMPLEMENTATION	3

POLICY TITLE	Environmental Policy		
DATE CREATED	APR 2022	REVIEWED BY	Isabella Abbot Parker
DATE OF REVIEW	Jan 2026	NEXT REVIEW DUE	Jan 2027
BOARD AUTHORISATION ON			

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

STATEMENT AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Three Choirs Festival Ltd ('TCFL') is becoming increasingly aware of its impact on the environment, which stems from its operations both as an annual event and as a year-round administrative operation. In 2021, TCFL took the 'SME Climate Commitment' to accelerate the process of making TCFL's operations more environmentally friendly. The commitment was created by the SME Climate Hub specifically to help Small to Medium-Sized Business Enterprises reduce their carbon emissions and to contribute to the stabilization of global temperature rise. The main target of this commitment is for the SME to halve their greenhouse gas emissions before 2030 and to achieve net zero emissions before 2050. By meeting this target, the TCFL will also be supporting the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. More information on the commitment can be found here: businessclimatehub.org/sme-climate-commitment/

TCFL views this target as realistic and achievable across all its operations. This policy describes the approach and actions TCFL are taking to give itself the best chance of meeting this target and fulfilling other aims. The target set by the SME Climate Hub is a starting point from which TCFL will adjust its operations; other goals are also addressed within this policy. There are several positions within TCFL responsible for following and promoting this policy:

- The **Board of Directors** will take full responsibility for environmental compliance within the company; however, they delegate responsibility for its day-to-day management to the Chief Executive.
- The **Chief Executive** will, so far as is reasonably practicable, ensure suitable and sufficient monitoring of the environmental impact of the festival and implementation of this policy. This responsibility is often delegated to the **Production Manager** and **Production Coordinator**, who are responsible for the day-to-day implementation and monitoring of the environmental impact of the festival and for communicating this policy to relevant parties. All three positions are responsible for any reporting of environmental impact and for the annual review of this policy.
- **Contractors, employees, volunteers and others** have a responsibility to ensure they understand and comply with any requirements and information they are given by the TCFL in regards to their environmental impact.

SCOPE

'TCFL' as an umbrella term is composed of both the Three Choirs Festival, an annual event in a temporary location, and The Three Choirs Festival Limited, a year-round business operation in a permanent office. This policy and its associated reports consider the environmental impact of both elements. In order to categorise emissions, TCFL is adopting the concept of three different emission types ('scopes'), created by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol. The concept, as detailed on the protocol's website where more information can be found (ghgprotocol.org), is as follows:

- Scope 1: All direct greenhouse gas emissions.
- Scope 2: Indirect greenhouse gas emissions from consumption of purchased electricity, heat or steam.
- Scope 3: Other indirect emissions, such as the extraction and production of purchased materials and fuels, transport-related activities in vehicles not owned or controlled by the reporting entity, electricity related activities not covered in Scope 2, outsourced activities, waste disposal, etc.

The actions TCFL are currently taking to combat environmental impacts focus equally on those impacts directly or indirectly caused by the organisation itself and those permanently employed by TCFL (scope 1 & 2 emissions), and scope 3 emissions caused indirectly by TCF as an annual event. Indirect creators of these emissions within TCF (the event) include contractors, freelance labour, artists, volunteers, hired venues and other stakeholders.

TCFL are also ensuring that they are addressing all four pillars within their climate strategy (the four Climate Pillars representing the different levels at which climate action can be carried out; more details can be found at exponentialroadmap.org/business-playbook/). The first two of these pillars are the direct identification and reduction of scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions, and TCFL is completing this through the creation of short-term objectives in every annual action plan (see 'Implementation'). The last two pillars address how climate action can have a wider influence on both the organisation's long-term business strategy (Pillar 3), and how the organisation can influence climate action in society (Pillar 4). While TCFL are yet to make numerous tangible achievements within these two pillars, the long-term objectives detailed in every action plan, and the overall aim of the organisation to meet the target of the SME Climate Commitment, demonstrate that TCFL is focused on improving their climate strategy at every level of the pillar.

ORGANISATIONAL AIMS

While TCFL's overarching aim is to meet its SME Climate Commitment as explained above, (to halve their greenhouse gas emissions before 2030 and to achieve net zero emissions before 2050), several additional aims have also been created to address how TCFL specifically can improve its environmental impact, as an event and as a business. These aims are:

- To comply with the requirements of environmental legislation and approved codes of practice
- To assess the environmental impact of current and likely future operations
- To continuously seek to improve environmental performance
- To reduce both office and event-based impacts from pollution, emissions and waste
- To encourage the use of more sustainable forms of transport
- To sustainably manage the use of all resources, energy, water and procurement
- To work to reduce the amount of printed materials and single use items the festival produces/uses, and commit to using sustainable and recycled materials wherever possible
- To work with our venues to improve/reduce their environmental impact during the festival
- To recycle any waste produced in our day-to-day operations and encourage the appropriate recycling of any waste produced from and during our activities
- To raise awareness, encourage participation and train employees in environmental matters
- To expect similar environmental standards from all suppliers and contractors
- To raise awareness of the climate emergency and assist performers and festival-goers to participate in the festival in an environmentally-sensitive way
- To continually improve our environmental performance by annually reviewing our environmental policy with consideration of our current and planned future activities

IMPLEMENTATION

The policy is implemented through the annual development of an assessment and action plan. The assessment reflects on the environmental impact of TCFL since the last review using

information from monitoring data and the action plan that was in place throughout the year. The assessment also considers whether the actions and changes taken in that year were effective.

The action plan is comprised of both objectives and improvement actions. The objectives are key targets that have been set for the upcoming year determined by assessments, and the improvement actions that follow detail the specific changes that will be made to TCFL's operations in order to meet those objectives. From 2025 we have updated the quarters in the action plan so that they run from Oct-Oct each year, which makes it easier to reflect directly on the Festival just prior.

TCFL aims to apportion out its journey to the two climate targets in a feasible way and anticipates greater incremental reductions in its emissions annually until 2030. In the first few years, TCFL expects that a large number of straightforward but small changes will be made to both the organisation and festival, and hopes to see an impactful initial drop in emissions as a result of these changes. However, closer to 2050, TCFL expects the necessary changes to be larger and more complex. Implementing a strategy for carbon offsetting and minimising the costs of that, for example, will likely begin nearer to the end of TCFL's journey in relation to its timeframe.

This policy will be reviewed annually to reflect any important changes in published information, legal requirements, or environmentally sensitive processes that may affect TCFL's approach to environmental matters. Our progress in completing the aims of the SME Climate Commitment must also be reported to the SME Climate Hub on a yearly basis; this report will include our policy, assessment and action plan of the concluding year.