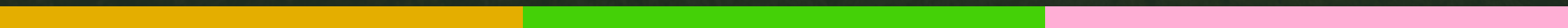


Bradford Culture Company Events Sustainability Toolkit



BRADFORD
Culture Company

SAIL



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← **Grue** at Damart Mill, Bingley by Andrew Bengé
Cover image: Penistone Hill by Karol Wyszynski



Following on from what we've learned in delivering Bradford 2025 UK City of Culture, we have gathered some simple tools and resources to help you implement your event in a sustainable way.

To support you we have set out guidelines and best practice behaviours across a number of themes aligned with the Bradford 2025 Sustainability Action Plan. We invite you to reflect on your current practices and plans by completing this file.

This toolkit was developed by [SAIL](#), the sustainability partners of Bradford 2025.

Need Help?

If you have any questions regarding the guidelines set out here, require assistance with using this document, or want support and advice on implementing sustainable solutions, please contact the SAIL team at info@wearesail.org.

← **Les Girafes** in Centenary Square, Bradford by Andrew Bengue

Event and Organisation details:

Event name:

Date(s) of the event:

Location of the event:

Organisation name:

Organisation postcode:

Company contact email:

Checklist completed by:

Sustainable Behaviors and Best Practice	Do you do this? (tick boxes that apply)			
	Yes, we do this	We do some of this / some of the time we do this	No, we don't do this currently	This isn't applicable for our event/ activities
Use mains power from the grid instead of generators (benefits: lower emissions, no local transport, air pollution nor noise issues)				
If you have to use temporary off-grid power, use renewable power sources (such as solar) or batteries charged from the grid				
If using temporary power, accurately assess power demand to avoid over-specifying generators by either asking power users for a list of equipment, power ratings and running times, or ask power provider to do this (this could save money too!)				
Specify energy efficient equipment and controls for the site including e.g. LED lighting, tungsten rather than discharge lights, active PAs, low wattage amps, timers, sensors				
Use rechargeable batteries (e.g. for mics) rather than one-use				
Provide event staff, traders and contractors with information/training on energy-saving actions				
Put a procedure in place to power down the event site out of hours				
Get readings on event power use from energy / power suppliers – mains and/or temporary power – monitor this to see if you can reduce it				
Communicate what you are doing on energy to event-goers				

Do you do this? (tick boxes that apply)				
Sustainable Behaviors and Best Practice	Yes, we do this	We do some of this / some of the time we do this	No, we don't do this currently	This isn't applicable for our event/ activities
For travel we can control (staff, performers), travel is mainly domestic (within the UK) and no one travels by plane				
Clearly signpost and encourage low or zero carbon travel options to event staff and volunteers e.g. map of walking and cycling routes, identify nearest bus and train stations, set up car sharing scheme				
Work with the local transport authority and/or sustainable transport organisations or campaigns to provide low emission transport for event attendees e.g. discounted or free public transport tickets or city bikes, electric shuttle buses, car-sharing, park and ride schemes				
Clearly signpost and encourage low or zero carbon travel options to event attendees e.g. map of walking and cycling routes, identify nearest bus and train stations and make sure it is clear as part of event information and prioritised over car information such as parking				
Work with traders, suppliers and contractors to consolidate deliveries into as few trips as possible to minimise travel emissions				
Monitor and report on travel impact by looking at distances travelled and mode of transport to enable carbon footprint calculations and monitor progress towards decarbonisation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • event-related travel for which you pay e.g. staff, performers • Ask traders, suppliers and contractors to report on transport • Include questions on travel in audience surveys 				

Do you do this? (tick boxes that apply)				
Sustainable Behaviors and Best Practice	Yes, we do this	We do some of this / some of the time we do this	No, we don't do this currently	This isn't applicable for our event/ activities
Production:				
Follow circular economy principles from the start of event planning and design for zero waste. Educate staff and provide design guidelines to keep resource use to a minimum e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use existing, hired, borrowed, re-purposed or recycled materials rather buying new • Design for ease, reuse and recycling of temporary structures, stands, stages such as using standard size, easily dismantled set or modular designs 				
Selecting materials and resources that can be re-used, re-purposed, or recycled rather than going to landfill				
Specify the use of low-impact materials e.g. non-PVC materials, zero or low Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) adhesives and coatings, water-based and low VOC paints, natural fibres over synthetics				
Packaging – Food & Drink:				
No single-use plastic items such as balloons, plastic cutlery, straws, sachets, food containers, cups, bottles and plastic bags				
Provide free and easy access to drinking water and encourage staff and audiences to bring their own reusable bottles				
Offer discounts and incentives to staff and audiences who bring their own containers such as reusable coffee cups				
For packaging and takeaway food and drinks, reusable containers are provided i.e. hard plastic reusable cups that are returned and washed				
If reusable containers aren't used, packaging and serveware is made from compostable materials e.g. card, cardboard, vegware				
Food containers have lids - provide options for people to be able to take food home with them to minimise food waste				

Do you do this? (tick boxes that apply)				
Sustainable Behaviors and Best Practice	Yes, we do this	We do some of this / some of the time we do this	No, we don't do this currently	This isn't applicable for our event/ activities
Marketing:				
Digital programs and tickets are available and promoted over printed formats				
For printed materials, specify the use of recycled, sustainably sourced, un-chlorinated and uncoated paper or card, using water or vegetable based inks				
For event materials (e.g. signs, stands, banners, lanyards) specify the use of sustainable materials and design for reuse or recycling (e.g. Avoid hard-to-recycle materials like plastics, polystyrene and PVC)				
For t-shirts/other branded clothing, specify the use of Fairtrade and organic textiles printed with water based inks or vegetable dyes				
Work with sponsors to ensure merchandise and give-aways are sustainably and responsibly sourced				
Waste:				
Separate bins are provided for recycling, food waste (if applicable), & general waste and signage is clear for users				
Waste contractors separate waste and report total event waste volumes, types and disposal route				
Provide event staff, volunteers and contractors with information/training on waste separation, recycling and reuse				
Communicate to event attendees what you are doing to reduce waste and how they can help				

	Do you do this? (tick boxes that apply)			
Sustainable Behaviors and Best Practice	Yes, we do this	We do some of this / some of the time we do this	No, we don't do this currently	This isn't applicable for our event/ activities
Themes of the climate and/or biodiversity crisis are present in the program event such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • climate science education • highlighting current and future impacts • showcasing solutions and the importance of a just transition 				
An environmental sustainability policy is current, regularly reviewed and publicly accessible e.g. on a website				
Monitor and report on environmental impacts including carbon footprint, waste and resource use, and set near and long-term targets to reduce				

Theme	Resource	What is it	Link
Energy	Power Saving Solutions	Supplier of Hushh Pods - battery systems, can be used in hybrid set up with generators.	powersavingsolutions.co.uk
	Instagrids	Supplier of battery systems, providing portable low carbon power for events.	instagrid.co/gb
	Skoon Marketplace	Get non-binding quotes and compare prices and find the perfect battery, gas generator, hydrogen generator or other energy system for your needs.	skoon.world/marketplace/en
	Allye	Smart battery provider & energy solutions	allye.com
	Green Voltage	Green energy provider for events industry	greenvoltage.co.uk
Travel and Transport	You Smart Thing	Sustainable travel planner.	yousmartthing.com
	Your Next Bus	Map showing bus stops and real-time bus information in West Yorkshire.	connect.wyca.vix-its.com
	Sustrans National Cycle Network	Cycle route map.	sustrans.org.uk/national-cycle-network
	LNER Beryl bikes	Bradford e-bike hire scheme	beryl.cc/scheme/bradford
	Cycle Streets	Cycle route journey planner including photos and information on cycle parking.	bradford.cyclestreets.net/journey
	National Rail	Rail journey planner and information on local stations.	nationalrail.co.uk
Programme and Comms	Julie's Bicycle Guide to Developing an Environmental Policy and Action Plan	This guide will take you through the process of producing a policy and action plan for your cultural organisation with how-to guides, tips, templates, examples & useful resources.	juliesbicycle.com/resource/environmental-policy-and-action-plans-an-overview/
	Julie's Bicycle Creative Climate Tools	A free carbon calculator that enables artists and cultural organisations to track their environmental impact, record progress and make strategic changes.	juliesbicycle.com/our-work/creative-green/creative-climate-tools/
	The Theatre Green Book	Best practice and measurement tools for environmentally sustainable theatre at any scale.	theatregreenbook.com
	Sustainable Suppliers Questionnaire	Created by Theatre Green Book community to standardise information requested from suppliers about sustainability credentials.	theatregreenbook.com/sustainable-suppliers/
	From Imagination to Action	A guide from SAIL on how to effectively communicate climate change through storytelling and marketing communications.	wearesail.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/SAIL-From-Imagination-to-Action-Guide.pdf
	Communicating Your Climate Action Guide	Julie's Bicycle handbook offering practical tips and inspiration for cultural organisations and creatives to share their climate stories with confidence.	juliesbicycle.org/resource/communicating-your-climate-action-guide/
	CriSS	The Critical Sustainability Stories Tool (CriSS) has been designed for professional storytellers seeking to curate stories that portray the complexities of the climate crisis and sustainability challenges that society faces.	screen-network.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/CriSS-Tool-Guidance-Notes-Dales-and-Padfield-v.3.pdf

Theme	Resource	What is it	Link
Materials and Waste	Galleries Climate Coalition Materials Guide	Best practice on materials selection for artists.	artist-toolkit.galleryclimatecoalition.org/section/materials
	Resource Hub	The Resource Hub is a free platform helping theatre, film, TV and all other creative professionals source and donate high-quality materials. We facilitate peer to peer exchange, as well as offer collection and delivery services of assets such as sets, props, costumes and equipment. Our storage space is based in Shipley.	resourcehub.co.uk
	A Good Thing	Platform for donating unused material to local charities.	agoodthing.org.uk
	Bradford Organic Communities Services	3 environmental projects under one organisation, BOCS run Bradford Community RePaint, a paint reuse store, SCRAP Magic, providing recycled craft materials, and Wibsey Community garden.	bradford-organics-communities-service-ltd.org.uk
	Scrapstastic	Craft and scrap store based in Shipley.	scrapstastic.org.uk
	SCRAP	Social enterprise based in Farsley, focused on helping the environment by reusing waste materials from businesses as resources for art and play.	scrapstuff.co.uk
	Seagulls Paint	Based in Leeds, Seagulls is a nationally recognized, award-winning social enterprise built around the recycling and reuse of paint.	seagullsreuse.org.uk
	Leeds Wood Recycling	Leeds Wood Recycling is a social enterprise working to divert waste wood from going to landfill.	leedswoodrecycling.co.uk
	Borrow*	Borrow* provides accessible reuse solutions to disrupt the disposable food and drink packaging market. Based in Bradford.	borrow.greenstreet.org.uk
	Ilkley Thingery	Not-for-profit repair project and Library of Things. Based in Ilkley.	ilkleythingery.org
	AV at It	Community centred audio-visual team, offering affordable access to sound and lighting tech including professional services, equipment hire, and PAT testing.	av-at-it.co.uk
	The Unit	Resources for filmmakers and creatives at all levels, including production and post-production equipment hire. Based in Keighley.	theunit.org.uk
Terracycle	Recycling solutions for hard to recycle materials like food packets, other soft plastics, cosmetics, stationary etc.	terracycle.com	

Bradford District Climate Action Plan

bradford.gov.uk/environment/sustainability/climate-action-plan/

No Climate Action Without Us Toolkit

juliesbicycle.org/resource/no-climate-action-without-us-toolkit/

Climate Outreach - report on climate messaging in cultural activities

climateoutreach.org/btc/2025/report/culture-entertainment/

Green Events Code of Practice

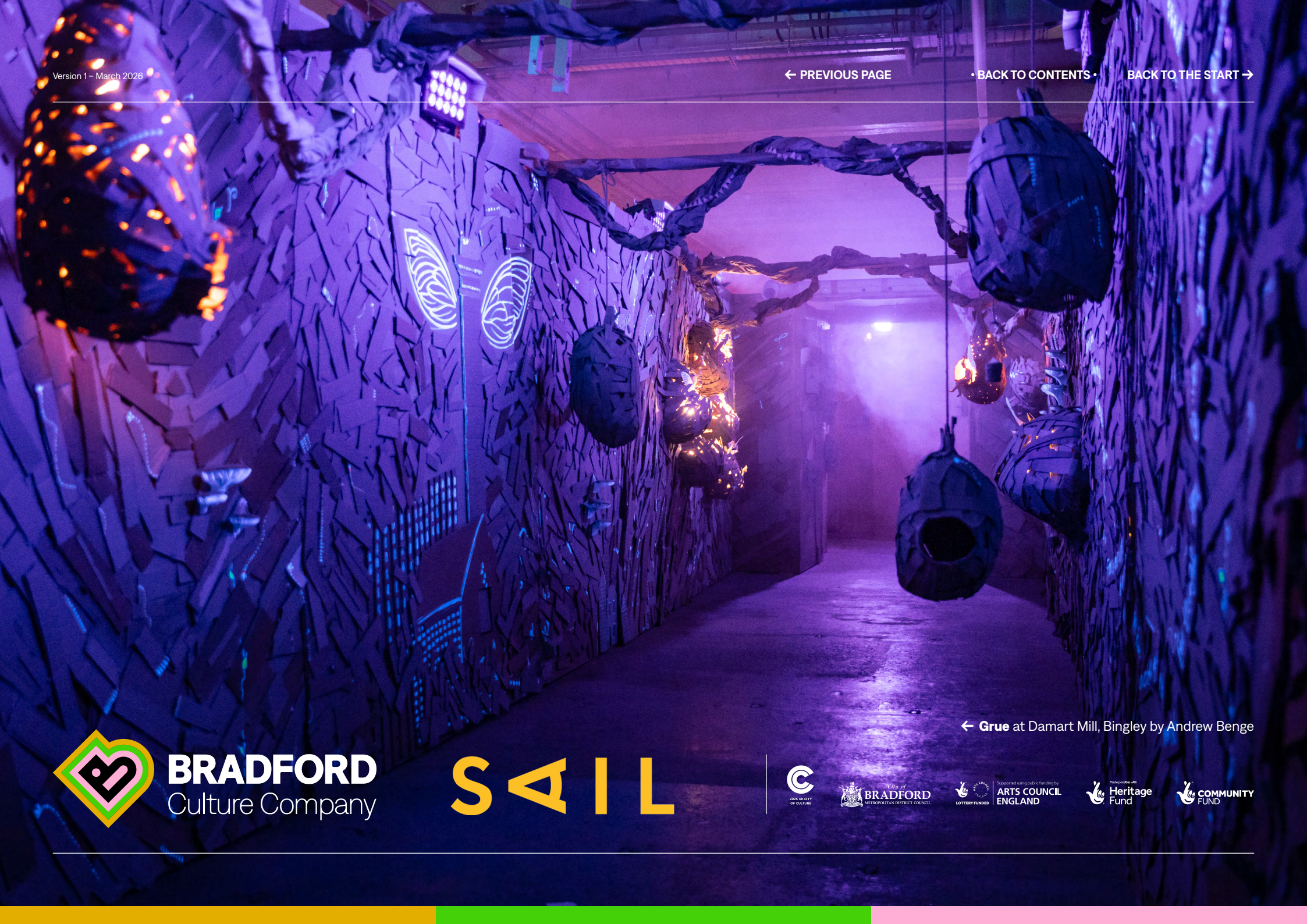
visionsustainableevents.org/green-events-code/

Carbon Literacy Training

wearesail.org/carbon-literacy-training/



↑ **Tower by Steve Messem**, part of Wild Uplands by Nida Mozuraite



← Grue at Damart Mill, Bingley by Andrew Bengie