



Festival Makers Conference

A GREENER EVENT

Informed by the Arts Council's new Climate Action Policy, the FESTIVAL MAKERS Conference 2023 will adopt the following approaches to reduce its environmental impact. The following will form conference commitments; actions by which we will benchmark our evaluation.

CONFERENCE COMMITMENTS

Venue and Transport.

1. The Arts Council will encourage and incentivise conference attendees to use public transport and will select a venue with public transport links.
2. The Arts Council will encourage and support carpooling and private transport sharing to attend the conference as well as the use of electric vehicles.
3. Information will be provided on the Galway City bike scheme ([TFI bikes](#)) for those whose accommodation may be further than walking distance from the venues.
4. For international visitors (where possible) the Arts Council will provide the option of slow travel - where this is not possible, carbon offsetting measures will be employed or virtual attendance will be considered.

Accommodation.

5. For those overnighing the Arts Council will select local providers in close proximity to the venue (walking distance) with a commitment to environmentally friendly practices.

Food and Catering.

6. The Arts Council will provide locally sourced food to reduce emissions used during transportation.
7. The Arts Council will ensure the catering provider avoids the use of plastics and non-recyclable materials and has a commitment to the reduction of food waste.
8. The Arts Council will ensure that unused food products are composted.
9. The delegate information pack will include details of the Galway City water refill scheme and other opportunities for minimising impact on the environment

Materials and Waste.

10. Through the approach of reduce-reuse-recycle, the Arts council will minimise waste and prioritise sustainable solutions. This includes reduction in paper printing, taking smart approaches to design to ensure reuse of any materials and ensuring there are recycling stations at the conference venue.
11. Screens and projections will be used where possible in place of corriboard or PVC print materials for information signage, branding and venue dressing.
12. Name badges (sustainably printed on recyclable material) bearing a QR code will link to the conference e-information pack, hosted on a secure server.
13. Sufficient WiFi and charging stations for mobile phones and computers will be provided at venues to enable full access to the e-pack at all times.

Vendors and Contributors.

14. The Arts Council will outline that sustainability is a shared value. The Arts Council will ensure that during procurement of services that vendors and contributors are required to, re-use, recycle and engage in environmentally friendly practices in preparation of, during and in the wrap up of the conference event.

Cloud-based Platforms (CBP) and virtual attendance.

15. CBP's will be used in évent management and coordination to ensure the event is committed to paper reduction and sustainability practices. Web-based communication platforms such as Skype, FaceTime, You Tube/Facebook live streaming will be used to provide broader access to the event and to reduce carbon emissions through travel.