

TUC Yorkshire & the Humber CLIC Climate
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*TUC Yorkshire & the Humber
Creative and Leisure Industries Committee*

Climate Emergency Declaration

We, TUC Yorkshire & the Humber Creative and Leisure Industries Committee (TUC YH CLIC) declare a Climate and Ecological Emergency. We agree with the current scientific consensus that the future ability of Planet Earth to support all life is threatened by human damage to the climate and ecology.

Human existence and the entire natural world are under threat unless we tackle both the immediate emergency and the generic long-term transformation to a carbon neutral existence.

Therefore, we declare that we are adopting a strategy and programme to contribute to the process essential to protect Planet Earth, human existence and the natural world through carbon neutrality.

We pledge to work with and support Creative and Leisure industries workers, their employers and engagers and local government in tackling this Emergency.

We call on others to do the same.

We intend:

1. To be honest

All legislation and policies, governmental, corporate and cultural activities should reflect the current scientific consensus. Policies should be consistent and prioritise the urgency of universal change while striving to ensure perpetual carbon neutral existence thereafter.

Therefore, our personal and professional communications and activities will support current scientific consensus about the Emergency and the changes needed. They will be honestly conveyed, accurate and fair.

2. To act

Governments must enact legally binding policy measures to reduce emissions to net zero and to reduce consumption levels as a matter of urgency.

We will challenge policies and actions of local and national governments and their agencies, where we interact with them, that do not help to reduce emissions or consumption levels.

We will actively encourage Creative and Leisure Industries workers, their employers and engagers to imagine and model ways that can regenerate the planet's resources. Ideally, carbon neutrality would be achieved by 2025. However, we will endeavour to

reduce our carbon emissions to net zero as soon as possible, but by 2030 at the latest.

We will do all we can to reduce our emissions to net zero by 2025 both as a committee and as individuals.

We will encourage:

- all those elected to public or representative office;
- all those in administrative, executive, judicial and enforcement roles;
- all creative sector organisations and their workers, regardless of corporate or employment status to pursue governance and policies which achieve carbon neutrality as soon as possible, through all legitimate means open to us. We will peacefully challenge those who do not.

We believe that no one should lose their livelihood during or after the transition to carbon neutrality. Therefore we commit ourselves to work with and support all those affected to ensure that their employment conditions, opportunities, prosperity and happiness are not diminished.

Specifically, we will:

- use future editions of the TUC YH Cultural Manifesto to call on individuals and organisations within the creative and leisure industries to declare a Climate Emergency;

- urge such organisations, trade unions, and individuals to make and act upon declarations and add themselves to the Culture Declares Emergency web site as part of our other dealings with them;
- support organisations that commit themselves to the protection of workers' rights during the transition to universal carbon neutrality;
- link with creative and leisure sector individuals and organisations (in the region) who have declared a climate emergency or adopt short-, medium- and long-term carbon neutrality programmes to exchange information and to share policy and practice;
- evaluate our work in support of this Climate Emergency declaration regularly including by making the Climate Emergency a standing item at all our regular meetings.
- report annually on our work in support of this Climate Emergency declaration to the TUC YH Executive including recommendations for CLIC activities for the next 12-month period.

3. To promote equality and justice

Socio-economic inequality and exploitation cannot be separated from the degradation of the environment. The arts' positive role in facing up to climate change needs to be supported; the adverse environmental impact of cultural activities must be minimised.

We will encourage education and debate about:

- the threat to Planet Earth, human existence and the natural world;
- accepting the inevitability of rapid change; and
- the most effective, equitable and rapidly achievable means to protect Planet Earth, human existence and the natural world from destruction.

We will do what we can to enable dialogue and expression among Creative and Leisure Industries workers, their employers and engagers about how the Emergency will affect them and the changes that are needed.

While we wish to see net zero emissions by 2025, measures to mitigate climate damage must not be allowed to adversely affect the creative industries financially. We will press for additional public investment in the sector to enable the creative industries to play their part in achieving net zero emissions.