



Environmental Policy and Action Plan 2016-2019

Dance4's vision

Dance4 is an International centre for the development of extraordinary 21st century dance.

Mission Statement:

Dance4 strives to play a significant role in the development of the art form of contemporary dance and is at all times committed to a programme of work that acknowledges the varying needs of artists, practitioners and audiences. Dance4 places the 'questioning of practice' at the heart of all of its programmes and supports the championing of research and learning. Dance4 seeks to develop a culture of advocacy, debate and dissemination across all aspects of its programme and is committed to both partnership working locally/regionally, and to delivering and engaging in work of national and international significance.

Dance4 believes that mobility (in terms of people travelling) is important to its work for many reasons

- as a way to broaden horizons
- to see how others do things
- to engage with the most exciting artists internationally
- to take a high quality live experience to a diversity of people.

Dance4 also recognises that the arts needs to play its part in working towards UK and international climate change commitments to reduce carbon emissions.

Dance4 is keen that its Environmental Policy should enhance its reputation as a forward-looking organisation that promotes good practice.

Environmental commitments

Dance4 is committed as an organisation to:

- Develop an understanding of the impact that D4 has on the environment
- Embed thinking about environmental sustainability into the everyday function of D4.
- Strive to improve our environmental performance
- Communicate with our team and our funders about our environmental impact

Implementation

The Environmental Policy is a statement of Dance4's commitment to help reduce the impact of our activities on the environment. The policy is supported by an Environmental Action Plan which specifies how the policy will be implemented, with targets, dates and a named person responsible for delivering it.

Dance4 will work with its Board, senior management and staff to ensure it considers and communicates the environmental impacts of its activities. For each financial year it will assess and report its environment performance to stakeholders. This information will be used to update the action plan for the coming year.

Refocus of Environmental Policy for 2016 and beyond

Dance4's first Environmental Policy and Action Plan was developed in 2013 and has been updated annually.

In May 16 Dance4 moved to a new home, the international Centre for Choreography (iC4C) where it was the first tenant at a refurbished building, Space 2, owned and managed by Nottingham City Council.

The building refurbishment met BREEAM Outstanding standards through the inclusion of many features including solar panels, thermostat controlled heating, high-grade insulation to walls and roofs, triple glazing, motion sensors to control lighting in communal areas and re-use of materials. In Dance4's own tenant fit-out further efforts were made to reduce energy use through installation of LED lighting and low energy appliances.

The move to iC4C will bring an increasing focus to Dance4's programme with the bringing of several strands of work into the building and an increase in capacity for artists residencies and external hires. The floor space occupied by Dance4 at iC4C is significantly higher than previous spaces but the energy use per square foot should be lower.

The use of iC4C will become the main focus of Dance4's environmental policy from 2016, ensuring that the carbon footprint of operations is minimised and other green strategies are pursued effectively. A Green User guide will be developed to be shared with staff, resident artists and visitors.

Although Dance4 is only a tenant and not the building owner, it is able to have more control and influence over energy use than previously possible. During the first year of operations data will be gathered on energy consumption and subsequently targets can be established. The annual Environmental Action Plan will include strategies to minimise energy consumption whilst also reflecting the small-scale nature of Dance4's operations and its financial and resource capacity to implement change.

Scope of Policy

a) Operation of international Centre for Choreography

Gas use at Space 2 is on a single meter and will be apportioned by floor area by NCC and charged to tenants. Gas is only used for heating of radiators in communal and tenanted areas.

Electricity use at Space2 is for all lighting, hot water heating, systems, air heating/cooling units, general power and specialist power circuits. The electricity charged to Dance4 at iC4C can be broken into 3 separately metered uses for communal areas, heating/cooling units in Dance4 studios and all other power in its tenanted area.

Water use at Space 2 will also be apportioned by tenant floor area and charged to Dance4 by NCC .

Key Measure: gas, electric and water consumed at Space 2:

Gas use to heat Space 2 (apportioned to Dance4 and communal areas)
Electricity use in communal areas (apportioned to Dance4)
Electricity use in D4 areas
Electricity use for heating/cooling in Dance4 studios
Water use for Space 2 (apportioned by floor area)

Travel to iC4C by staff and visitors has an impact. No parking is provided for staff and there is only a small visitor car park for the whole building, to be used by arrangement. However there is secure cycle storage and good public transport links. Staff and visitors will be encouraged to use public transport, walk or cycle to get to iC4C with clear information provided in the user guide.

Waste and recycling services are provided by NCC for the building. Dance4 will encourage use of recycling for mixed materials plastics through provision on bins and information in the user guide.

b) Staff travel for work

Staff need to travel for work around the East Midlands, the UK and internationally. Reasons for travel include: meetings, networks, training, see other performances and events, attending our own programmes.

Staff travel is essential to the way Dance4 operates. There is an important factor to the success of programmes to attend 'in person' and also 'be seen' to be present around the region as well as the UK and internationally. However, consideration should be given to **whether travelling is always necessary** (rather than using Skype/phone) and **what method of transport** is used. **Efficient journey planning, car-sharing or public transport** should always be considered. As air travel is the least carbon efficient form of travel, alternative transport should be used **where practicable, i.e. trains/car within the UK and Eurostar and international trains rather than flights.**

c) Programme

The programme will be the greatest part of Dance4's overall environmental impact including:

- travel by artists for meetings, teaching, research, rehearsing, performing,
- travel by audiences/participants to events
- overnight accommodation for artists
- heating and lighting of event venues
- stage lighting, sound and video equipment at events
- transport of sets and equipment

The quality and impact of Dance4's artistic programme is the primary priority for the organisation and its commitments to mobility and to the 'live experience' are key to this priority.

Ways to reduce environmental impact of the programme can only be considered if they do not affect the primary priority, but there are still things that can be done.

In planning projects, it is important to look at where **Skype/phone** can be used, **efficient journey planning**, particularly with touring, and what **means of travel** is used.

Cross-programme working and scheduling where artists are used on more than one project, (e.g. teach on CAT when working on a residency) is encouraged, as it will reduce total journeys necessary.

Providing information on public transport for audiences and participants attending activities can reduce carbon emissions.

Reporting and Review

The Environmental Policy will be reviewed every three years by the Board.

The Action Plan will be updated annually by the Executive Director along with the submission of monitoring data to funders. This will be reported to the Board in June each year.

The Environmental Policy was approved by the Board of Dance4 at a meeting on 5 December 2016.