

Culture Coventry

Environmental Policy

Culture Coventry

Culture Coventry Trust manages all of Coventry's accredited museums, being the Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry Transport Museum and the Lunt Roman Fort. Furthermore, Culture Coventry recently restored and now manages the Grade I* listed Old Grammar School and is also responsible for the City Archives, situated within the Herbert.

Culture Coventry's museums and galleries celebrate, promote and conserve Coventry's unique cultural and heritage story. Working in partnership across the museum, arts and heritage sector regionally, nationally and internationally, Culture Coventry uses its collections and programmes to engage and interact with audiences.

We attract over 350,000 visitors a year to our sites and venues, including school's visits from across the Midlands. We employ 88 members of staff and work with 105 volunteers to deliver eight temporary exhibitions a year, along with a creative programme that includes events, workshops, school's sessions and 13 weeks of family activity.

Environmental Statement

Culture Coventry recognises that it has a responsibility to the environment that extends beyond the legal and regulatory requirements. We are committed to reducing our environmental impact and to continually improve our environmental performances, as an integral part of our business strategy and operating methods. We will encourage audiences, suppliers and other stakeholders to do the same.

Our current position

By understanding our current position, we can identify the challenges and areas of our environmental performance that we could most likely improve upon. Commissioning an environmental review by Julie's Bicycle in 2016 has enabled us to establish an understanding of our carbon footprint and establish the baseline for measuring progress going forward.

The data in the carbon footprint analysis includes measurements of gas, electricity, water and waste water. The report also recommends the development of monitoring and reporting on other services of impact, notably waste volumes and types, fleet fuel use, business travel, touring impacts and visitor impacts.

Our 2015/16 total carbon footprint was 1,112 tonnes CO₂e.

Energy use is identified as the biggest known source of this impact, as 2,581 MWh of electricity and gas generated 1,110 tonnes of CO₂e, which clearly constitutes most of the total carbon footprint.

Analysis by site demonstrated that:

- The Herbert Art Gallery and Museum generated 800 tonnes CO₂e.
The Herbert has a monthly monitoring system for energy use and uses a Building Management System, albeit one that is in need of modernisation. The building has electric underfloor heating and the remainder of the heating is sourced from Coventry's district energy scheme, which is fuelled from energy waste incineration. The Herbert is not directly charged for gas consumption due to the district energy scheme, but has an estimated amount deducted from the annual grant provided by Coventry City Council. As a result, the Herbert does not have access to its gas consumption data. A feasibility study into the installation of solar photovoltaic panels, concluded that the payback period would make the scheme uneconomical, but there has been work on the installation of some passive infrared sensors throughout the building.
- Coventry Transport Museum generated 257 tonnes of CO₂e.
Coventry Transport Museum has a monthly monitoring process for energy use. It uses a Building Management System for the control of space heating, and is lit mainly through the use of LED, CFLs and florescent tubes. A brise soleil is used in the temporary space to reduce heat gain within the area.
- The Lunt Roman Fort generated 24 tonnes CO₂e.
The Lunt Roman Fort is not connected to a gas supply and is heated with an electric heater, albeit that the Fort is only open to the public from February to October each year. The serviced area consists of a small wooden structure where the exhibition and education activities take place, so that its power demand is relatively low.
- The Old Grammar School
The Old Grammar School is heated via radiators and underfloor heating. Parts of the site are already well insulated i.e. the great hall. The recent refurbishment programme included the installation of a new and more efficient boiler along with fluorescent tube lighting.

In total, electricity generated 91% of the energy use emissions and gas 9% (from Coventry Transport Museum only).

Responsibility for the Environmental Policy

The Board of Trustees will reaffirm their commitment to the Environmental Policy on an annual basis, with the management responsibility for the implementation of actions being delegated to the Senior Leadership Team. All employees of the Trust will also have a responsibility in their area to ensure that the aims, objectives and commitments within the policy are clearly understood.

Environmental Policy Aims

The Environmental Policy Aims within Culture Coventry are to:

1. Comply with and exceed all relevant regulatory requirements
2. Continually improve and accurately monitor environmental performance
3. Continually improve and reduce environmental impacts
4. Incorporate environmental factors into business decisions
5. Increase employee awareness and training

Environmental Policy Objectives

The Environmental Policy Objectives are to:

1. Reduce our carbon foot print by 10% by March 2020, principally through measures to reduce energy consumption
2. Improve the environmental control infrastructure to exhibitions spaces, archives and collection stores in order to reduce energy wastage and improve collection care
3. Implement a flexible and digital approach to working in order to encourage a paperless culture and reduce the use of paper by 2019
4. Develop a sustainable sourcing policy and practice in catering and retail by 2019
5. Develop an approach to sustainable sourcing and to the reuse and recycling of materials for exhibitions, events and activities by 2021