

Environmental Policy

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This policy lays out Soundabout’s commitment to continuous improvement in our actions to decrease our environmental impact.

1. Statement of Intent

Soundabout acknowledges the connection between the climate and environmental crises; the threat of current and future homelessness, disease, food and water shortages, and poverty for millions of people around the world. As well as the major damage being caused to the natural world.

Soundabout therefore recognises our responsibility to reduce our carbon and environmental footprints and commits to being an environmentally responsible charity. We recognise both the imperative and the opportunity in responding to the global challenges of climate change and securing environmental sustainability, acknowledging that rapid and urgent action is needed across all sectors of society.

We are committed to best sustainable policy and practice. We know that supporting our environment requires sustained action, and we are committed to reducing our environmental impact year on year, continuing our commitment to securing a green future.

To achieve this we commit to the following actions:

2. Our Commitment

Soundabout has appointed the CEO to take responsibility for enacting and reporting on our commitment to becoming an environmentally responsible organisation. The CEO will lead the Green Group who will work collectively to lead on an Environmental Action Plan.

1. To ensure Soundabout has a clear idea of what we have already achieved and what still needs to be done, an annual environmental audit will be prepared and presented alongside the annual accounts that will include details of;
 - Energy carbon footprint
 - Electricity usage (personal)
 - Transport fuel/costs/means
 - Total waste production
 - % of waste recycled

- Total paper consumption
 - % Recycled paper used
 - (% Renewable energy used)
 - Any other relevant environmental criteria.
2. Soundabout annual report will include a summary of this annual environmental audit of the charity.
 3. Progress on the improvement of Soundabout's environmental performance will be a standard item at team meetings.
 4. All staff contracts will include a clause stating that staff will be expected to carry out Soundabout's aim of being an environmentally responsible organisation, in how they carry out their day-to-day duties.
 5. Induction procedures for new staff/volunteers/practitioners will include information on the charity's environmental practices.
 6. Soundabout will research the environmental policies/statements of our current and future suppliers and use this as criteria for supplier selection.
 7. Soundabout will seek to have relevant environmental clauses included in any future contracts agreed with external organisations.
 8. Soundabout will include environmental responsibility training in any future staff training programmes.
 9. Soundabout will observe existing environmental legislation as a minimum standard and seek to out-perform current legislative requirements where practical.
 10. Soundabout will develop and maintain advice on sustainable transport for staff, volunteers, freelancers seeking to reduce unnecessary travel and making the transport that is necessary as sustainable as possible.
 11. Soundabout will as part of the planning, procurement and delivery of any new work commitments, projects or initiatives consider the environmental impact of any work before it is undertaken.
 12. Soundabout will as part of the planning, procurement and delivery of any current work commitments, projects or initiatives review the environmental impact of this work at point of contract/agreement renewals.
 13. Soundabout will strive to become a role model for good environmental working practises and will share any knowledge and experience gained in how to achieve this, with other organisations.
 14. Soundabout will examine any financial savings and investments, including pensions, to try and ensure that any investments are only used to support environmentally responsible organisations.

Review:

This environmental policy shall be reviewed annually upon its adoption.

	Date	Completed by
First Written	17 April 2023	Holly Radford-James
Trustee Approval	Jun2023	Emily Nunns
Next review date	April 2024	

Soundabout, John Eccles House, Robert Robinson Avenue, Oxford Science Park, Oxford OX4 4GP

Website: www.soundabout.org.uk

Email: info@soundabout.org.uk Tel: 01235 797474

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