

# Bodies of Water - Environmental Sustainability Policy

October 2024

## UP Projects

UP Projects is the UK's leading public art organisation specialising in socially engaged public art commissioning. UP Projects leads the way for progressive, artist-led projects to permeate the public domain. Our work connects communities, shapes identities, empowers inclusion and addresses the most pressing issues of our time.

## *Bodies of Water*

UP Projects is leading *Bodies of Water*, a national touring public art commission by German/Korean artist Anne Duk Hee Jordan and local community collaboration programme, that explores our human relationship with the natural world, and how a public artwork might work towards a net positive environmental impact.

*Bodies of Water* will be presented at A la Ronde, Exmouth, Devon and Haigh Hall in Wigan, Greater Manchester and has grown out of place-based partnerships in both locations. UP Projects is working closely with A La Ronde and Haigh Hall, Wigan as venue partners, with specialist support from Exeter University, RSPB and Julie's Bicycle. *Bodies of Water* will focus on our embodied relationship with water, raising awareness of the importance of sustainable water management, an issue that is pertinent to communities across both locations.

*Bodies of Water* is commissioned and curated by UP Projects working in partnership with A La Ronde and Wigan Council and generously funded by Arts Council England.

## Our motivation

As a public art commissioning organisation, we recognise the influential role public art can play in raising awareness of some of the most pressing issues of our time. With this project, we aim to raise awareness of the climate emergency and invite audiences, participants and event goers and all stakeholders engaging with the project to experience ourselves as part of the biosphere and therefore empowered, capable and responsible for change. *Bodies of Water* also reinforces UP Projects' commitment to develop more sustainable approaches to commissioning public art and to share learning with the sector.

## Statement of policy

UP Projects is committed to reducing the negative environmental impact of the activities related to *Bodies of Water* that are relevant to the Artwork, the Events (Community Collaboration Programme, Sector Events and Activities in Schools) and the Digital Web Experience, in particular those relating to:

- Production: fossil fuel energy consumption (heating, lighting, water, electricity usage), waste generation and use of materials
- Office activities: printing, digital/IT, supplies and services, waste
- Travel and transport: business travel, artwork touring and freight, audience travel

## Our Key Environmental Objectives (KEOs)

We are committed to making decisions in accordance with our Key Environmental Outcomes, working with suppliers, fabricators and collaborators whose environmental goals, processes and ethics align with UP Projects'.

Over the course of the project, with focus on activities linked with the Artwork, Events and Digital Web Experience Production, our KEOs will aim to:

1. Reduce **energy** consumption
2. Reduce **waste**
3. Reduce impact of **office** activities (equipment; digital/IT)
4. Prioritise **low impact material** procurement
5. Prioritise **low impact travel and transport**
6. Monitor environmental **impact of artworks on local ecosystems**
7. Develop **knowledge and skills** in relation to sustainable practice
8. **Advocate for sustainability** with audiences, partners and stakeholders

We are implementing the above 8 KEOs by collecting and monitoring qualitative and quantitative data in relation to each category. Our progress is recorded through a separate document titled "Action Plan". We will invite all project stakeholders (partners, creative collaborators, fabricators/contractors and audiences) to share environmental data in relation to the above KEOs.

## Monitoring and learning

We are working with Julie's Bicycle to set, monitor and deliver the project in accordance with our KEOs throughout the project. As an organisation we are committed to learning and to continuous improvement around embedding efficient and effective sustainability practices and processes.