

The **New Zealand Symphony Orchestra** has begun its journey to reduce its impact on the environment. We have made a commitment to reduce our environmental footprint and to offset our emissions to achieve carbon neutrality.

The New Zealand Government recently announced that all Government agencies must achieve carbon neutrality by 2025. The NZSO aims to better this target and has made an ambitious pledge to become carbon neutral in 2022.

We have embarked on several important sustainability initiatives.

- ✓ We have confirmed our **Sustainability Vision**, which is:

“The NZSO is committed to delivering the objectives of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra Act in an environmentally responsible and sustainable way” - NZSO Board, 2020.

“We recognise that sustainable business practices are fundamental to our future, and we strive to continually reduce our green-house gas emissions and our environmental impact on the planet whilst continuing to deliver exceptional musical experiences.

We actively seek new initiatives that help protect the planet and our people and we pledge to achieve net carbonzero certification by 2022.”

- ✓ We have updated our **Environmental Principles**, which are:
 - That protecting the environment is fundamental to our future.
 - We commit to aligning our environmental practices with NZ Government goals, policies, and legislation.
 - We recognise that we rely on transportation to take our music to New Zealand and therefore we are an emissions-intensive organisation.
 - We acknowledge Tekanga Māori, Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development goals.
 - We actively seek to minimise the environmental impact of all our activities.
 - We work in partnership with our stakeholders to promote good environmental practises and culture.
 - We lead by example and collaborate on environmental issues across our sector.
 - We accurately measure and reduce our greenhouse gas footprint and offset our remaining emissions to achieve a zero emissions balance.
 - We regularly review our operations and systems to ensure our business practices align with our Sustainability Vision.
- ✓ We’ve created an **Environmental Action Group** with representatives from across our organisation. The EAG meets regularly to review our progress, create plans to reduce our emissions, and to provide sustainability recommendations to our decision makers. The EAG has begun reviewing all areas of our business including air travel, freight, energy use, paper use, and waste.
- ✓ And we have partnered with **Toitū Envirocare** to help us accurately measure our greenhouse gas emissions, create strategies to help reduce our impact on the environment, and to verify our practices and data to achieve **Toitū net carbonzero** certification.