



Design Museum Commercial Hire & Events

Environmental Impact Roadmap



Reducing the environmental impact of events

The Commercial Hire and Events Department at the Design Museum is committed to showing leadership in reducing the environmental impact of events, especially within the ‘unique venues’ sector. We are making bold changes to the way events and displays are planned and managed for internal as well as commercial clients.’

By partnering with environmentally conscious suppliers and focusing on improving how we plan and design our events, the Design Museum can reduce the amount of carbon emissions its events would typically produce and positively contribute to the organisation’s ambitions.

Environmentally conscious event practices are also socially responsible and often result in positive brand recognition.

They create a positive impact on guests, including sponsors, patrons, and industry partners.

By setting out our strategy towards more sustainable event practices at the Design Museum, we aim to bring all team members and stakeholders along on a journey to be proud of.

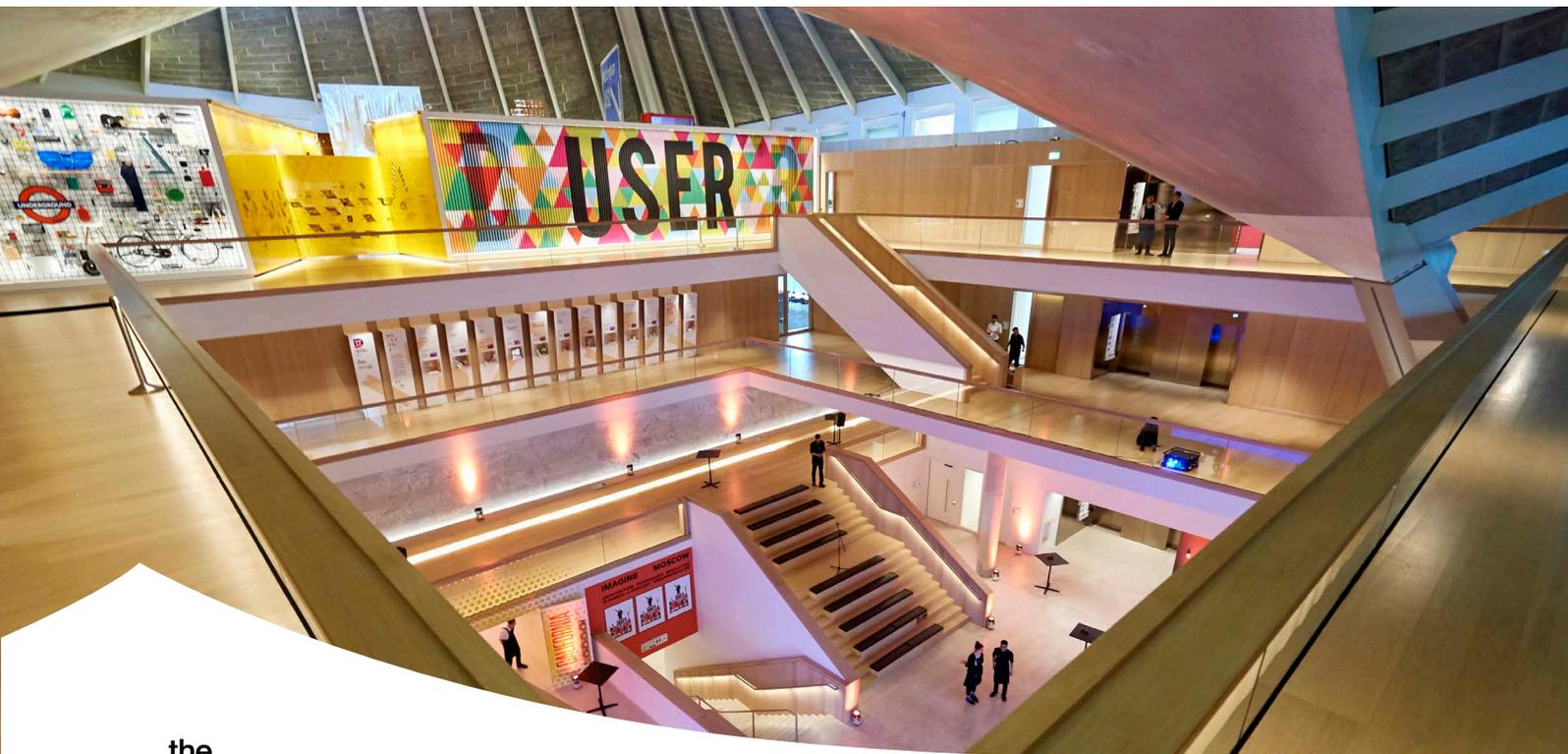
Environmental impact should form part of every event planning decision, so we seek to ensure everyone is regularly engaged and briefed on goals, objectives, and ideas to reduce carbon emissions.

Our Building and Operations



the Design Museum

✓	Procures 100% renewable electricity backed by Renewable Energy Guarantee of Origin (REGO) .
✓	Maintains a target of recycling a minimum of 70% of our operational waste.
✓	Maintains a zero waste to landfill strategy
✓	Operates a grey water harvesting system supported by Sustainable Drainage across the estate.
✓	Obtains our heating, including domestic hot water, from a district heating scheme.
✓	Operates our Heating, Ventilation and Cooling system to reduce energy use through minimisation of run time, heat recovery and the purposeful consideration of environmental requirements to limit the areas requiring strict control.
✓	Uses a battery energy storage and DSR aggregation system to reduce emissions and balance electrical loading.
✓	Proactively minimises our lighting energy use through occupational hours and movement sensors.
✓	Proactively explores energy reduction strategies.





Commercial Hire & Events

✓	All our accredited event suppliers have been rigorously selected to ensure that they are working towards Net Zero, are committed to Zero Waste to Landfill, and are encouraging new ways for clients to make their events more sustainable in their design proposals.
✓	All our accredited catering suppliers are committed to reducing waste in their operations and to reducing the carbon footprint of their produce sourcing.
✓	Design and Technology are constantly evolving allowing us to challenge existing work practices and offer innovative solutions to clients and for our own museum-led events.
✓	The sales team approach client briefs with environmental impact at the forefront of their pitch, suggesting solutions that have less impact on the environment in partnership with suppliers.
✓	We are a digital team, we print only necessary documents.



Roadmap timeline



As of April 2024



For internal events our invitation, RSVP, and guestlist processes are digitised to avoid paper waste.



We operate a no single-use plastics approach to cover the events catering operation and event production, except in circumstances where no reasonable and safe alternative has been found.



We no longer permit single use carpets. A carpet is regarded as single use if it's only going to be used for one event day and cannot be reused or recycled fully.



We prioritise reusable equipment and if that is not possible then consider biodegradable alternatives. There are numerous options available in compostable tableware that have a lower carbon impact. These range from rustic palm-leaf serving trays and bowls to plant-based, wheat or bamboo straws.



Vegetarian menus are served at all museum-hosted events, and we encourage a vegetarian or plant based first approach for commercial events.



We suggest at least 70% vegetarian and vegan options in catering quotes.



We no longer permit the use of single use plastic floor or furniture covers.



We encourage local and seasonal food when selecting menus.



We no longer permit the use of floral foam on site.



We encourage public transport use or ride-shares.



By December 2024



We will create eco-friendly merchandise and gifts in collaboration with the retail team.



We will ensure all of our suppliers are zero waste to landfill or have clear targets to achieve this.



We will work with suppliers to promote an Organic first approach with animal welfare and fair trade in mind.



We will ensure all accredited caterers donate leftover food or recycle food waste.



We will encourage all suppliers to have achieved one of the following or similar accreditations:

- UNFCCC Race to Zero
- Net Zero Carbon Events Pledge
- ISO 14001 certification
- Certified B Corp



We will publish case studies to measure environmental impact of exhibition partnerships and brand activations.

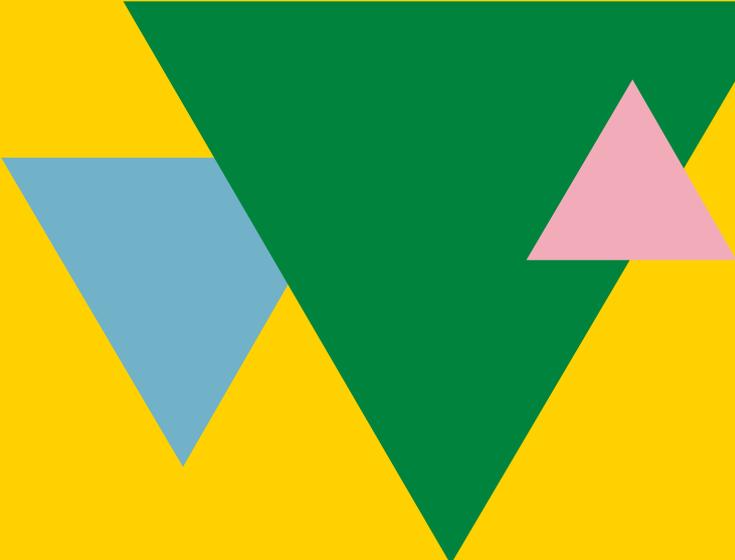


We will explore the viability of a carbon tracker for all exhibition partnerships and brand activations to be used with accredited suppliers and clients.



We will install a water refill station near meeting spaces and in our back of house space.

In January 2025, we will publish a report that considers the changes and initiatives we have put in place, and the impact these have had. We are looking ahead at further changes and innovations as we continue to work together to address our collective impact on the planet.



Contact information

Livia Puggini - Head of Commercial Hire & Events

Email: livia.puggini@designmuseum.org

020 3862 5907 | venuehire@designmuseum.org

designmuseum.org/venue-hire

Follow us on Instagram here: [@designmuseumevents](https://www.instagram.com/designmuseumevents)