



The National
Youth Brass Band
of Great Britain

National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain (NYBBGB) Environmental Policy (NYBBGB-POL-002)

Policy Statement

The National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain (NYBBGB) recognizes the importance of environmental sustainability and is committed to minimising its overall environmental impact. This includes, but is not limited to, addressing carbon emissions, reducing waste, promoting sustainable resource use, and encouraging environmentally responsible behaviour throughout all aspects of our operations. As a touring organisation without fixed premises, we will focus on promoting sustainable travel, responsible consumption, and raising environmental awareness through our music and partnerships. We strive to embed sustainability into our courses, concerts, and daily activities to contribute positively to environmental preservation.

1. Purpose

This policy outlines the NYBBGB's commitment to environmental sustainability and details the actions we will take to reduce our environmental footprint, promote reduction, reuse and recycling, prioritise sustainable food sourcing, and raise awareness of environmental issues.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all members of the NYBBGB, including trustees, staff, musicians, volunteers, and stakeholders involved in the band's operations and activities, including residential courses and concerts.

3. Environmental Objectives

3.1 Sustainable Travel

As a touring organisation, travel constitutes a significant portion of our environmental footprint. To address this:

- NYBBGB will **encourage the use of rail travel** wherever it is economical.
- NYBBGB will actively promote **car-sharing** among members and staff to reduce individual vehicle use and minimise emissions.

3.2 Raising Environmental Awareness Through Music

- **Music Commissions:** The NYBBGB will commission and perform works that focus on environmental themes, such as climate change, conservation, and sustainability. By incorporating these themes into our performances, we aim to use the power of music to promote environmental consciousness.
- **Partnerships:** NYBBGB will seek to form partnerships with environmental organisations to enhance environmental education and advocacy through collaborative initiatives, performances, and outreach programs.

3.3 Responsible Resource Use

- **Sustainable Merchandise and Materials:** We will prioritise sourcing sustainable and environmentally friendly merchandise, including products made from recycled or eco-friendly materials. Additionally, we will reduce the environmental impact of printed materials by favouring digital communications wherever possible.
- **Waste Reduction, Reuse, and Recycling:**
 - NYBBGB is committed to reducing waste across its operations by promoting the use of **reusable materials** and discouraging single-use items. Band members will be encouraged to bring **reusable water bottles** and use **reusable containers** during courses and events.
 - **Recycling:** Where waste is generated, NYBBGB will ensure that recycling facilities are available and properly utilised. We will work with venues that have **robust recycling programs** to ensure responsible disposal of materials like paper, plastic, and other recyclable items.
 - **Reuse:** The NYBBGB will actively encourage the **reuse** of items wherever possible, including the repurposing of materials or equipment to reduce the need for new resources and limit waste. We will explore ways to share or donate used items within the band community before considering disposal.

3.4 Sustainable Food Sourcing

Food consumption is a significant part of NYBBGB's residential courses. To reduce the environmental impact of our food choices:

- **Sustainable Sourcing:** NYBBGB will prioritise venues and caterers that use locally sourced, seasonal, and organic ingredients where possible, reducing food miles and supporting sustainable agriculture.
- **Ethical Choices:** We will encourage the inclusion of plant-based meal options to reduce the environmental impact associated with meat production.
- **Waste Reduction:** NYBBGB will work with venues to minimise food waste, encouraging portion control, and promoting the donation or reuse of surplus food where possible.

3.5 Venue Selection and Environmental Awareness

For our **residential courses and concerts**, NYBBGB is committed to ensuring that the venues we use align with environmental sustainability practices. To this end:

- We will **assess and be cognisant** of the environmental policies of venues selected for NYBBGB events, ensuring they demonstrate a commitment to sustainable practices, including **waste reduction, recycling, resource efficiency, and sustainable food sourcing**.
- Preference will be given to venues with **comprehensive recycling programs**, energy-efficient systems, and a proven track record of responsible environmental management.

4. Implementation and Responsibilities

- The **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of the NYBBGB is responsible for the implementation of this policy. The CEO will monitor progress and ensure that the band meets its environmental objectives.
 - All members, staff, and volunteers of the NYBBGB are expected to actively support and comply with the provisions of this policy, including following waste reduction, recycling, reuse, and sustainable food practices during courses, concerts, and events.
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5. Monitoring and Review

This Environmental Policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure its relevance and effectiveness. The review process will assess progress in achieving the objectives outlined above and explore new opportunities to enhance our sustainability efforts.

6. Continuous Improvement

NYBBGB is committed to the continuous improvement of its environmental performance. We will seek opportunities to further minimise our environmental impact, focusing on the principles of **reduce, reuse, recycle, and sustainable sourcing**, and leveraging our role as a national youth organisation to inspire broader environmental action.

Policy Effective Date: 2 November 2024

Policy Review Date: February 2028

Approved by:

The Trustees of The National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain.