

Operational Policy & Procedures

Ref No: OP 2025 - 02	Title: Climate Policy	
Date Issued: 21/03/2025	Review Date: 2028	Source Ref: Best Practice/GOV: Climate Action Plan 2021 /Arts Council Climate Action Roadmap 2024

Policy:

This Climate policy promotes a clean, safe and healthy environment for Galway Community Circus (GCC) staff, members and the wider community.

It aims to support the reduction of Galway Community Circus' carbon and environmental footprints and formally commits Galway Community Circus to being an environmentally responsible organisation.

Objective:

GCC is committed to sustainability development as a guiding principle within our work. We will continue to assess the Environmental aspects and impacts of our operations within our capabilities and set realistic and achievable targets to improve our environmental performance within the organisation's financial and operational constraints.

Scope:

This policy has been produced to support the management, staff and participants of Galway Community Circus to reduce their carbon and environmental footprints.

Procedures:

We are committed to:

- Leveraging Green Technologies.
- Complying fully with all relevant legal requirements.
- Assessing the Environmental aspects and impacts of our operations toward reduction of these impacts.
- Promoting environmental and energy awareness in our employees.
- Monitoring our progress to ensure ongoing improvements in our environmental performance.
- Communicate this policy to stakeholders and the public, and work with the Management Company of our rented and shared venue to reduce the impact of the Centre's operations.

Energy

- Optimise energy efficiency and conservation in our operations.
- Reduce the impact of our business activities by promoting alternatives e.g. Buy Local in equipment and services where possible, public transport, bike, carpooling, online meetings where appropriate for international meetings.
- Support our building owners (Community Centre) in acquiring funds for environmental refits for the Centre (Solar/Insulation etc).
- Allow blended working where appropriate.

Waste

- Actively promote reduce, reuse and recycling.
- Provide recycling and composting bins in the office.

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- Particular attention paid to correct disposal/recycling of hazardous materials, such as: batteries, print cartridges and IT hardware (WEEE waste).
- Promote a paper-free office – restricting the use of current office printer in order to promote paperless practices, while allowing exemptions where necessary for accessibility reasons. Provide an online accessible filing system to allow the Team to access needed paperwork online.

Continuous Improvement Procurement

- Review all suppliers and contractors to ensure GCC work with those of the same environmental ethos.
- Purchasing products and services that have the least environmental impact, where this is feasible.

Awareness/Training

- Encouraging environmental awareness among our employees.
- Promoting environmental awareness throughout our business.
- Ensure that all employees understand our environmental policy and conform to its standards.
- Informing and motivating all our staff and encouraging them to play an active role in committing to our environmental policy.

Environmental concerns today, remain at the forefront of global discourse, the concept of a “Green Culture” within businesses and organisations is becoming increasingly relevant.

Green Culture refers to a collective organisational attitude, behaviour, and commitment towards the protection and sustainability of the environment. It encompasses the values, beliefs, and practices that work in unison to reduce the ecological footprint, promote environmental stewardship, and align business operations with sustainable practices.

As Organisations and businesses play a significant role in environmental impact, fostering a culture that prioritises environmental considerations will inevitably lead to tangible benefits both for our organisation and the planet. Circus practice has long been intertwined with Green Practices and Culture and Galway Community Circus will continue to strive toward a more environmentally sustainable organisation.

Board Approval Date:

29/03/2025

Signature Chair of Board:

