



## Theatre Green Book launches Home Survey Tool to help buildings be more sustainable

The award-winning Theatre Green Book initiative has launched a new tool to help theatre operators prioritise sustainability improvements to their buildings. It has been developed to accompany the Sustainable Buildings volume of the Theatre Green Book, the project spearheaded by Theatres Trust, ABTT and Buro Happold, and coordinated by Paddy Dillon of Renew Culture, which pulls together existing guidance and creates a shared standard for environmentally responsible theatre.

The Home Survey Tool is a simple building questionnaire that takes into account a building's age and usage to produce a detailed list of prioritised recommendations, dividing them into 'easy wins', maintenance projects and larger works that need longer-term planning. The tool was developed with donated time from Buro Happold engineers and programmers, and has been piloted by a range of theatre operators across the UK and Ireland.

*Paddy Dillon of Renew Culture says, The aim of the Theatre Green Book project has always been to demystify environmental sustainability. With the rollout of the Home Survey Tool, we hope to refocus the efforts of building managers on the projects with the biggest impacts. We look forward to feedback from theatres to keep developing this work.*

*Theatres Trust Director Jon Morgan says, The Home Survey Tool is the next stage in the vital Theatre Green Book project. The recommendations produced across the sector can help to make the case for further funding and to support the decision-making of theatre organisations.*

Andrew Wylie, Partner at Buro Happold says, *Buro Happold was pleased to develop the Home Survey Tool to help venues, large and small, understand how their building is performing. Working through the Tool will generate an initial plan to improve your buildings environmental performance without the need to engage specialist advice.*

Colin Johnston, Deputy Chief Executive Officer at Blackpool Grand says, *Trying to reduce the carbon footprint of a Victorian theatre – especially one that is Grade II\* listed – is a monumental task. However, using the Home Survey Tool was simple and very effective at both finding the ‘quick wins’ that we could effect at low or no cost, and the ‘don’t even bother considering’ at the other end of the spectrum. The tool is refreshingly honest, free from jargon, and easy to follow.*

Katie Town, Executive Director, Theatre Royal Wakefield says, *The team at Theatre Royal Wakefield found the Theatre Green Book Home Survey Tool really helpful and simple to use. We found the questions thought-provoking and the output interesting and useful. We’ve already started to implement some of the recommendations to improve our environmental sustainability and other actions will inform our longer-term plans for our Grade II\* listed Frank Matcham building.*

## Notes to Editors

Title	Theatres Trust
Website	<a href="http://www.theatrust.org.uk">http://www.theatrust.org.uk</a>
Twitter	@TheatresTrust
Photograph	Theatre Royal Wakefield, credit Robling Photography

## Theatre Green Book

The Theatre Green Book, which recently won a Stage Innovation Award, pulls together existing guidance and creates a shared standard for environmentally responsible theatre across three volumes: Sustainable Productions, Sustainable Buildings and Sustainable Operations. The project, spearheaded by ABTT, Buro Happold and Theatres Trust and coordinated by Paddy Dillon of Renew Culture, builds upon the work of Julie’s Bicycle, Creative Carbon Scotland, SiPA, Ecostage and others. Theatre Green Book won the Innovation Award at The Stage Awards in January 2022. Find out more about the Theatre Green Book: [www.theatregreenbook.com](http://www.theatregreenbook.com)

Paddy Dillon of Renew Culture co-ordinates the Theatre Green Book initiative. He is now working with theatres across the world to spread sustainable practice through the Green Book, and with sustainability partners Buro Happold to develop Green Book equivalents for other sectors.

Theatres Trust is the national advisory public body for theatres. They believe that current and future generations should have access to good quality theatre buildings where they can be inspired by, and enjoy, live performance. They champion the future of live performance by protecting and supporting excellent theatre buildings which meet the needs of their communities. They do this by providing advice on the design, planning, development and sustainability of theatres, campaigning on behalf of theatres old and new and offering financial assistance through grants.

Buro Happold is an international, integrated consultancy of engineers, consultants and advisers. After leading the construction industry in declaring a climate emergency, we've committed to reduce our own impact by achieving challenging science-based targets. We are collectively working towards an equitable and green future by adapting our business to mitigate climate change and the biodiversity crisis and helping others achieve their sustainability goals.

The Association of British Theatre Technicians (ABTT) is a membership organisation which sets and upholds standards in technical excellence, safety and compliance for theatre and live performance.

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