



## **Community Leisure UK Environmental Priorities**

At Community Leisure UK, we recognise the climate change emergency and take responsibility as a membership body to support our members in their resilience and their local role in achieving environmental targets.

Our core work is to represent and provide a network for leisure and culture trusts across the UK, to promote the trust model and to harness the power of the collective to strengthen our members' contribution to communities. Our members are all charities, societies or community interest companies (with a public benefit asset lock) providing accessible and affordable public leisure, sport, arts and/or culture services for communities across England, Scotland and Wales.

At Community Leisure UK, our priority is to support our members to understand how they can respond to the climate change emergency, and to articulate their collective contribution to environmental targets.

As significant partners to local government and being at the heart of local communities, leisure and culture trusts can make a significant contribution to the climate targets set by local and national governments.

Through investment and their work, leisure and culture trusts, together with local government and other voluntary and third sector partners, can achieve economies of scale by collectively supporting decarbonisation efforts, increasing energy efficiency and achieving cost savings in the long-term. They play an important role in educating staff and the public, local recycling efforts, encouraging sustainable and active travel, and investment in ageing facilities to improve their environmental footprint.

At the same time, we are conscious of our environmental impact as an organisation. Our main environmental impact comes from the way we travel and organise our member events, for which we will set new guidelines and considerations aligned with our objective to support the resilience and sustainability of the public leisure and culture sectors.

## **Scope of this plan**

Community Leisure UK's environmental priorities are reflected in our work in two ways. The first is the Climate Change Action Plan as detailed below, which outlines the support we aim to provide for members, with the core objectives and main actions being based on their feedback and current work. This will be reviewed on a yearly basis to ensure alignment with the needs of members, the position of the organisation, and CLUK's annual business plans.

Secondly, Community Leisure UK will develop its own environmental policy which dictates how we as an organisation reduce our environmental impact and work in a sustainable way. This will become a separate document as it is a new organisational policy for Community Leisure UK and informed by the work we do as part of, and the learning from, the Climate Change Action Plan.

## **Monitoring and evaluation**

The Climate Change Action Plan will be reviewed at the same time as the CLUK business plan, that is biannually in a formal review, in regular reports to the CLUK Board, and monthly as part of the work plans of the Community Leisure UK staff team.

The role of Community Leisure UK is that as a facilitator with members and connector with partners and external organisations.

As 2021 is the first time we have a Climate Change Action Plan in place, and since this coincides with COP26 in Glasgow, we will take this as an opportunity to articulate our members' contributions to achieving environmental targets, share insights and learning within the membership, and use this as a starting point with partners to advocate for more collaboration with leisure and culture trusts locally.

We envision that this work will help us identify more specific actions for the years to come, and as more members get involved in their own environmental projects locally, this will lead to a greater sharing of insights and expertise, which will be reflected in our reviews of the Climate Change Action Plan in the next years.

## Climate Change Action Plan

| Aim  | Objectives   | Actions  |
|--|--|--|
| Support members in understanding how they can respond to the climate change emergency and work on their own environmental policies | Provide a steer regarding what energy efficiency looks like and what the (future) energy alternatives are                          | Work with partners on understanding the current developments in achieving energy efficiency and sharing their insights and expertise with members through briefings and webinars as appropriate.   |
|  | Gather information on average emissions, building understanding on the impact of leisure and culture facilities on the environment | Work with partners and members on gathering information on the average emissions of public leisure and culture facilities, sharing these insights with members through briefings and webinars as appropriate, and supporting conversations on understanding the impact of leisure and culture facilities on the environment within the CLUK membership through dedicated webinars.   |
|  | Share insights on what environmental policies in the leisure and culture sectors look like   | Develop a climate change contact list within the membership and through this group, collect experience from the membership on environmental policies created by leisure- and culture trusts and local environmental projects. Share these examples with the wider membership through briefings and webinars as appropriate.<br><br>Work with partners to ensure case studies and examples of leisure- and culture trusts' work are widely known and included in national examples of best practice and local government work. For example, through the Office of the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales and the Local Government's Association's <a href="#">Net Zero platform</a> , and similar initiatives. |
|  | Share best practice within the membership on what other trusts are doing   |  |

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| Advocate for collaboration between local authorities and their leisure- and culture trusts partners on achieving economies of scale and addressing the climate change emergency | Raise awareness of joint funding opportunities  | Ahead of COP26 in November 2021, produce a statement demonstrating how leisure- and culture trusts contribute to environmental priorities, including case studies of the good work that is already being done locally and the need for investment.<br><br>Following COP26, produce briefings on (local) government's targets and priorities, highlighting the role of leisure- and culture trusts.<br><br>Work with local government partners on understanding the priorities for Local Authorities, articulating the need for collaboration with leisure- and culture trust partners to tap into funding and achieving economies of scale, and providing examples from the membership on how their leisure- and culture trust partners can support local targets and priorities. |
|   | Raise awareness of the need for grant funding that leisure and culture trusts can tap into  |   |
|   | Provide feedback to local and national government on the environmental targets, articulating the contribution that leisure- and culture trust partners can make |   |
|   | Work with partners through national working groups and share the findings and messaging with members.   |   |