

## 1. Foreword

Both the Barbican Centre and the Guildhall School are world class institutions; the Barbican as an arts and conference centre and home to the London Symphony Orchestra, the Guildhall as a conservatoire and drama school. Being neighbours within the same iconic listed Grade 2 Barbican estate, and sharing a number of integrated services and management responsibilities, the two organisations have developed a joint approach to sustainability.

This policy contains actions that are ongoing and that will be implemented in the future, but it remains the case that neither organisation is starting from scratch. In many respects the Barbican Centre and the Guildhall School are operating in the vanguard, and sustainability and waste management initiatives have resulted in recognition in recent years as follows:

### Barbican Centre

- Received a DEC rating of 83, 17 points lower than that expected of a building of its size
- Platinum status at the Clean City Awards 2005, 2006, 2009, 2012, 2014
- City Air initiative, air quality pledge signatory, 2014
- Winners of Change London award for Best Project: Material Waste Management, 2012
- Shortlisted for Responsible Waste Management at the Sustainable City Awards, 2011/12
- Shortlisted for the Best Green International Business Award at the International Green Awards, 2011
- Green Hero award, 2011
- Chairman's Cup at the Clean City Awards, 2010
- Green Apple award for community projects, 2010
- Green City Champions Award, 2010

### Guildhall School

- Awarded a 2:1 by People and Planet Green League in 2012, 2013 and best performer in the Conservatoire group of performing arts HE institutions, 2014
- City Air initiative, air quality pledge signatory, 2014
- Silver Green Impact Award 2014, 2013, and Bronze, 2012
- A year on year reduction in energy consumption across the campus exceeding HEFCE carbon reduction plan targets, since 2008/9

## 2. Scope

The extent of the Guildhall School and the Barbican Centre's estates are covered by this document. A summary of the facilities that make up this estate is given below. Although the various spaces are categorised as 'Barbican' and 'School' facilities, in reality the use of certain areas is flexible and porous: as the School uses the theatre spaces at the Barbican Centre and the Barbican uses the Guildhall School's Milton Court Concert Hall, for example.

The Barbican Centre comprises of: a 1,949-seat Barbican Concert Hall; 1,166-seat Barbican Theatre; 200-seat Pit Theatre; 3 Cinemas; the Barbican Art Gallery; The Curve gallery; foyers and public spaces; the Lakeside Terrace; a roof-top tropical Conservatory; 7 Conference Suites; 3 Restaurants; 2 Exhibition Halls and several cafés and bars.



School performance facilities on the Barbican site include a 196-seat Music Hall; 80-seat Lecture Recital Room and a 308-seat Theatre. In addition, there is a Studio Theatre; 41 teaching/practice rooms; theatrical workshops; electronic music studios; recording and sound studios; the Students' Common Room and library and IT facilities. The new Milton Court site, adjacent to the Barbican, provides a 650-seat concert hall; a 220-seat theatre and a 90-seat studio theatre, as well as studios for television, radio, teaching, rehearsals, and office and support services. A student residence at Sundial Court provides accommodation for 176 students.

There are 900 FTE students enrolled at the School, and the Barbican Centre attracts an estimated 1.8 million visitors per year.

### 3. Policy

The Barbican Centre and the Guildhall School identify sustainable development as *"meeting present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs"*.

Sustainability is a process of ensuring the wise use of all resources within a framework in which environmental, social and economic factors are integrated and balanced. The Arts Community has always been engaged with promoting the welfare of the community it mirrors and has for many years highlighted the importance of environmental issues.

The Barbican Centre and the Guildhall School are committed to placing sustainability at the heart of their mission:

- Making sustainability integral to the delivery of arts, leisure, and conference activity, research, education, outreach, and operational objectives;
- Taking positive actions to promote continual environmental improvement;
- Setting and achieving clearly defined sustainable development objectives and targets.

The Barbican and the Guildhall School are departments of the City of London Corporation and work towards the City's sustainability goals [outlined in the Corporation's policy](#).

This policy should also be read in conjunction with the Guildhall School Carbon Reduction Strategy, which has its own implementation plan specifically aimed at reducing the School's carbon emissions and developed to align with HEFCE targets and is updated annually.

### 4. Communication

Sustainable issues are communicated internally to staff and to students through clear notices and guidance on the intranet, including links to any policies, staff and student offers, (e.g. for the cycle scheme). The Barbican Centre and Guildhall School 'Sustainability' group will continue to advocate green issues, and will meet regularly to explore new initiatives along with more sustainable ways of working.

Together, we will continue to communicate our green successes with audiences, alumni, and other external parties. Sustainability will feature within both organisations websites, which will include highlighting awards and other recognition for work achieved. Where appropriate, artistic output at both places



such as festivals, exhibitions, film screenings or other events, will promote a green agenda, as well as educational and outreach events focused on the local environment.

The Barbican Centre displays information about its green initiatives on plasma screens throughout its public spaces. In addition, both venues host information online, suggesting how visitors and students can contribute.

See examples below:

[http://www.gsmd.ac.uk/about\\_the\\_school/about\\_us/sustainability/](http://www.gsmd.ac.uk/about_the_school/about_us/sustainability/)

<http://www.barbican.org.uk/about-barbican/sustainability>

## 5. Actions

The primary environmental impact generated by the operation of our offices and venues are: fossil fuel energy consumption; water consumption; waste generation; office supplies and services (paper resources consumption, toxicity of inks and finishes etc.); emissions to air, food consumption; resource use for office electronic equipment, furniture and stationery; toxicity of cleaning products, technical theatre materials, furniture and equipment. In addition, indirect or other less visible environmental impact may be felt from contracts such as our banking, website/ email account service hosting and associated cloud computing strategies.

Within the framework of the [City of London's Sustainability Policy](#), the Barbican Centre and Guildhall School have set up an action plan detailing initiatives underway, or which are planned for the near future, relating to areas of energy, water, waste, food, travel, toxicity, procurement, construction & refurbishment and biodiversity.

The full set of Actions is included at the attached as Appendix 1: 'Barbican and Guildhall School Action Plan'

## 6. Reviewing, Updating, and Measuring Success

We set objectives and targets annually to ensure continual improvement of our environmental, social and economic performance. Our Barbican Centre/Guildhall School action plan provides details on these measures and initiatives along with target dates for implementation.

The Barbican Centre and the Guildhall School will assess and report on their environmental performance annually, and this will inform a renewed action plan and targets for the following year.

### Credits

This Environmental Policy was developed using guidelines from Julie's Bicycle, [www.juliesbicycle.com](http://www.juliesbicycle.com)



The City of London Corporation is the founder and principal funder of the Barbican Centre