The Classical Association: ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

As the subject association for Classics in the UK and one of the largest Classics charities, we provide financial and practical support to maintain and promote the teaching and study of the classical world in schools, universities and beyond.

We have a worldwide membership. We award grants to fund schools’ events, outreach initiatives, academic conferences, bursary schemes for summer schools and a range of other projects. We sponsor the UK’s largest annual Classics conference, hosted by a different UK university each year. We produce high-profile academic journals and other publications.

We recognise that there are environmental issues associated with our activities. We acknowledge the need to consider ways in which we can conserve energy and minimise waste in all activities that we undertake.

In particular, we aim to:

• reduce the impact of our activities on the environment through use of energy saving initiatives, in cooperation with our members, partners and stakeholders;
• minimise waste by evaluating operations and ensuring they are as efficient as possible;
• consider social and environmental issues in the purchase of stationery and consumables and purchase Fair Trade items whenever possible;
• collaborate with universities to work towards the UK’s 2050 net zero target when hosting our annual conference, both by reducing the carbon emissions of conferences (e.g. avoiding single use plastics where possible, printing conference brochures on request only, car sharing etc.) and balancing emissions by using accredited schemes to offset an equivalent amount of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere, such as planting trees or using technology such as carbon capture and storage;
• design our annual conference bursary scheme to achieve a balance between the need to avoid encouraging air travel by presenters and affording the opportunity for effective interaction with colleagues;
• collaborate with our publishing partners to ensure that print journals use FSC certified sustainable paper and biodegradable packaging;
• encourage online access to the content of our journals and other publications;
• continue to develop our digital communications with members;
• encourage sustainable event planning by those applying for an award from our grants scheme, for example by balancing the need to discourage requests to grant-fund the
cost of air travel with recognition that other options might be limited, taking into account global inequities;
• evaluate the effectiveness of potential suppliers’ and contractors’ environmental policies when procuring or tendering for good or services;
• meet or exceed all our legal and other requirements relating to the environment.

This statement has been formally adopted by Council. Performance against these objectives will be reviewed annually by Council.