



WITHOUT WALLS ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY ACTION PLAN 2026 - 2027

This plan sets out Without Walls environmental commitments for 2026-27, including actions, measures of success and responsibilities. It should be read alongside the Without Walls Environmental Policy 2026-27. Progress is reported quarterly to the Board and the action plan is reviewed annually. Without Walls holds a dedicated environmental budget to support the delivery of this action plan, including training, expert support and resources.

GOVERNANCE				
OBJECTIVE	ACTION	MEASURE	TIMESCALE	RESPONSIBILITY
The Board provides active, informed oversight of WW's environmental commitments.	The Board monitors progress, identifies opportunities and risks, and ensures environmental responsibility shapes strategic decisions. Engage new Board member(s) in the Environmental Responsibility Action Group.	Quarterly reports reviewed and actions tracked; one new Board member actively participating in ERAG.	Quarterly; ERAG engagement from Q2 (new Board Member)	Head of Festival Partnerships & Company Secretary
The Environmental Responsibility Action Group (ERAG) is a proactive, strategic and forward-looking forum that visibly shapes organisational direction.	Review ERAG structure, agree direction of travel, and update Terms of Reference. Ensure the group generates ideas and drives environmental action across the network. Consider points of connection between WW's environmental and EDI strategies.	Updated ToRs produced by Q3; ERAG input demonstrably influencing decisions and actions.	ToRs finalised by Q3; ERAG quarterly meetings	Head of Festival Partnerships & ERAG
All Board members and staff understand WW's environmental policy and their individual responsibilities.	Embed environmental awareness in induction, training, and ongoing organisational culture. Assign clear departmental ownership of specific areas in the action plan.	Policy and plan included in all staff and Board inductions.	Q1- meetings with each department	Head of Festival Partnerships & Festival Partnerships Manager

ARTISTIC PROGRAMME				
OBJECTIVE	ACTION	MEASURE	TIMESCALE	RESPONSIBILITY
WW commissions and supports ambitious work that demonstrates environmentally responsible approaches to creation, production and touring, while also encouraging artists to explore climate change, environmental sustainability and social justice in their work, where relevant.	The Artistic Directorate curate the annual Creation & Touring and Blueprint programmes to include work demonstrating innovation in low-carbon and environmentally responsible approaches in creation, production or touring.	At least one R&D and one commission with a strong environmental focus selected each year.	Ongoing; open call docs review by Q1 Q2 - Q3 C&T and Blueprint programmes selected	Head of Programme & Artistic Directorate (AD)
Environmental sustainability is embedded as a priority throughout the selection and commissioning process.	Develop an internal framework for scoring that explicitly promotes innovative environmental approaches.	Updated scoring criteria in use for all 2026-27 open calls.	Q1 for implementation Q4 review for 2027-28	Head of Programme
WW supports the financial resilience and onward touring of previously commissioned work, maximising the environmental value of existing productions by extending their touring life.	Support onward touring of back catalogue shows to Touring Network partners. Offer training support and guidance to artists on onward touring opportunities in and outside of the WW network.	At least 20 back catalogue shows supported into onward touring to TNP in 2026-27	Ongoing throughout year	Head of Programme & Head of Festival Partnerships

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT				
OBJECTIVE	ACTION	MEASURE	TIMESCALE	RESPONSIBILITY
WW festival partners have strong practical knowledge of environmental responsibility in the context of presenting outdoor work.	Provide tailored support including training, 1-to-1 consultation, and practical guidance through expert support. Facilitate peer exchange between festivals to share learning and resources. Provide guidance on climate adaptation planning and where relevant draw on connections between environmental and EDI actions.	At least one training session delivered; notes from 1-to-1s recorded; at least two peer-exchange opportunities facilitated.	Training by Q3; 1-to-1s delivered in Q3 - Q4; peer exchange by Q4	Festival Partnerships Manager
Commissioned and R&D artists embed environmental responsibility into their creative practice, exploring low-carbon innovations in the creation and touring of their work.	Offer bespoke support including training, 1-to-1 consultation, and practical guidance through expert support. Share examples of best practice and relevant resources.	At least one training session delivered to artists; notes from 1-to-1s recorded; feedback from artists collected.	Training by Q3; 1-to-1s delivered in Q3 - Q4; peer exchange by Q4	Head of Programme
Without Walls is a carbon-literate organisation that promotes ongoing environmental learning across the network.	Ensure all staff receive Carbon Literacy Training; encourage Board attendance. Work in collaboration with Outdoor Arts UK and Wild Rumpus to produce an outdoor arts focused Carbon Literacy course.	All staff trained; Board offered training annually; CL course produced and launched by Q4.	Staff training by Q3; Carbon Literacy course produced by Q4	Festival Partnerships Manager
Pilot opportunities for shared programming, coordinated touring, and resource sharing across the network.	Devise a framework for supporting informal regional clusters - or clusters by festival dates - across the network to enable shared programming, coordinated touring, and resource sharing.	Framework developed by Q3; regional cluster pilot underway by Q4.	Framework developed by Q3; pilot by Q4	Festival Partnerships Manager

COMMUNICATIONS, ADVOCACY & SECTOR LEADERSHIP

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	MEASURE	TIMESCALE	RESPONSIBILITY
WW's environmental action and commitments are clearly communicated, publicly accessible, and openly reported.	Publish clear, accessible and honest accounts of environmental activity. Promote examples of best practice from festival partners and supported artists. Maintain a rhythm of internal and network-facing environmental communications throughout the year. Produce a public-facing annual impact report.	Environmental Policy and Action Plan available on the website; two artists case studies produced and shared; annual impact report produced and promoted.	Policy and Action shared in Q2; two artists case studies by Q4; annual impact report by Q3	Head of Communications & Development
WW is an active, visible leader in environmental sustainability across the outdoor arts sector.	Participate in key sector forums and networks; contribute knowledge and influence thinking. Keep abreast of local, national and international research and initiatives. Explore models of best practice in climate adaptation, as well as examples that demonstrate the intersection between environmental responsibility and equitable, inclusive practice.	At least one conference attended; one case study or article produced on climate adaptation for outdoor events.	Ongoing throughout year	Head of Festival Partnerships

MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	MEASURE	TIMESCALE	RESPONSIBILITY
WW measures, monitors and reduces its organisational carbon footprint, establishing new systems appropriate to its co-working environment at Waulk Mill following the move in early 2026.	Monitor energy and water use at Waulk Mill and set benchmarks. Assess recycling provision. Apply the Travel & Expenses Policy to encourage sustainable travel.	Monitoring systems in place and benchmarks set by end of Q2; waste audit completed by Q2.	Q2 benchmarking; waste audit; annual Julie's Bicycle report	Operations Manager
Environmental risk is included into WW's organisational risk management.	Review and update the risk register to include climate-related and environmental risks, including the specific operational risks that climate change poses to outdoor festivals (extreme weather, heat, flooding, wind). Ensure mitigation measures are assigned and reviewed at least annually.	Environmental risks added to risk register by Q2; Climate adaptation risks identified and logged separately from mitigation-focused risks; reviewed at each Board meeting; mitigation actions tracked in the action plan.	Q2; reviewed quarterly	Head of Festival Partnerships and Head of Finance

MONITORING & REPORTING

OBJECTIVE	ACTION	MEASURE	TIMESCALE	RESPONSIBILITY
WW's Environmental Policy and Action Plan remain current, ambitious, and aligned with best practice and legislation.	Review and update the Policy (every two years) and Action Plan (annually), informed by legislation, sector best practice, and organisational learning. Ensure updated documents are live on the website and shared with the Board and staff.	Action Plan reviewed and updated annually; Policy reviewed biennially (next due 2027); updated documents published on website.	Annual (Q2); Policy review June 2027	Head of Festival Partnerships
WW monitors and transparently reports on its carbon impact year on year.	Meet reporting requirements via Julie's Bicycle Creative Climate Tools. Produce an annual carbon analysis for WW operations.	Annual Julie's Bicycle data submitted; year-on-year carbon data published in impact report; targets set for next year.	Annual (Q4 reporting); ongoing monitoring from Q1	Operations Manager
Environmental data from partner festivals and supported artists is systematically collected, analysed, and used to inform future decision-making and demonstrate progress over time, including data on how changing weather conditions and climate impacts are affecting the planning and delivery of outdoor events.	Continue to build sustainability monitoring into WW ongoing evaluation frameworks. Analyse environmental data from festivals and artists, and study trends, progression, challenges and recommendations.	Data collected from festivals and artists across the programme in Q3; annual analysis produced by Q4 with trends and recommendations reported to ERAG and Board.	Evaluation forms updated in Q1; Environmental data collected in Q2-Q3; Reporting by Q4	Head of Programme and Head of Festival Partnerships