

Sustainability Action Plan

City Recital Hall is on Gadigal Land

City Recital Hall acknowledges that we are located above the Tank Stream which has always been an important waterway on Gadigal Country. We also acknowledge the importance of the living cultural practice of caring for Country. Our First Nations people have used resilient land management practices for thousands of generations and know that if we care for Country, it will care for us.

Why is sustainability important for City Recital Hall?

City Recital Hall contributes to carbon emissions and our ability to play our part and influence is important. We can reduce our carbon emissions and at the same time show our audiences, artists and peers what is possible.

Many of the ideas in this plan such as: switching to greener lighting sources, reducing energy consumption, reusing materials will, in the medium term, save money. With rising electricity and gas prices, there is also a financial urgency to act.

About City Recital Hall and our sustainability achievements to date

City Recital Hall Ltd is a registered not for profit with the sole task of operating City Recital Hall. Our sphere of influence for reducing operational waste and for reducing our environmental footprint is focused on what comes in and out of the building, which is sublet from the City of Sydney. We have limited capacity to make substantial changes to the building. We can influence the sustainability of our operations and this is where we will make improvements.

100% Renewable Power: In late 2022, following a competitive market price review, we switched to 100% renewable power to reduce our emissions. Our landlord, the City of Sydney, aims to phase out natural gas from their operations over coming years.

Capital Works: In the coming months and years, we are completing capital upgrades that include replacing foyer lights, auditorium lighting, and amplification fittings and consoles with more energy efficient options to reduce power consumption. We are pleased to be supported by the City of Sydney's resource recovery framework for construction and demolition projects.

Sustainable Destination Partnership: In late 2022, we joined the Sustainable Destination Partnership; a collaboration including hotels, hostels, cultural institutions, entertainment venues and others who work together to make Sydney a sustainable destination. We will be sending delegates to working groups to improve our processes for an array of issues, learning from and sharing information with our industry peers.

Supply Chains: We are evaluating both our supply chains and suppliers for opportunities to reduce embodied emissions and deliver circular economy outcomes. So far, we have made switches for toilet paper, tissues, cleaning products, single use water bottles, recyclable glass products for Front of House bars, bin liners for our office bins, and office paper (which is 100% recycled and indigenous owned). We no longer maintain paper files and introduced a digital-only archiving system. We have recycled and donated our old tech to local community theatre groups and Reverse Garbage instead of simply disposing. Items that have needed to be thrown away, such as e-waste, have been thoughtfully disposed of.

Reducing Paper Waste: We have opened a dialogue this year with our presenters and hirers regarding the excess of programs and exit billing flyers leftover at the end of each shows run that are being recycled. This

dialogue has seen a reduced amount of paper waste at the end of each show and we plan to formalise this further into a structured process in 2023.

Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose, Recycle

Much of our Sustainability Action Plan is based upon the five R's: Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose, Recycle. Increasing awareness of among staff, presenters, and visitors about waste avoidance in this way is a priority.

What City Recital Hall can do to reduce our environmental footprint?

Staff Training: To change old practices so that lights are switched off, waste reused and recycled where possible, and heating and cooling settings are always correct/switched off when spaces are not in use. Delegates will also be sent to working groups as part of us joining the Sustainable Destination Partnership.

Writing Green Policies into Contracts: Our 2024 contracts with our presenters and hirers reflect their involvement in meeting our sustainability goals, and they are informed of our internal green policies. We will assist with this where possible by giving presenters and hirers access to any contracts we have set up with recycling and waste firms.

Keeping Accurate Records: By recording our energy consumption, we can track how we are doing against targets and identify peaks in use. In doing this, we can identify significant savings. This is a potential outcome of joining the Sustainable Destination Partnership.

Investigating Carbon Offsets: As a not-for-profit organisation with a commitment to true sustainability we are not able to purchase carbon offsets but believe this is a potential sponsorship opportunity that we will be investigating.

Building Management System: Over the next few years, we will be updating our building management system to be inclusive of smart building energy management principles.

Green Procurement Policy: In 2023, City Recital Hall will develop a Green Procurement Policy and have designated staff who meet regularly to discuss what needs to be implemented or changed to reduce our carbon footprint in our purchasing choices.

Reporting: The Sustainability Action Group members will be reporting to staff at team meetings, and to the Board at Board Meetings, regularly measuring ourselves against our goals. We will also report on our progress in our annual report.

Stocktaking for Paper Waste: Commence measuring presenter and hirer oversupply and waste generated by paper programs and exit billing activities to feed back to them to reduce overall waste.

Plan Updates: The working group will meet regularly and review this plan on a 6 monthly basis.

Action	Status
Building & Capital Works	
Switch to 100% renewable power	✓
Use renewable or sustainable construction resources	In progress
Switch to energy-efficient lightings, fittings, & auditorium consoles	In progress
Become member of Sustainable Destinations Partnership	✓
Investigate carbon offsets sponsorships	In progress
Upgrade Building Management System/s	In progress
Supply Chains	
Switch to 100% recycled toilet paper and tissues	✓
Switch to environmentally friendly cleaning products	✓
Switch to 100% recycled paper	✓
Introduce a digital-only archiving system; no longer use paper filing	✓
Develop a Green Procurement Policy	In progress
Waste & Recycling	
Donate old tech and production items to local community groups	✓
Become single-use plastic free in our bars	✓
Have sorted recycling bins in our office	✓
Reduce excess paper marketing collateral with all presenters	In progress
Staff	
Create a Sustainability Action Plan	✓
Write a Green Policy into our contracts from 2024 onwards	In progress
Delegates sent to Sustainable Destinations Partnership committees	In progress
Formalise processes for energy saving & correct waste disposal	In progress
Encourage staff to use public transport	✓
Report actions and achievements to Board and at staff meetings	In progress
Action	Status
CRH Marketing & Communications	
Use local printers	✓
Reduce printing	✓
Switch from paper to digital venue signage	✓
Formalise a process for stocktaking client paper wastage (programs)	In progress