



## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

### **Brief Policy Summary:**

Wexford Festival Trust recognises that this is a time for action on climate change and is committed to embedding good environmental practice across our operations and programming.

### **Introduction**

Wexford Festival Trust covers the activities of Wexford Festival Opera and National Opera House, producing and presenting an annual festival; managing and maintaining one of Ireland's premier theatres; and operating this theatre as a receiving house with a full programme of events.

Human activity is causing rapid change to the climate and profoundly changing the world we live in. The consequences are being felt globally, nationally and locally and Wexford Festival Trust is committed to ensuring that sustainability and environmental protection is at the heart of the company's activities.

### **Scope**

To make this happen we will put in place an action plan which places environmental considerations at the heart of the company's business.

The initial priorities of this policy are to identify those activities with an environmental impact, creating a data plan with measurements and targets. A secondary priority is to identify activities over which the company has no control but can exercise influence.

This Policy and associated procedures apply to all Directors, Staff and Contractors working for the company.

### **Policy**

We are taking a climate-focused action to change the way we live and work and to create a sustainable future. Preparing for a changing climate and playing our part in helping to reduce the negative consequences of climate change and taking advantage of new opportunities which may come along.

It is important to concentrate on the things we can change, while influencing those we cannot, and consider ways in which each activity can become more environmentally sustainable.

We will pursue a data driven approach, identifying what we can measure and setting ourselves transparent KPIs against which we will be held accountable. To facilitate this approach, we will participate in Failte Ireland's Sustainable Festival's initiative and

In support of a more sustainable and environmentally conscious way of working, Wexford Festival Trust are committed to the following:

- Reducing carbon emissions: We strive to reduce our carbon footprint by implementing energy efficient practices and seek alternative energy sources.
- Promoting resource efficiency: We adopt resource-saving practices in our operations, such as recycling, waste reduction, and responsible purchasing, consumption and reuse of materials.

### **Specific Actions**

To achieve our sustainability goals, Wexford Festival Trust will undertake the following actions:

- As part of Failte Ireland's Sustainable Festivals initiative we will work with the company EarthCheck to complete a Sustainability Audit in 2025 which will provide a benchmark against which we will measure future progress.
- To develop and progress, and annually update, the company's Climate Action Plan, including areas such as:
  - Energy use
  - Waste
  - Materials – sets & costumes
  - Company travel & accommodation
- To meet quarterly to build a report for the Board of Directors on the progress of the annual Action Plan
- To raise awareness within the organisation of the ambitions and goals of this Policy
- To serve as a platform that encourages employees to suggest and implement green initiatives.

The Climate Action Plan details the actions required to carry out this policy and achieve the necessary results within a stated timescale. It will be updated annually.

### **Responsibility and Review**

Responsibility for implementing this policy is with the company's Green Team, chaired by the Executive Director.

The policy was created in May 2025 and will be reviewed again in May 2026. The Climate Action Plan will be approved by the Board in September 2025 and will be reviewed annually.