Two Queens Gallery & Studios
2 Queen Street, Leicester LE1 1QW

Two Queens Environmental Policy and Action Plan, 2025-27

Aims & Objectives

Two Queens commits to transparency and responsibility in our environmental strategy, in order to limit and reduce our environmental impact within reasonable measures as quickly as possible. We recognise the severity of the climate crisis, including the role of the creative industries in perpetuating malpractice, and aim to set a new standard in our field, within our means.

Within the years 2025-26 we will continue to formally measure our environmental impact, and implement short and medium term solutions made possible by project grants funding from Arts Council England. In 2023 we undertook Carbon Literacy Training as a team, and continue to implement pledges based on this training. Additionally we are refining our approach to using Julie's Bicycle Creative Green Tools to record the carbon impact of our programmes.

We are currently in the research and planning stage of long term sustainability goals, wherein the biggest reductions to our carbon footprint are likely to be made possible by capital works to our building. This will only be possible to formulate once the lease/freehold has been secured. Work we are undertaking in the next year is seeking to lay the groundwork for this, including putting together a feasibility study including environmental audits and reports recommending most suitable measures to implement. This work has been made possible by East Street Arts' GUILD programme, with additional sources of funding to be secured.

Action Plan

Action	**Attributed to**	**Timeframe**
Energy/Appliances		
From March ‘23 our energy supplier will be British Gas Lite, with which we are locked into a 3 year contract. Their supply mix is 75% Renewable sources, 25% Nuclear. As this contract nears its end we will seek a new supplier from 100% renewable sources. A smart meter is now fitted, allowing more detailed/daily monitoring of consumption.		Review prior to March ‘26
Investigate installation of renewable energy generation (i.e. solar panels) within capital works/architectural feasibility		26/27
Educate studio holders on energy saving methods and commence PAT test of all electrical items in building to ensure safety and efficiency of appliances		
Heating/Insulation		
Currently no heating or significant insulation within the building, reliant on inefficient portable heaters. Recommendations for suitable heating/insulation improvements to be implemented during capital works		26/27
Lighting		
Lights are gradually being upgraded to LED fittings as and when they need replacing. Large-scale replacement of remaining fittings to be factored into capital works plan.		Ongoing
Some areas of building are currently lit on a sensor/timer system, investigate cost of expanding this more widely across the building to mitigate for lights being left on unnecessarily		Ongoing

Water		
Use of grey water/rain water recycling system to be investigated as part of architectural feasibility, with aim of reducing water use		26/27
Inclusion of sensor operated taps within architectural feasibility to reduce water use		26/27
Material Resources		
Aim to Reduce/Re-use/Recycle 100% of materials used in exhibitions installs (i.e. MDF sheets and CLS timber) and only dispose of if absolutely necessary		Ongoing
Include consideration of waste material generated in the commissioning process with artists, and suggest solutions that minimise waste from projects. Include in Curatorial Policy when drafted by new Advisory panel		Ongoing
Commit to working with artists who consider environmental impact of their practices and wherever possible ask studio holders and collaborators to uphold policies		
Redirecting material surplus streams to other projects in the city - ie cardboard and compost to gardens, art materials to schools, osb to craft groups.		
Refine systems for measuring and recording of types/amounts of waste generated, to be tracked using Julie's Creative Green Tools		Ongoing
Suppliers		
Audit current providers of consumables, stationary, art materials		
Move towards buying from BDS compliant suppliers, cooperatives and B Corp organisations only		
Chemicals		
Audit current organisational cleaning chemical supplies, find ecological products to replace (current chemicals were acquired during pandemic)		Spring 26

Audit art materials used by studio holders that could be toxic, for example paint thinners, resin, and work towards agreement of minimisation and safe disposal		
Where regulations allow, use non-toxic household ingredients that can be bought in bulk to avoid single use plastics, and keep in communal use		
Travel/Transport		
Gallery staff travel to work by public transport, on foot or by bicycle		Ongoing
Visitors and artists are encouraged to travel by public transport except for reasonable circumstances. Include public transport information on website, highlighting lack of parking		Ongoing
Preferred courier for all exhibition transport is JD Art Transport, who use a zero-emissions van, find a secondary zero-emissions supplier for times where JD are busy. Minimise trips and combine consignments where possible		Ongoing
Awareness		
Investigate next steps around Carbon Literacy, including attaining Carbon Literate organisation status and running training again for wider society membership		Spring ‘26 onwards
Set up an environmental sub-committee, between staff and community, who will be tasked with finding solutions for further carbon reductions		Spring ‘26 onwards

Date Created	Review Date	Reviewed by whom and date	Actions