



Climate Change and DCMS

Background

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport is committed to working to reduce the negative impact of climate change through the sustainable development of the creative and leisure industries and reducing the carbon impact of our businesses. As a central government department we have a commitment to deliver the priorities set out in HMG's Sustainable Development Strategy, *'Securing the Future'*.

Since April 2007 we have been running a project aimed to support the evidence base for DCMS's Sustainable Development Strategy. We wanted to do this because:

- first, currently we do not have a clear picture of our bodies' current work to mitigate and support adaptation to climate change, including their work to support public behavioural change.
- second, while we and our individual bodies are working to reduce their carbon footprint we do not know what our total carbon footprint currently is, making reductions difficult to quantify.

What we will have by the end of this project will be:

- a record of current DCMS and NDPB activity to mitigate climate change in the form of case studies;
- a summary of current activities in the bodies in our sectors to mitigate and support adaptation to climate change, including their work that supports public behavioural change; and.
- a very basic estimate of DCMS and 18 of our NDPBs carbon footprint.

All these are first steps in what we see as a long running programme.

Where does Arcola come in?

We wanted to find good examples of what DCMS related organisations are actually doing combat climate change. If possible we wanted to support projects and let the public and other organisations know what's being done. Arcola's innovative project fitted the bill admirably.

We are supporting the installation of the hydrogen cell through our research programme. We want to find out if this really reduces carbon emissions significantly and if so, whether it might be applied to other small arts organisations.

We will be monitoring progress over the coming year, and wish Arcola every success. Congratulations on taking such a radical step and showing other organisations the way!

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