Photo: Kashif Haque

Environmental Impact Evaluation 2025

Helen Freudenberg June 2025

Executive Summary

Spread the Word engaged an Impact and Evaluation Consultant to assess the environmental impact of the 2025 Deptford Literature Festival taking place between 27 - 30th March 2025. The aim was to establish baseline measurements and provide recommendations for future sustainability improvements assessing Transport & Travel; Materials & Resources; Waste Management; Digital Footprint and Venues/Spaces. Food and drink was also added to the report. The following is a summary of the report.

The festival uses minimal materials and resources mainly due to budget restraints but this has an excellent sustainability benefit too. The inputs and outputs of the festival were tracked and it was recommended to create a Sustainable Procurement Policy to ensure that any purchases are from sustainable/ethical sources.

In the lead up to the event, it became clear that because all venues were used concurrently for non-festival activities there was no way to separate festival vs non-festival use with regards to waste, water, wastewater and power use. Therefore it was not possible to create baseline measurements here. However, the festival could consider creating a Green Rider to encourage venues to adopt sustainable practices in addition to existing practices.

The Albany and Catford Library served food and drink and whilst this is not under direct management of the festival, sustainable food and drink sourcing (and other aspects associated with this such as single use plastics) could be included in a Green Rider or Sustainable Procurement Policy to encourage and engage venues in sustainable food and drink.

Types of waste produced at the festival were tracked along with their final destinations for disposal. Bins to support separation of different types of waste at the venues was lacking and could be improved; the current system results in waste that could be recycled or aerobically digested being destined for incineration. Lewisham Council services all four venues and processes waste locally which is an excellent example of low transport emissions in a waste system.

The venues are located with excellent nearby public transport links which is reflected in the travel surveys that were conducted. All volunteers walked, cycled or used public transport to get to and from the festival; 47% of staff walked, cycled or used public transport (40% used a car); 81% of artists walked, cycled or used public transport and 82% of the audience used public transport. This also reflects the high proportion of local people involved in the festival. Audience travel data from 2024 showed similar results to 2025.

Carbon footprint calculations of travel revealed that volunteers had the lowest footprint per person (0.57kg CO_2e) followed by artists (0.83kg CO_2e), staff (38.89kg CO_2e) and audience (59.50kg CO2e). This is largely because volunteers and artists used mostly public transport, walking or cycling in order to get to and from the festival. Staff and audience travel data is

skewed due to a small number of domestic and long-haul flights which emitted high emissions in relation to public transport.

The festival's digital sustainability was considered. Its website scores fairly low on website carbon calculators and it is thought that it generated 10.28 -15.8kg CO_2e in 2024. On the plus side, it is hosted by a green hosting platform. A carbon analysis of the event's livestreaming was attempted. However, current data relating to emissions of livestreaming is too unreliable to draw any meaningful conclusions. Similarly, in a simple analysis of the online events that were held via Zoom, it is thought that they generated 0.175kg CO_2e in total. However, all figures were very approximate as calculations are dependent on so many unknown factors. The impact of the festival's social media was also investigated but little can be said for the distributing end (as opposed to the user end) of social media. This is still an evolving field and whilst it is not possible to accurately calculate the footprint of the festival's digital sustainability, many things can be implemented to reduce the impact, particularly in relation to the website.

In conclusion, the festival has a fairly low environmental impact by using existing venues with existing infrastructure, few materials and engaging local people in the programming as well as audience, artists, staff and volunteers making use of the excellent public transport links. The festival has little agency in terms of how the venues are run but can begin discussions via a Green Rider and the initiation of a Sustainability Taskforce. As carbon footprinting options relating to digital sustainability and also print material become available, the festival can start to assess this. Meanwhile there are many small changes the festival can make outlined in this report to ensure it is as sustainable as possible.

Contents

Venues

The festival is held at four venues within 3.5 miles of each other: Catford Library, The Moonshot Centre, Deptford Lounge and The Albany. It is possible to walk between the last three venues through parks and other green pedestrianised routes. Access to Catford Library requires public transport.

All venues are public buildings with a busy existing programme of use, set within the borough of Lewisham which declared a climate emergency in 2019 and is committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2030. The council released a Green Events Guide for the borough and had a climate emergency action plan in 2024.

How green are the venues?

This table shows a summary of how green the four venues are in terms of their infrastructure. Full details of this are in the following pages. At a glance - great, getting there, bad

	Environmental Policy	Water	Wastewater	Power	Waste
Catford Library	Unsure	**Mains -** toilets, taps (Lever handle and dual toilet flush)	Mains	Mains	General waste bins only
The Albany	Yes*	**Mains -** toilets, taps, kitchen (Push taps and single flush toilets)	Mains	Mains - Green energy tariff	General waste, dry mixed recycling and some food waste collection.
Deptford Lounge	Unsure	**Mains** - toilets, taps Some push taps, some lever handles, some single flush some dual toilet flushes	Mains	Mains	General waste and dry mixed recycling bins
The Moonshot Centre	Unsure	**Mains** - toilets, taps, kitchenette	Mains	Mains - major LED retrofit recently	General waste bins only

*Available on request from Mel Wilds at The Albany

Catford Library

Catford Library is a well used community space within Catford shopping centre. One festival event was held here for around 13 people.

Environmental Policy
Information from Catford Library has been requested in relation to an Environmental Policy but not received at the time of writing.

Water/Wastewater
The building is connected to mains water and wastewater and has reduced flow toilet flushes. It also has lever handle taps as it is an accessible toilet.

Power
The library uses mains power but there was no information on the kind of tariff that is used or whether the building had been fitted with LED lights.

Waste
The library had general bins only; there was no separation of recycling waste.

The Albany

The Albany is an arts centre in the heart of Deptford. It has 26 resident organisations and a busy programme of events, rehearsals and workshops as well as a garden space and café.The Executive Director is trained as an Environmental Assessor of festivals and events with A Greener Future and there is also a Sustainability working group at The Albany. The lead of this group has been trained in Carbon Literacy and there is a plan to roll this out to other staff. The Executive Director has researched many sustainable building options such as solar panels, low water toilets, and LED lighting but since the building is due for major redevelopment in the next few years, no action is currently being taken so as not to waste financial resources. The future building will be designed with sustainability in mind and include insulation, solar panels and eco friendly toilets.

Environmental Policy
The Albany has an Environmental Policy (available from the venue's Executive Director) and subscribes to the Theatre Green Book.

Water
The venue is connected to mains water and wastewater systems and use is monitored. There were push taps in the toilets.

Power

The Albany is on a green tariff with British Gas. Energy is monitored and hourly data is available however the venue is so widely used by many different organisations it would not be possible to isolate the power used by Deptford Literature Festival so no meaningful data can be gained here.

Waste

The bin system includes some recycling bins, general waste bins and food waste bins (which are new in 2025). The venue would like to compost more food waste onsite. The venue includes sustainability within contracts with stakeholders who are bringing performances to the venue to encourage them to donate or reuse props and sets.

Transport

There is very limited parking locally due to restricted residential parking in the general area. There is no venue car parking. The venue offers a cycle to work scheme.

Social

There is a strong social element to the venue. For example in its programming with Dementia friendly events, as a positive breastfeeding venue and a gold Attitude is Everything certification for accessibility.

Other

The venue tries to use eco-friendly cleaning products

Deptford Lounge

Deptford Lounge is owned by Lewisham Council and managed by The Albany. It is a busy library with meeting rooms, a children's play book/play area, computers and a borrowing library.

Environmental Policy
It is unclear if the Deptford Lounge has its own Environmental Policy however, as it is owned by Lewisham Council it must align with [Lewisham's Council's Corporate Strategy (2002-2026)](#) which includes a cleaner and greener borough:

'The service is required to maintain and operate the facility in an environmentally sensitive and sustainable manner, and to contribute to the delivery of the authority's wider policies for safeguarding the environment and promoting sustainability. This should be reflected in their annual environmental and energy management plan. This should include but not be limited to: - maximising and promoting recycling and reducing waste - reducing energy consumption - displaying energy certificates - minimising chemical usage - aiming to use fair trade products and supplies from sustainable sources. Lewisham Libraries do all this embracing the [Green Library Manifesto](#) by Libraries Connected.'

Water/Wastewater
Deptford Lounge is connected to mains water and wastewater. It has a mixture of lower water use push taps as well as lever handles; some single flush toilets and some dual flush toilets.

Power
The building uses mains electricity and has been fitted with LED lighting. It is unclear what kind of energy tariff the building is on.

Waste
The building has general waste and mixed recycling bins but this is not consistent throughout the building and sometimes there is only one type of bin which means that some recycling waste and food waste which the council collects, will end up in residual waste.

Social

100% of employees live locally.

The Moonshot Centre

The Moonshot Centre is managed by IRIE! Dance theatre and owned by Lewisham Council. It is a thriving community space. One festival event took place here.

Environmental Policy

The centre has a draft [Environmental Policy](#) recommendation which was created by Sustain Quality after an Eco-Audit site visit in 2024. It includes recommendations for the building to reduce energy use, some of which have already been carried out such as a major refit of LED bulbs. However, other aims such as having clearly labelled segregated recycling bins or creating a Sustainable Procurement Policy by 2025 have not been implemented. Whilst the recommendations are similar to what this report would recommend, the policy needs to be regularly reviewed and its aims and targets implemented in order for the Environmental Policy to be valid.

Water/Wastewater

The venue is connected to mains water and wastewater. There were no observed water saving features in the toilets/taps or kitchenette.

Power

The building uses mains electricity. It is on a Fixed Price Energy Plan with British Gas (i.e. not a green tariff). The building had a major LED lightbulb retrofit in recent years which will have considerably reduced the energy consumption of the building.

Waste

The centre has general waste bins only - there is no segregation of recycling waste. This means that all waste produced at the Moonshot Centre will either go straight to incineration or to the Materials Recovery Facility where any recycling is sorted out of the waste. The reality of this process is that the recycling rate will be fairly low due to contamination with food and other waste (the exact recycling rate of this facility in Stratford is not available).

Venue Recommendations

The impact of using these 4 venues for the festival is relatively low because they are all existing, multi use buildings. Aside from some technical equipment, no extra infrastructure has to be brought in such as generators, sets or staging. This means there are minimal environmental transport costs associated with this. In addition, all venues use mains power, mains water and wastewater so when comparing to running a similar festival in a temporary urban venue such as a marquee where generators might be brought in for example, the existing model is much more environmentally friendly.

Whilst some of the venues, notably The Albany, are striving to be more sustainable, and the libraries part of a bigger initiative for greening the borough, there are inevitably things that all venues could improve on which could be laid out in the form of a Green Rider from the festival.

A Green Rider template been provided using DLF's current environmental statement which is due to be updated before the next iteration of the festival. In order to implement this Green Rider and see change in this area, the festival could set up a Sustainability Taskforce to include representatives from each venue and the festival to help support each other and collaborate in positive environmental change.

In addition, the festival may choose to include clauses in contracts for performers, employees, venues and suppliers about the climate and ecological emergency.

Finally, whilst it was not possible to measure the specific impact of the festival on water use and processing, power use and waste in the four venues as they are all used for other concurrent non-festival activities, it should be noted that the impact of this is likely to be very low. The baseline measurement per person at a UK non-camping festival is 29kg CO_2e per day. (A Greener Future).

Materials, Resources and Procurement

Deptford Literature Festival purchases some items such as stationery, paper and t-shirts and commissions several printed publications of written word. It also hires some technical equipment from a local Lewisham company although mostly uses existing equipment and furniture in the four venues. It reuses the vast majority of any purchases such as clipboards, flipboards, storage boxes, roll up banners, lanyards & t-shirts. Occasionally it has to make a large purchase such as a new printer which was the case this year.

During the festival, there were a number of stalls in Deptford Lounge all of which were local: Lewisham Libraries, Jantar Publishing (Lewisham), Fitzcorraldo Editions (Deptford), and The Word Bookshop (New Cross) who are so local that they brought their stock on a trolley on foot! This must be the lowest carbon stall ever!

Inputs and Outputs

All materials and resources at the festival are summarised in the table below which details all inputs to the festival, as well as outputs - where these items go after use. This can be updated for each iteration of the festival to ensure there are appropriate sourcing as well as waste systems for all materials and resources used.

Purchased/ Owned/Reused/ Venue's Own	Item	Supplier	Type of waste produced	Final destination of waste
Purchased	Stationery - pens, pencils, prit stick, scissors, rulers, book binding tools, paper, sticky labels	Stationary from Viking	Plastic/paper/labels/used glue sticks	Reuse?
Purchased	Paper (evaluation forms/ workshops)		Paper (300 sheets of walking tours left)	Recycling/ Walking Tours left at Library
Reused	Magazines		Paper	Recycling
Owned	Clipboards		NA	Reuse
Owned	Flipcharts		NA	Reuse
Purchased	Blue roll		Blue roll	General Waste

Owned	Plastic storage boxes		NA	Reuse
Purchased	Book sales	The Word Bookshop (New Cross)	Cardboard boxes	Recycling
		Jantar Publishing (Lewisham area)	Unsold books	Returned to sellers
		Fitzcarraldo Editions (Deptford)		
Purchased	Library goodie bags - magnet, tote bag, leaflets	Unknown	Unknown	Given out at future events
Purchased	Programme (40pp x 2500)		Paper (50 programmes) (and cardboard boxes)	Recycling
Purchased	2025 Anthology (100pp x 500)		Uncollected Anthologies (114)	Given out at future events
Purchased	2025 Young Writers Collective Anthology		Uncollected Anthologies	Given out at future events
Purchased	Tales from the City book (from previous festivals)		Uncollected book	Given out at future events
Purchased	Talk Di Tings Dem Anthology (from previous festivals)		Uncollected Anthology	Given out at future events
Purchased	A5 Leaflets (x3700) - The Littlest Yak (printed by the Albany/theatre company) & Campaign to make Lewisham		Paper (250 flyers)	Recycled/Left at venue

	the UK's first Borough of Literature & Children and family flyers			
Purchased	Posters - A3 (x140); A4 (x4), A1 (x8), A0(x1)(programme and DLF front page)		Paper	Recycled
Reused	Lanyards	Reuse each year (restock with new)	Material/plastic	Reused
Reuse (12) & Purchased (16)	Staff/Volunteer T-shirts	Stella Stanley	Organic Cotton	Reused
Reused	Roll up Banners		?plastic	Reused
Venue's own	Staging	NA	NA	Reused
Venue's own	Chairs	NA	NA	Reused
Venue's own	Tables	NA	NA	Reused
Venue's own	Black table cloths			
Venue's own	Glass water bottles & glasses	Reused	Reused	Reused
Hired	Tech hire	Deptford company	Batteries/light bulbs/other technical equipment	Unknown
Purchased	Printer	Unknown	Cartridges Old printer	Recycled Unknown
CAFE@The Albany				
Purchased	Crisp packet		Soft plastic (metalised plastic film)	General waste
Purchased	Cups		Compostable	General waste/recycling/

				food waste
Purchased	Cups		Plastic	Recycling
Reused	Serveware		Real serveware (glass/ceramic)	Reusable
Purchased	Cans		Aluminium	Recycling
Purchased	Plastic bottles		Plastic	Recycling
Purchased	Paper bags		Paper	Recycling
Purchased	Food		Left over inedible food	Compostable food waste
BAR@The Albany				
Purchased	Cups		Plastic	General waste
Purchased	Drink cans		Aluminium	Recycling
Purchased	Crisps		Soft Plastics (metalised plastic film)	General waste
Catford Library				
Purchased	Cups		Paper	General waste
Purchased	Teabags		Food waste	General waste
Purchased	Milk		Food waste	General waste
Venue's Own	Tea urn		NA	Reused
Venue's Own	Water & jug		Tap water & plastic	Reused
Purchased	Books		Paper	Borrowed/ Bought
Purchased	Leaflets		Paper	General waste
Moonshot Centre				
Unsure				
TECH across all venues				
Venue's Own	Lighting		Batteries	Unknown

Venue's Own	Decks		Bulbs	
Venue's Own	Mic		Other electrical/technical equipment	
Venue's Own	Screen			

The overall impact of the festival's material use is low as very little is bought. Sustainable suppliers are used for items such as volunteer t-shirts (Stella Stanley which generates 2.37kg CO_2e per t-shirt, the equivalent of driving 9km in a car which is 46% less than a standard t-shirt) and the venue's existing equipment is used. No sets, staging, pyrotechnics, decor, signs or other 'traditional' festival items are used and the number of bought print is carefully calculated based on previous festivals; whatever is not used during the festival is given out at future Spread the Word events. A tight budget works to the festival's advantage in terms of sustainability as it means that the festival is limited in what they can buy which results in a low impact festival! There are some small recommendations below in relation to procuring sustainably.

Recommendations

1) **Use environmentally sustainable and ethically sourced stationary**. Look for EU Ecolabel, Blue Angel or FSC certification for products such as paper and minimise plastic use where possible as the vast majority of this will end up in incineration waste at the end of its life. Suggested suppliers: https://www.greenstat.co.uk/, https://officesupplies.recorra.co.uk/, https://www.peacewiththewild.co.uk/product-category/for-the-home/stationery/ . It is worth scrutinising these websites as there is plenty of greenwash stationery out there! **Reuse the stationery where possible.**
2) **Avoid blue roll**. It contains dyes and is unlikely to be from sustainably sourced paper. Instead try an unbleached kitchen roll such as from Naked Paper.
3) **Lanyards**. Ensure these come back to the production team at the end of the festival for reuse. When purchasing new, consider looking for lanyards that have minimal plastic.
4) **Print on sustainably sourced paper with water based inks using renewable energy.** Many books are cheaply printed abroad and not necessarily on sustainably sourced paper. Consider always printing festival publications and posters/flyers in the UK using sustainably sourced paper (e.g. recycled or FSC certified), using water based ink and with a company that uses renewable energy. Jantar Publishing already consider these aspects and the festival could have these discussions with the Word bookshop as part of a Green Rider. Using a local print company will also reduce transport emissions.
5) Laminate room signs so that they can be used year on year.
6) Consider implementing water bottle refill signage at all venues.
7) Continue using existing infrastructure/furniture at venues, renting or buying things second hand. Consider the end use of these products, what their future life will be after

use and/or how they will be disposed of. See inputs/outputs table above. Evaluate whether existing waste systems allow for sustainable disposal of any new products being bought.

8) **Create a Sustainable Procurement Policy** to ensure that all future purchases are scrutinised for environmental sustainability and that the minimal purchasing ethos that currently exists continues. Consider the life cycle of each product including its final destination after use aiming for a closed loop approach. Use organisations such as A Good Thing to donate unwanted items to charity.

9) **Create a Green Rider** for all venues and suppliers to discuss and encourage sustainable procurement. This should also be linked to the waste systems provided as some items being produced onsite such as crisp packets do not have an appropriate waste stream in the venues and therefore end up in general waste.

10) **Ask for Technical Specifications for each room/performance** and consider having an energy 'budget' so as not to accommodate excessive energy demands. Analyse this data year on year.

A note on sponsors/funders/banking

The festival is currently primarily funded by Arts Council England. For 2025, it received support from Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society, Cockayne Grants for the Arts and London Community Foundation. The festival might like to consider a formal Ethical Funding and Sponsorship document to ensure that any future funds are from environmentally sustainable and ethical organisations. Likewise, Spread the Word could ensure that it banks with an ethical bank.

Impact of Print Material

Environmentally friendly publishing is beginning to be addressed with HarperCollins using a more compact typeface to reduce ink and pages; Macmillan using lighter paper to reduce the amount of pulp needed; and The Book Chain project working on paper sourcing, chemicals, and social accountability.The International Publishers' Association launched a Publishing 2030 Accelerator and has working papers including on an international methodology for calculating the carbon emissions of books.

Carbon emission calculations for books include the manufacturing, transporting, distributing and disposing of books.

Manufacturing

The carbon emissions associated with the manufacturing of a book are around 4,900kg CO2e (Independent Publishers' Guild). These emissions are dependent on the type of energy used to make the book, the type and thickness of the paper, types of inks and number of pages in a publication.

Transportation, waste & distribution

Around 53kg CO_2e are produced by the transport and waste associated with the production of a book. This varies hugely depending on where the book is manufactured and the type of distribution. For example, a single illustrated book printed in China, ordered online and transported to a customer in the UK, via international shipping routes and two distribution centres in the UK has transport emissions of 183g CO2e compared to books transported from a UK printer to a retailer via a single distribution centre where there were just 8 grams CO2e per book (Independent Publishers' Guild).

The graph right shows the high proportion of a book's total emissions is due to its transport. Transport emissions can be considerably reduced by using local publishers and zero carbon transport with minimal packaging. The Ecoeditat Book Fair in Catalonia uses only locally printed books, mostly FSC paper, and calculate and communicate the book's environmental footprint. Les Preses Book Fair in Catalonia made local printing a requirement for all exhibited books at the fair and participating publishers signed a letter of commitment to the publishers of eco printing (Julie's Bicycle/ Institute de l'Ecoedicio).
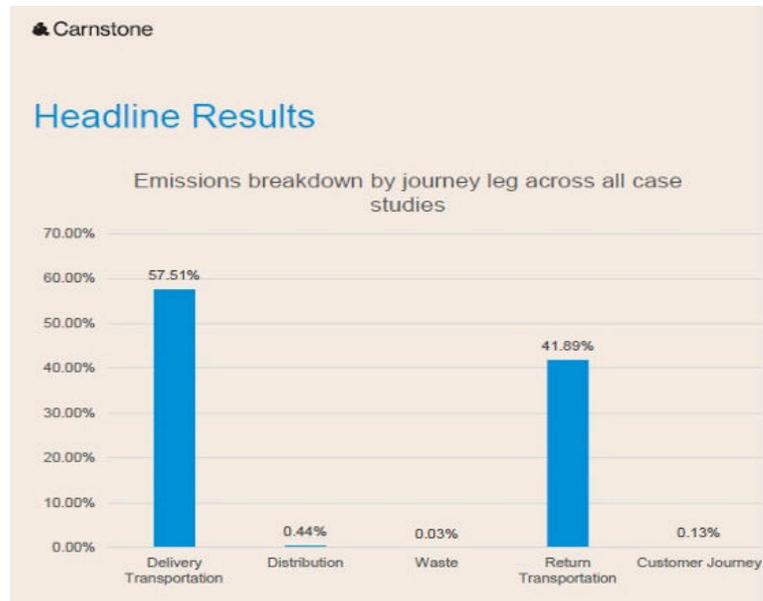
The festival's print material

The festival's print material (leaflets, programmes and anthologies) is printed in the UK which is excellent in terms of transport emissions. However, it was not possible to calculate a holistic carbon footprint for print material as the tools that exist to do this are not currently publicly accessible or there is a language barrier (UK Publisher's Association tool/Ecoedicio tool). Julie's Bicycle has developed a tool as part of its Creative Climate Tools. However this is only for its Canadian users and uses Canadian energy estimates so is not applicable to UK production.

Recommendations

Consider making eco-publishing a requirement for all books exhibited at the event. This could include publishers signing up to a commitment to local printing of titles, the use of recycled or FSC-certified paper, non-toxic inks, and communication of all these principles to the reader.

In addition, the festival could aim to calculate the footprint of its print material using the template below, once carbon calculating tools become more widely available.

Print type	Quantity	Paper type	Number of pages	CO2e impact
Programmes	2425			
Poster A4	4			
Poster (A3)	140			
Poster A1	8			
Poster A0	1			
Children's leaflet and YA programme	3700			
Anthology	500			

Food and Drink

There was some food and drink provision at Catford Library and a café and a bar at The Albany.

Catford Library

Free hot drinks were provided at Catford Library using a tea urn and paper cups as well as tap water in plastic cups. Sugar was provided in a jar. Standard milk in plastic containers as well as oat milk in tetra pak were used.

The Albany

The venue runs a café which serves largely plant based food. Local suppliers are prioritised (such as locally roasted coffee) and some produce is grown in the venue's garden and makes, for example, chutney that is then sold in the café. The café is part of the Good Food Lewisham Network.

Recyclable (PAP21) hot drinks lids and wooden cutlery for any take - aways are used and reusable crockery and plates for those eating in. There are sugar sachets (as opposed to a jar of sugar). The café uses paper bags for take away food and plastic cups for iced drinks but compostable cups for other kinds of drinks. Water is sold in cans and other soft drinks in plastic bottles. Straws are made of paper and stirrers are wooden.

The café also supports other ethical/sustainable initiatives such as a Lewisham cook book, a nature activity book, palatable grow kit and has a pay if forward good deed scheme.

The bar at The Albany stocks local Forest Road Brewery beer and cider. Wine and water are both served in cans - there are no plastic bottles here. It also sells packets of crisps.

The bar had run out of reusable cups so was using disposable plastic cups. It has a mixed waste bin for customers to use but no recycling bin.

A note on the Moonshot Centre - There was a small kiosk in the building which was not open during the festival performance.

Recommendations

Food and drink could be included in a Sustainable Procurement Policy and include recommendations/aims such as:

- To use **real mugs and glasses** that can be washed and reused. This reduces the amount of waste produced. Single use hot drinks cups are a nightmare! Many are made from paper but have a thin film of plastic on the inside which means they can't be recycled. In addition if they are too contaminated with liquid, they can not be recycled. Plastic single use cups have a lower CO_2e footprint than a reusable plastic cup if used once but once that reusable plastic cup is reused even just 3 times, the relative emissions are lower for reusable cups (Hope Solutions). Certified compostable cups could be used for hot drinks.
- Consider the packaging of food and drink products and match the waste systems to the kinds of waste being produced i.e. if tetra pak are produced, the venue could make sure that Lewisham Council take tetra pak as part of the recycling waste. Prioritise reuse such as bottle return schemes.
- Source food and drink from ethical sources using at least minimum environmental standards - this could include seasonal, venue-grown, local, independently produced, organic/biodynamic, small scale, nature-friendly farming as well as sustainable certification for things like palm oil, fish, meat, chocolate, tea, coffee and sugar.
- Consider the travel emissions associated with the food and drink products, using local suppliers where possible
- Ban single use plastics including plastic drinks bottles, single use plastic cups, sweet and crisp wrappers, individual sugar sachets.
- Increase the amount of plant based food on offer and communicate to customers and staff about this.
- Redistribute surplus edible food to the local community e.g. via City Harvest
- Ensure food waste goes into composting
- Access to free drinking water at all venues with clear signage
- Ensure cleaning products are biodegradable and don't use toxic chemicals

Waste Management

Each venue for Deptford Literature Festival is used by other events and groups happening at the same time; and there are no processes in place to separate the festival waste from the other waste generated. As a result, there is no method to define and quantify how much waste is produced by the festival itself and how much is from other activities at the venues.

Types of Waste

The types of waste produced at the festival are listed below with the current final destinations of the waste according to the bin options at the venues.

Item	Type of waste produced	Final destination of waste
Magazines	Paper	Recycling
Blue roll	Blue roll	General Waste
Book sales	Cardboard boxes	Recycling
Programme (40pp x 2500)	Paper (50 programmes) (and cardboard boxes)	Recycling
A5 Leaflets (x3700) - The Littlest Yak & Campaign to make Lewisham the UK's first Borough of Literature & Children and family flyers	Paper (250 flyers)	Recycled/Left at venue
Posters - A3 (x140); A4 (x4), A1 (x8), A0(x1)(programme and DLF front page)	Paper	Recycled
Tech hire	Batteries/light bulbs/other technical equipment	Unknown
Printer	Cartridges Old printer	Recycled Unknown
CAFE@The Albany		
Crisp packet	Soft plastic (metalised plastic film)	General waste
Cups	Compostable	General waste/recycling/food waste

Cups	Plastic	Recycling
Cans	Aluminium	Recycling
Plastic bottles	Plastic	Recycling
Paper bags	Paper	Recycling
Food	Left over inedible food	Compostable food waste
BAR@The Albany		
Cups	Plastic	General waste
Drink cans	Aluminium	Recycling
Crisps	Soft Plastics (metalised plastic film)	General waste
Cups	Paper	General waste
Teabags	Food waste	General waste
Milk	Food waste	General waste
Leaflets	Paper	General waste
TECH across all venues		
Lighting	Batteries Bulbs Other electrical/technical equipment	Unknown
Decks		
Mic		
Screen		

Disposal methods

The waste systems currently in place are outlined in the table below - some venues only have general waste bins which means that some waste that could be recycled or composted, goes to incineration.

	Waste
Catford Library	General waste bins only
The Albany	General waste, dry mixed recycling and some food waste bins.
Deptford Lounge	General waste and dry mixed recycling bins
The Moonshot Centre	General waste bins only

The waste at all four venues is collected by Lewisham Council. Recycling is transported to a Materials Recovery Facility in Stratford where it is separated and then sold and transported to reprocessing facilities across the UK. General waste (i.e. black bin rubbish) is transported a very short distance to the South East London Combined Heat and Power Energy Recovery Facility in New Cross where the waste is burned and produces energy. Any food waste collected is taken for anaerobic digestion at the East London Biogas plant which turns waste into energy for local homes and fertiliser for the agriculture sector. Zero waste goes to landfill. The short distances to transport the waste are ideal from an emissions perspective.

Recommendations

1) Create a **Waste Management Plan** that prioritises prevention, reduction and reuse
2) Ensure that there are at least **separate bins** for dry mixed recycling, food waste and general waste with appropriate signage in each venue and each room. New legislation that came into play on 31st March 2025 in England mandates that if a business employs 10 or more people and produces waste of any kind, it must now have separate dry mixed recycling and food waste collections. Businesses with 10 or less employees are exempt until 31st March 2027. This means that waste needs to be segregated onsite at the point of use in order to allow separate streams of waste to be collected therefore each venue should have separate bins for, at least, dry mixed recycling, food waste and general waste as per the national mandate of March 2025. Even better would be to segregate waste further at source to reduce contamination.

3) Consider **how much print to order** (leaflets and programmes), reviewing the leftover communication figures from the previous year as a guide.
4) Discuss with other partners such as the libraries that hand out promotional material, what they could do to **reduce what is handed out.**
5) Ensure **lanyards and unwanted t-shirts** are collected at the end of each festival
6) Sign up to **sharing platforms** such as A Good Thing that allow you to donate leftover items to local charities/school groups for free.
7) Consider what aspects could go in a **Green Rider** such as a ban on single use plastic or encouraging reusable cups

Travel & Transport

The location of the festival is ideal as it is easily reachable by many different public transport options including overground, train, bus and DLR.
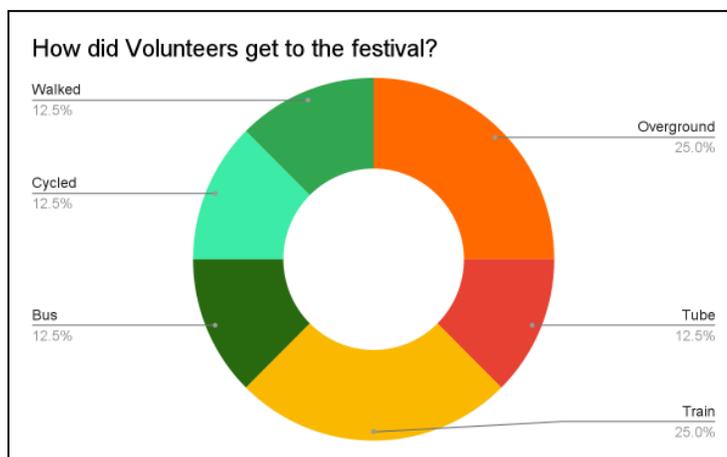
2025 Festival Travel Results

A digital survey was sent to volunteers, staff and artists after the festival asking the following questions:
1) Please tell us the main way you travelled to the festival
2) Where did you travel from?
3) On which days did you support a festival event/s?

This was the first year monitoring Volunteer, Staff and Artist travel. Audience travel was also monitored in 2024. The results are as follows:
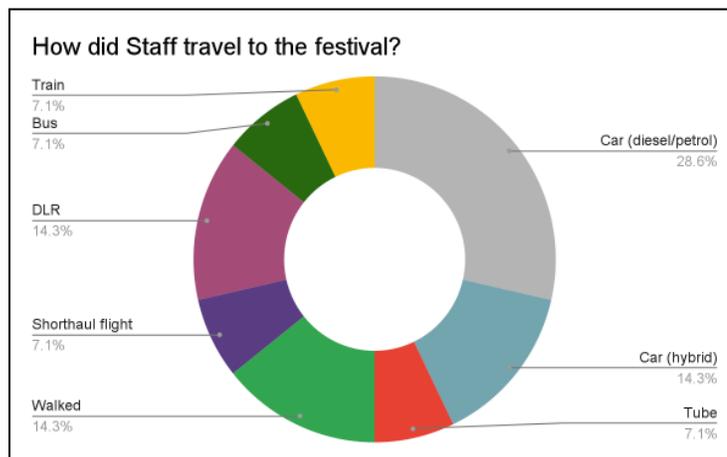
Volunteers

8 out of 19 volunteers responded to the survey. All volunteers who completed the survey travelled by public transport or walked.

How did Volunteers get to the festival?
- Walked 12.5%
- Cycled 12.5%
- Bus 12.5%
- Overground 25.0%
- Tube 12.5%
- Train 25.0%

Staff

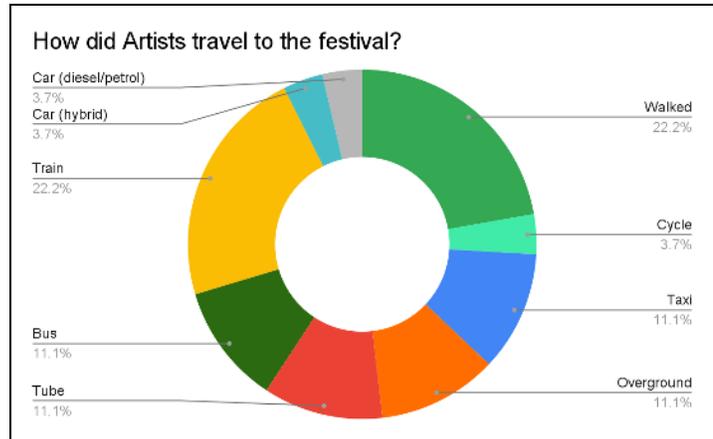*Including freelance staff and BSL interpreters but not in-house venue staff*
15 people completed the survey out of a total of 27 staff members. 40% of staff travelled by car (27% by diesel/petrol car and 13% by hybrid car), 7% by shorthaul flight and 47% by public transport or walking.

How did Staff travel to the festival?
- Train 7.1%
- Bus 7.1%
- DLR 14.3%
- Shorthaul flight 7.1%
- Walked 14.3%
- Car (diesel/petrol) 28.6%
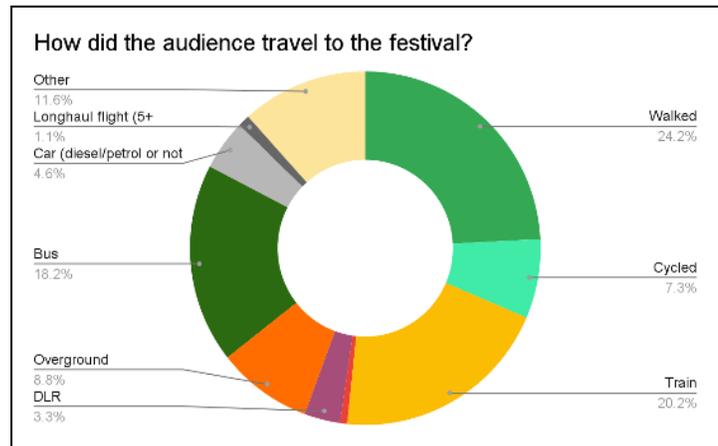- Car (hybrid) 14.3%
- Tube 7.1%

Artists

Including authors, performers, presenters and facilitators.

28 artists completed the travel survey. One person facilitated an online session so was removed from this data analysis, making a total of 27 people. 8% travelled by car (4% diesel/petrol and 4% hybrid), 11% travelled by taxi and 81% of artists travelled by public transport, walked or cycled.

How did Artists travel to the festival?

Car (diesel/petrol) 3.7%
Car (hybrid) 3.7%
Train 22.2%
Bus 11.1%
Tube 11.1%
Walked 22.2%
Cycle 3.7%
Taxi 11.1%
Overground 11.1%

Audience

A digital survey was sent to all audience members. 455 people out of an estimated 1652 audience members completed the travel questions in the survey (28% of the audience). 1% of the audience travelled by longhaul flight*, 5% by diesel/petrol car, over 50% by public transport, 32% walked/cycled and 12% marked 'other' where people travelled in a combination of different modes of transport.

How did the audience travel to the festival?

Other 11.6%
Longhaul flight (5+ 1.1%
Car (diesel/petrol or not 4.6%
Bus 18.2%
Overground 8.8%
DLR 3.3%
Walked 24.2%
Cycled 7.3%
Train 20.2%

The percentage of the audience travelling by public transport or walking or cycling is very high as compared to other urban festivals (see graph below (A Greener Future)).
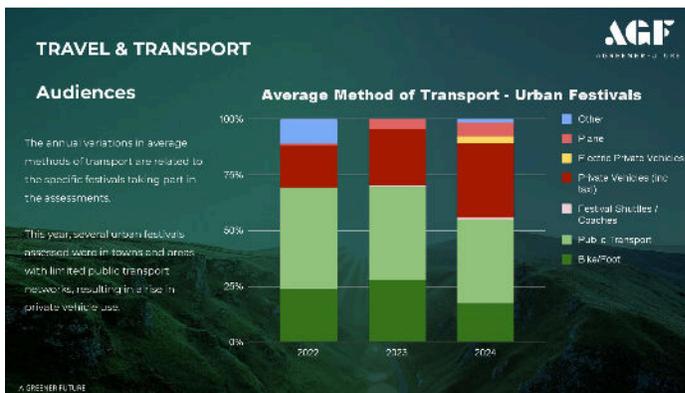
*The 1% of the audience that travelled by longhaul flight was a professional literary contact on a professional visit to the festival.

2024/ 2025 Audience Travel Comparison

Audience travel data was collected in 2024 via an online survey that had 317 responses (no other travel data was collected in 2024). The graph below compares travel modes used by the audience in 2024 and 2025. This was fairly similar still with a very high proportion of the audience taking public transport of cycling or walking. One difference in the data is the addition of 1% of the audience taking longhaul flights in 2025 which was mostly due to one person on a professional literary exchange from Singapore. Fewer people cycled in 2025.
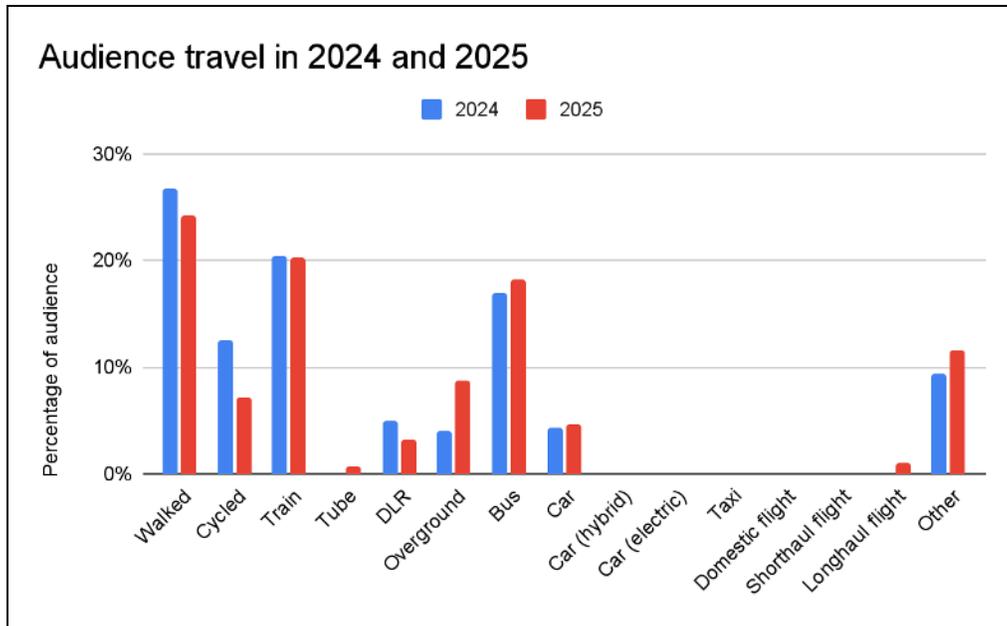
Recommendations

The festival could continue to promote public transport options and promote this as a local event to maintain the high levels of public transport, walking and cycling options. The main benefit in terms of transport is the location of the festival and the ease of moving between venues.

In addition, the festival could continue to monitor audience, staff, volunteer and performer travel, perhaps publishing the survey more widely to encourage more responses and liaise with Lewisham council to improve cycle parking/hiring options locally.

The festival could start to monitor modes of transport and distances travelled for suppliers and deliveries. It could continue to hire and employ local suppliers and companies to keep transport emissions low and ask these companies to use zero emission transport and to optimise route planning. Learnings about green suppliers can be shared within the literature/festival/Lewisham communities.

Carbon Footprint of Travel

The total carbon footprint of all travel for the festival was 99,831kg CO_2e (see table below). 99% of this was from audience travel. When looking at this proportionally to the number of people, Volunteers and Artists had the lowest travel footprint per person (0.57kg CO_2e and 0.83kg CO_2e respectively) followed by staff (38.89kg CO_2e) and audience (59.5kg CO_2e). The audience and staff travel figures are skewed by a person in each category taking a flight. Below is a breakdown of all carbon equivalent emissions emitted from travel to and from the festival by group type.

|	kg CO_2e produced	Number of people	kg CO_2e per person
Volunteers	11	19	0.57
Staff	1,439	37	38.89
Artists	80	97	0.83
Audience	98,301	1,652	59.50
TOTAL	**99,831**	**1805**	

Volunteers

Volunteers had low travel emissions per person (0.57kg CO_2e) because they all travelled by public transport or walked/cycled.
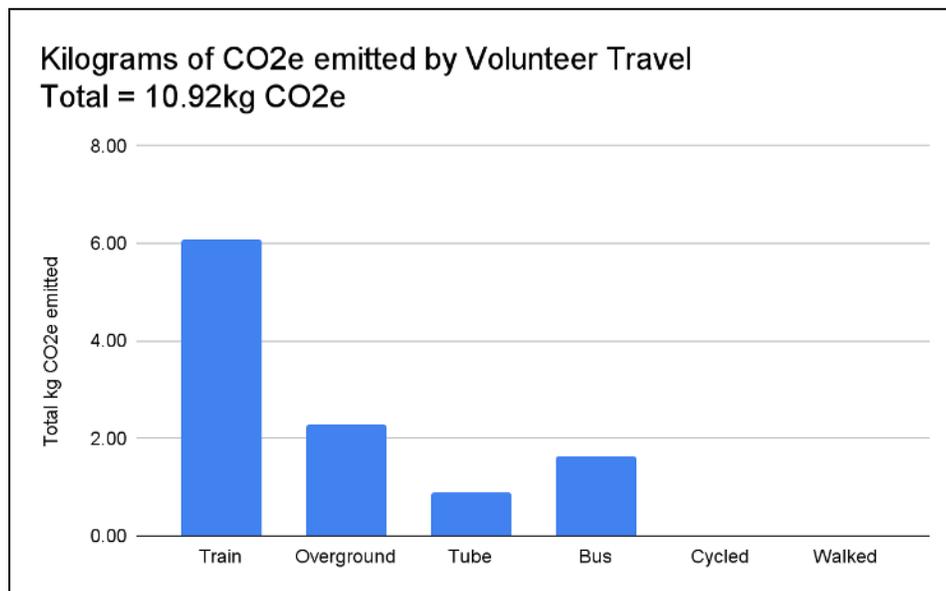
Staff

78% of emissions come from just 7% of staff taking a shorthaul flight to the festival. This is known to be a staff member who works remotely abroad. Diesel and petrol car travel accounted for 20% of emissions. This was just 4 members of staff who drove to and from the festival. The emissions from staff using public transport are negligible in comparison.
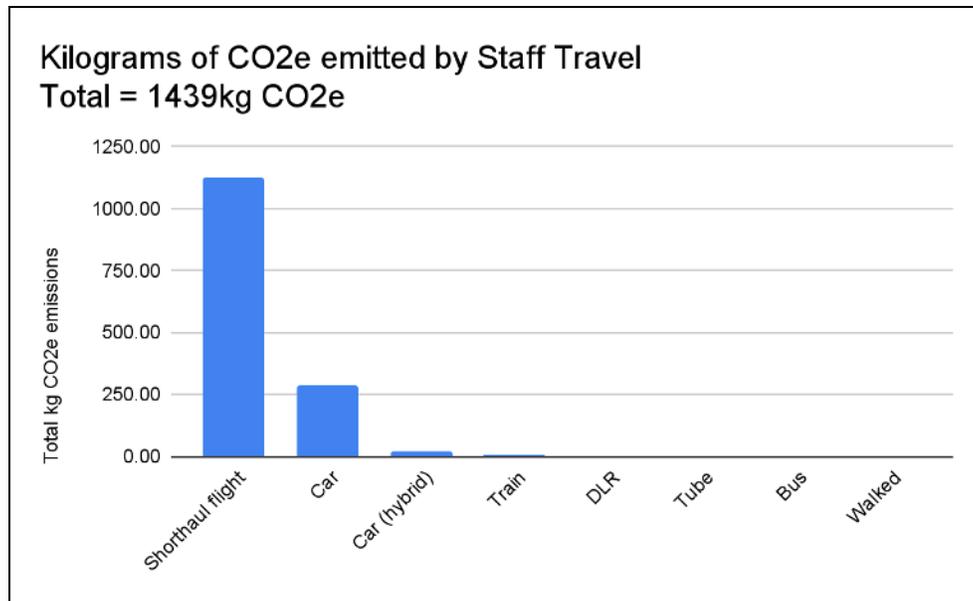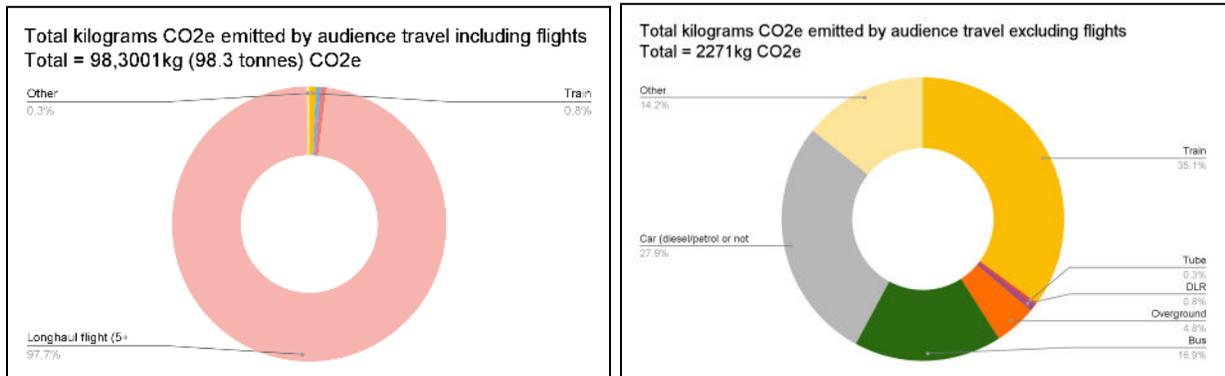

Artists

55% of artist travel emissions came from train travel and 25% from taxi travel
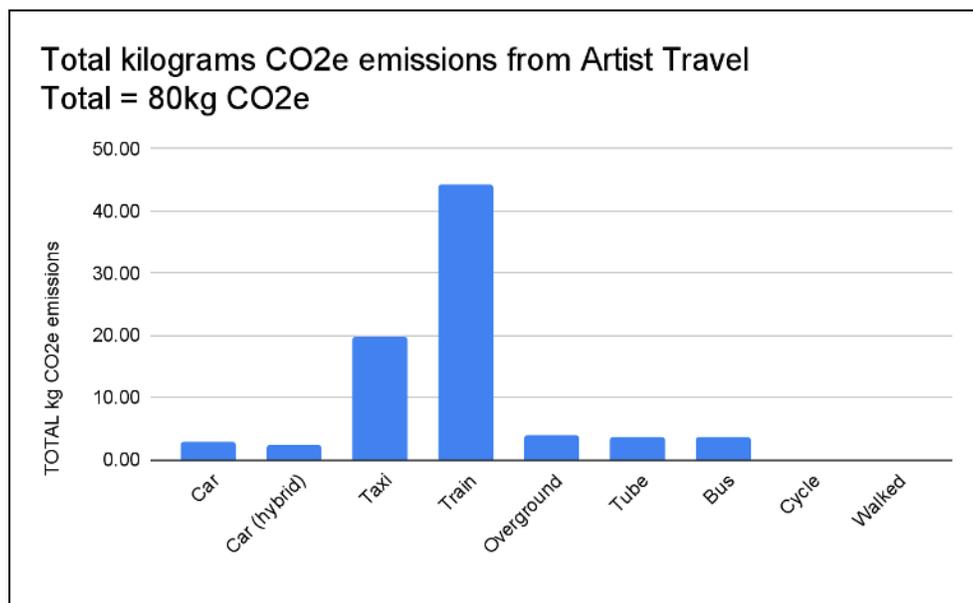
Audience

The total emissions generated from audience travel were 98,300kg or 98.3tonnes of CO_2e. The graph below shows that 98% of these emissions were from long haul flights. Other modes of transport have negligible emissions compared to this. When removing flights from the data (right hand graph), 28% of emissions were from diesel/petrol car travel, 58% from public transport use and 14% where people have selected 'other' which is mixed modes of transport.

Total kilograms CO2e emitted by audience travel including flights
Total = 98,3001kg (98.3 tonnes) CO2e

Other 0.3%
Train 0.8%
Longhaul flight (5+ 97.7%

Total kilograms CO2e emitted by audience travel excluding flights
Total = 2271kg CO2e

Other 14.2%
Train 35.1%
Car (diesel/petrol or not 27.9%
Tube 0.3%
DLR 0.8%
Overground 4.8%
Bus 16.9%

Travel Carbon Footprint Summary

Audience travel emits the most carbon equivalent emissions whereas Volunteer and Artist emissions are relatively low due to many people living locally and most people using public transport or walking/cycling. The most notable aspect that this data shows is the high impact of flying on emissions; flying generates almost 10x the emissions of public transport.

See Methodology section on pg. 43.

Digital Sustainability & Communication

Digital sustainability affects us all as we become more and more reliant on digital devices and services. But the environmental sustainability of the digital world is an area that is only recently coming to the forefront of events but also in society more generally. The impact is widespread and global digital impacts (such as the internet itself which accounts for 1.32% of global CO_2e emission (Davies)) are starting to rival some other large players such as aviation (2.5% of global emissions are from aviation (Davies)) in emitting the most carbon.

Around 1% of global greenhouse gas emissions are currently from data storage centres (Davies) and some have even said that Ireland may struggle to meet its climate obligations due to energy consumption from the many data centres in Dublin (Johnson). Not to mention the high water demand needed for data centres - a typical data centre can use 11-19 million litres of water per day (Kleinman and Wheeler).

This is before we even take into account the disposal of defunct devices and mining of minerals for new ones or the type and amount of energy needed to power devices at home or at work.

Whilst Deptford Literature Festival's digital impact is likely to be low on a global or even national scale, it is still worth considering as changes can be made to reduce the impact and also to inform the audience on how they can impact their own digital footprint.

Below we discuss the impact of the festival's website, livestreaming, online events and social media.

Website

Moving images and video content as well as the way a webpage is designed can all impact how much energy is needed to run a website. When testing the festival's website (https://www.spreadtheword.org.uk/projects/deptford-literature-festival/) using several website carbon calculators (website carbon and Ecograder), the festival website scored E and F respectively (scale from A+ to E/F). The website generates around 1.47- 2.26g CO_2e every time someone visits or loads a page. As a comparison, Hay-on-Wye festival's website generates 1.04g of CO_2e whereas Website Carbon's own website generates only 0.04g CO_2e every time someone visits a page.

For Deptford Literature Festival in 2024, with 6991 views, 10,277 - 15,800g (10.28 kg - 15.80 kg) carbon equivalent emissions were emitted in total. Erjjio also provides some detail in its website carbon report including that the total webpage size is the most significant contributor to the website carbon rating with typical culprits being video, advertising/tracking scripts, heavy image files and fonts which haven't been optimised.

The good news is that the festival website is hosted by Cloudflare and runs on green energy which gives it a Green Hosting score of 100 out of 100. This will dramatically reduce the emissions associated with the website. The rest of the scoring from Ecograder is below:
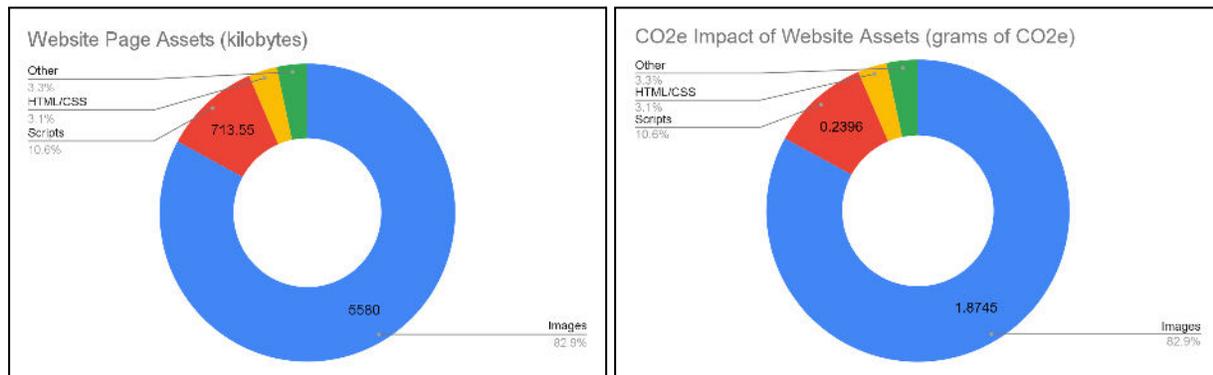
Overall ecograder score - 55%
Page weight - 49%
UX design - 59%
Green Hosting - 100%

The website has a page weight of 6.73 MB which is 101.48% larger than the average web page. This is broken down below with the associated carbon equivalent emissions.

Recommendations

Spread the Word are in the process of attaining a new website. The development of this site could include aiming for an A+ rating through Website Carbon by:
- Creating a low bit-rate website to reduce data transfer
- Reducing the data load of your website - avoid using lots of video or image content, reduce video and image size, remove unused assets, using darker colour and system fonts.
- Check annually whether the festival is storing data that is not required (consider a combination of offline and online data storage to reduce cloud usage)
- Provide information to users of the website on how they can access and use it in a more energy efficient way
- Add a footer to the website with the information about its environmental impact (Website Carbon provide this). You can also display a 'Green Web Page' from the Green Web Foundation.
- Seek advice from a sustainable website specialist as below to make practical changes

Ecograder gives a comprehensive list of practical steps on how to improve the environmental performance of the page.

Sustainable web design tips This is a great free resource

[Wholegrain Digital](#) offer various digital sustainability support services including web sustainability audits from £2250

[Julie's Bicycle](#) has a great free introduction to digital sustainability.

Livestreaming

Emissions data from livestreaming is still a developing field and no reliable data in terms of emissions currently exists. Values vary wildly and this is largely because the footprint depends on the streaming platform used, the source of electricity being used to broadcast and to watch, the type of device being used to watch, as well as the energy mix of the country within which the stream is being watched. It is hard to gain meaningful data.

The main problem with video streaming from an environmental perspective is that it uses large data sizes (online videos account for almost 60% of global data transfer). The higher the resolution of the videos, the higher the data use and the more energy is used.

As an example, the estimated environmental impact of streaming video from a platform such as Netflix is 36g CO_2 (Kamiya). The Carbon Trust suggest the European average for an hour of video streaming is 55g CO_2e (Carbon Trust). The variation is large and these figures relate to streaming videos rather than livestreaming.

A carbon footprint for this festival was attempted using the same methodology as a similar calculation by Hay-on-Wye Literary Festival in 2021. Below are DLF's 2025 live streamed and 'streamed as live' events which stay on the website for a month after the festival. They are viewed via YouTube which claims to use 100% renewable energy.

Event name	Date	Type of output	Length	Number of people livestreaming
Lewisham Lyricists	Friday 28th March	Livestreamed	2 hrs	82 (these figures as at 1pm 2/4/25)
Disabled Poets Prize 2025 Winners announcement	Saturday 29th March	Livestreamed	45 minutes	102
Meet the Agents	Sunday 30th March	Streamed as Live	1 hour	41
Meet your future favourite	Sunday 30th March	Streamed as Live	1 hour	27

Science fiction & fantasy authors				
Chapters: Authors in conversation	Sunday 30th March	Streamed as Live	1 hour	47
South London Storytellers	Sunday 30th March	Streamed as Live	1 hour	34

Our study found that the six digital events at Deptford Literary Festival generated 188 kg CO_2e in total. This is around 0.66kg CO_2e per person watching the online content. This analysis used a figure of energy use per minute of streaming (assuming 1080p resolution and 50MB of data used per minute) which is a figure that has been calculated in relation to website use rather than livestreaming specifically. The results of this analysis should not be used as an accurate depiction of the carbon footprint of the digital content of the event because of variation and lack of reliability in the figures used.

Using the same methodology, Hay-on-Wye Literary festival's analysis of their video streamed content found that the total emissions associated with this were between 187 - 13,965 tonnes of CO_2. This is 4-273kg CO_2 per person. However, the author believes the incorrect CO_2e values for electricity generation were used in this analysis and therefore should not be compared to Deptford Literature Festival's results. In addition, experts suggest that data based intensity values i.e. kwh/GB are not appropriate for calculating the emissions of high bitrate applications such as video streaming but that time based values should be used i.e. kwh per viewing hour. Using the total viewing time from Deptford Literature Festival suggests that the livestreaming content for the festival generated 4205 kg CO_2e or 14.7kg CO_2e per person. This is considerably different from the first figure (0.66kg CO_2e per person).

So, very little can be concluded at this stage about the carbon footprint of livestreaming content. Inevitably when comparing to in-person events, the emissions associated with travelling to the venues are avoided however there is still a footprint associated with generating digital content. The significance of social benefits gained from in-person events should also not be discounted.

Recommendations

- Offer downloads rather than streaming to cut down on energy needed to access content
- Investigate opportunities to reduce streaming bit rates without sacrificing quality

Online events

Below outlines the two Zoom events that were held as part of this year's festival:

Title	Date	Medium	Length	Number of people
Nature Persists workshop	Saturday 29th March	Zoom workshop	1.5hours	29
Festival Edition: CRIPtic x Spread the Word Salon	Saturday 29th March	Zoom workshop	2 hours	49

Whilst the carbon impact of digital meetings is likely to be lower than physical meetings due the lack of travel emissions, being online still generates emissions.These emissions increase exponentially with each additional person on the call as each addition requires more data transmission. The type of definition that the call uses also has an impact on emissions.

Calculating the carbon footprint of Zoom calls has the same caveats as livestreaming in terms of the energy mix used, the devices used and the quality of the call. However, making an assumption that 1 hour on a large Zoom call emits around 0.05kg CO_2e (My Square Metre), the impact of these Zoom workshops held at the festival is 0.175kg CO_2e (3.5 hours of Zoom time). Whilst this data is not particularly reliable, it gives an indication that the impact of Zoom calls is very low.

Recommendations

If Zoom needs to be used, the festival could reduce the impact by streaming in a lower quality setting and to turn off the camera when not speaking but clearly there are negative impacts of doing this in a small workshop setting.
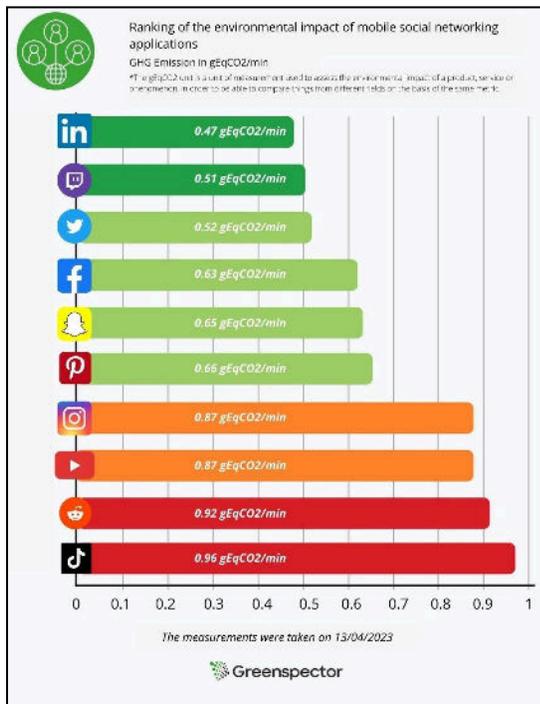
Social Media

In 2025, the festival choose to step away from Facebook and Twitter and set up Bluesky, re-established Threads and also used Instagram.

The carbon footprint of social media depends on the type of content (video and images have a higher footprint), the technology the platform uses and how 'green' that company is as well as the type of device that is used to access the content.

The following social media was used during the campaign period:

Media Type	No. of posts	No. of Views	Reach/Interactions	Other info.
Instagram	50 posts	110, 371 views	71952 reach	89 follows, 330 profile visits, 80 link clicks, 391 shares, 3072 likes, 49 comments, 269 saves
	184 Stories	39, 867 views	203 interactions	81 profile visits, 73 clicks
Threads		<5 likes/shares/comments	0 interactions	
Bluesky		<5 likes/shares/comments	0 interactions	

There is no clear way of calculating the impact of these posts as the data available is based on time the user is interacting with the social media. For example, the carbon footprint of Instagram is 0.87g CO_2e per minute (see graph left) of use (DERUDDER)). Since we cannot tell how long a user was on social media it's not possible to generate any carbon footprint for social media engagement. However what the graph left shows is that Instagram has a relatively high carbon footprint as compared to other social media such as Twitter and Facebook when viewed from a phone. Bluesky and Threads were not included in the study.

In addition to these areas, the festival also produces digital newsletters, some film content and uses Eventbrite to sell tickets which were not investigated in this report.

Communication

In previous years the festival has dedicated programming to climate related topics however decided not to do that for this anniversary year. The festival has an [Environmental Statement](#) but no policy or action plan and this report was aimed to be a baseline from which to develop initiatives.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the festival develop an Environmental Policy and Action Plan with clear targets and responsible persons allocated to those actions. These documents should be reviewed annually. Sustainability can be incorporated into all communication and when something great is achieved, make sure to tell all stakeholders!

In addition, the festival could consider climate related programming in future iterations of the event.

There are several Spanish book fairs that are adopting sustainable initiatives, particularly when it comes to print material and Deptford Literature Festival could consider a sustainability learning exchange with one of these festivals. See [Julie's Bicycle's Sustainable Book Fairs](#) document for details of the festivals. As well as this, staff training in the field of sustainability could be beneficial.

Finally, the festival could ensure that Catford and Deptford Libraries are signed up for the Green Libraries partnership with Julie's Bicycle.

Carbon Footprint Summary

The following table details the total carbon dioxide equivalent emissions generated as a result of the festival. This does not include all aspects of the festival as not everything was measurable. Aspects not included are waste, water use, wastewater use, power use, food and drink, supplier travel and procurement/materials other than t-shirts. Digital emissions are estimated as no reliable data exists for this.

Item	Emissions Generated
Volunteer t-shirts (16 new)	37.92kg CO_2e
Volunteer Travel	11kg CO_2e
Staff Travel	1,439kg CO_2e
Artist Travel	80kg CO_2e
Audience Travel	98,301kg CO_2e
Website (total in 2024)	10.28 - 15.80kg CO_2e
Livestreaming (estimate)	188kg CO_2e
Zoom events	0.175kg CO_2e
TOTAL	**100,067kg CO_2e - 100,073kg CO_2e (around 100 tonnes)**

As a comparison, Festivaletteratura international literary festival in Italy produces around ten times (1104 tonnes) as much CO_2e (Julie's Bicycle/ Institute de l'Ecoedicio) as Deptford Literature Festival. Whereas Guardaljara International Book Fair in Mexico produces 312 tonnes of CO_2e (Julie's Bicycle/ Institute de l'Ecoedicio). These are not entirely comparable as they have measured different aspects,, have different numbers of people attending and our calculations do not include all of Deptford Literature Festival's emissions but these figures give a sense of where the festival sits within the literary festival arena.

Appendix

Green Rider Draft

Sustainability is fundamental to Deptford Literature Festival. We acknowledge the climate emergency and the impacts it is having on our communities in Lewisham. We are committed to mitigating the environmental impacts of creating a live festival, reducing our carbon footprint and advocating for action on climate change (see Environmental Policy/targets [here](#)) through:

- An Environmental Evaluation of the festival in 2025
- Monitoring audience, staff, volunteer and performer travel and reporting on this
- Promoting and sign-posting festival goers, artists, suppliers and team to use local public transport links or to walk or cycle to attend the Festival.
- Reducing use of single use plastic by providing drinking water in glass bottles and recyclable cups in workshop spaces in Deptford Lounge and having a water dispenser in the foyer for filling water bottles.
- Assessing the environmental impact of print produced for the festival and reducing printed paper usage with all festival events bookable online with digital tickets
- Producing our Festival brochure online and printed using recyclable material using FSC standard paper, and ensuring it is recycled after its use;
- Prioritising working with local organisations and businesses and suppliers to keep emissions from travel to a minimum and help keep money circulating within the local community
- Programming talks, workshops and artists' responding to the natural world, directly addressing the relationship between people and the environment, shining a light on some of the most critical issues of our times.

Additional aims can be added here e.g. relating to Sustainable printing, power specification, communicating sustainability initiatives. It is recommended to create a full Environmental Policy and Action Plan which can be referenced here.

But…. we can't do it all ourselves. We know that we can't dictate the way you run your venue, but we do have green aspirations that we'd love for you to consider. If you disagree with a request, or if you feel you are unable to deliver it, we ask simply that you contact us and we can find a solution together. If you've any suggestions for us, we'd love to hear them. Together, we can do our bit for Lewisham and its people.

Transport and Travel
- To continue to make public transport, walking and cycling the easiest option to get to the venue.

Materials, Resources and Procurement
- To minimise packaging associated with any 'giveaways'
- Ban single use plastics including plastic drinks bottles, single use plastic cups, sweet and crisp wrappers, individual condiment sachets.
- Ban non-compostable serveware and use reusable serveware where possible
- Source food and drink from ethical sources using at least minimum environmental standards - this could include seasonal, venue-grown, local, independently produced, organic/biodynamic, small scale, nature-friendly farming as well as sustainable certification for things like palm oil, fish, meat, chocolate, tea, coffee and sugar.
- To liaise with us about numbers of people expected in order to minimise food waste
- Redistribute surplus edible food to the local community
- Eco-friendly cleaning products to be used.
- Consider the travel emissions associated with the food and drink products when ordering supplies
- Consider the most eco-friendly printing in terms of inks, paper and transport emissions.

Waste
- Venues to provide separate Dry Mixed Recycling, Food Waste and General Waste bins in all areas as a minimum, to comply with UK government waste separation rules that came into force on 31st March 2025 in England. Further segregated waste bins are encouraged e.g. cardboard, glass, plastic, cans, particularly to match waste types produced in the venue.
- Have a process for recycling hazardous items such as batteries.
- Bins to be clearly labelled.
- Continue with local waste collections with waste being processed locally

Water and Wastewater
- To provide drinkable water refill points for staff, audience and performers with clear signage
- To aim towards water saving measures in the toilets and kitchens

Power
- Venues to provide mains electricity (no generators or other temporary power), ideally on a green/renewable energy tariff. Note that some energy companies have been widely criticised for their environmental credibility due to potential green washing so careful selection of the provider is necessary.

Communication
- Venues to provide an Environmental Policy and to have an Action Plan that is regularly reviewed with achievable targets to reduce the venue's impact on the environment. Let us know if there is anything we can do during the festival to help support you in achieving your goals.

Methodology for transport emissions

- The Albany survey data was not used as it asked slightly difference questions to the festival's own survey and also may have captured the same people as the DLF survey
- The LNER carbon calculator was used to calculate train distances, google for road distances and distance.to for flight distances.
- New Cross Gate was assumed to be the destination station.
- Incomplete data was eliminated e.g. where participants had written 'North London' as the starting point.
- 455 people completed the survey. Only 414 answered both travel questions therefore only these 414 were used for analysing distances.
- UK Government Carbon Conversion Factors from 2024 were used to calculate travel emissions (the 2025 figures had not been released at the time of writing).

For further information, please contact Helen - helenfreudenberg@hotmail.com

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