

# THICK & TIGHT'S ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

## Thick & Tight's approach to environmentalism:

Our approach is a sustainable model which encompasses the social, financial and ecological aspects of environmentalism. We are trying to:

- be ethically and ecologically aware
- be responsible and considerate
- reduce the damage our activity causes to the environment
- reduce wasteful spending and excessive consumption
- learn about and challenge social injustice which leads to environmental instability
- promote a healthy active lifestyle amongst our artists and participants

## **Queer Ecology:**

As part of several of our current projects, we are learning about 'queer ecology'. This has become a particular area of interest for us and is a big influence on our work. Queer ecology looks at nature, biology and environmentalism through a lens of queer thought. Some of the main ideas are that:

- Human beings should not be considered to be separate from or more valuable than other parts of the natural world
- Words like 'natural' and 'unnatural' can be used negatively to create divisions between people, restrict behaviours and limit what is considered acceptable within society. Being queer (or different in other ways) has often been called 'unnatural' and this must stop
- There are many examples of queerness throughout the natural world
- A queer perspective might offer insight into a less damaging human impact on the natural environment

Our research into queer ecology is ongoing and will crossover with and influence our work to advocate for social justice through art.

## **Thick & Tight's environmental impacts and commitments**

Thick & Tight does not have its own building or venue. We work from home and hire rehearsal and meeting space when needed. This means that our control over building-related environmental impacts is limited.

The areas which we can control or improve in environmental terms are:

- Admin activities (energy, waste, supplier choices, communications)
- Travel (including for collaborators, artists, participants, audiences)
- Working at other venues (rehearsals, classes, performances and meetings)

**Our key environmental commitments are:**

**To reduce waste and unsustainable consumption:**

- To reduce unnecessary purchases, reuse and recycle as much as possible, to make green choices in stationery
- To discuss green design choices (e.g., reused/recyclable costume materials, reduced shipping distances, packaging reduction, energy efficient technical equipment) with our design collaborators
- To reduce the number of online orders we make (e.g., Amazon), to reduce our reliance on unsustainable consumption and big business and instead to support small businesses and independent craftspeople
- To support low-carbon and ethical dietary choices (e.g., vegetarianism/veganism), when providing meals or snacks to our team

**To reduce energy use:**

- To reduce travel and related emissions and to encourage our team, artists, participants and audiences to consider the environment when travelling. Thick & Tight seek to travel by train and other low-emission means of transport, avoiding flying or other high-emission means of transport wherever possible
- To choose lowest shipping or freighting distances wherever possible
- To discuss with venues how we can minimise excessive energy usage while in their buildings
- To consider the impact of our communication choices, such as by making phone calls rather than video calls and not sending unnecessary emails

**To maintain an environmentally aware ethos:**

- To create work which addresses current climate issues and related social inequity
- To commit to understanding how our cyber activity impacts the environment and how it compares to live activity
- For the Co-Directors to engage in environmental issues and support their artists and regular participants to understand similar environmental responsibility
- To understand and align with industry standards, using the [Theatre Green Book](#) to guide our practice and track our environmental impact and sustainability

Date of last policy review	9 Dec 2024
Date of next review	Autumn 2025
Signed	El Perry
Position	Co-Director