

## Environmental Policy 2024

Blue Teapot Theatre Company recognises that climate change is having a serious and negative impact today, represents a growing threat to the future of humanity and is fuelled by human activity. We recognise the role that theatre has played in this environmental emergency through the work we have created, the raw materials we have used, and by inviting artists, students and audiences to travel to our location.

However, we believe that Blue Teapot can be part of the solution, by examining every part of our business to make change. We believe these changes will happen through the stories we tell, the culture we create, the practices we teach and by encouraging empathy and understanding throughout our community.

Blue Teapot's commitment to taking action to make change is highlighted in our 2023-2027 Strategic Arts Plan *Owning The Space*, with environmental awareness being a core value.

We have already started to make significant progress towards reducing our carbon impact and are pledging to continue this journey in line with the Irish Government's 2021 Climate Act and Action Plan, which commits Ireland to 51% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. The scale of the changes required means we will scrutinize every part of the way we operate with the full commitment of the theatre's staff and board.

### Our commitments are to:

- Embed environmental sustainability at the heart of everything we do.
- Set year-on-year carbon reduction targets within our Environmental Action Plan.
- Share our mission and goals with our stakeholders and organisations that we collaborate with.
- Report on our progress annually.
- Seek expert advice and guidance and to share our experience, learning from others within the wider sector.

### Our areas of focus are:

**Energy** - We will continue to improve the efficiency of our buildings to reduce energy usage. We will achieve this by making improvements within the fabric of the building, upgrading our lighting and equipment as well as monitoring and quantifying our energy usage. We will monitor travel by staff, artists, students and audiences and will create a plan to reduce the environmental impact this has.

**Waste** – We are committed to improving our waste management and significantly reducing the waste we produce. This will be achieved by examining the material we use, our work practices and the products we buy.

**Water** – We will monitor water usage within our buildings and identify steps that can be taken to make reductions.

**People** - We will empower our staff, artists and students to examine their own practices and decision-making, with ideas for change that will filter throughout the business. We will work with the companies we collaborate with to ensure that we have a shared environmental vision and goals. Our mission is to embody environmental action that will galvanise positive change, informing our community through storytelling and our achievements, enabling audiences to understand the importance of our goals and for those audiences to then minimize their own pollution and carbon footprint.

**Monitoring and reporting** - We are committed to quantifying and monitoring our progress through the actions we set out and the data we collect. This Environmental Policy will be supported by our Environmental Action Plan and both will be reviewed on an annual basis by our Board and updated as necessary.