

EXETER PHOENIX



- Exeter, Devon - England
- Registered charity
- Multi-arts centre
- Heritage building - 1909
- 1 screen

‘GREEN’ CAPITAL PROJECTS

SECONDARY GLAZING

LED LIGHTING

SOLAR PANELS

LIVING WALL

RAINWATER HARVESTING

PROJECTS

2015 - installed **solar panels** to power cinema

2017 - added second solar panel array to roof

54 solar panels across 2 arrays generating
18kW of power

Funded by **Naturesave Trust** and **Postcode
Local Trust**

2017 - **LED lighting** throughout the building

Saving 38 tCO₂e per year with a 2 year payback

Funded by **Exeter Community Energy** and
Carbon Trust Business Grant

2022 - **Secondary glazing** added to 40 of 106
single glazed, metal framed windows

Funded by **Crowdfunding** - £15,477

M&S Community Energy Fund,
Devon CC Community Chest and
Exeter Community Energy

2023/2024 - **Living wall and rainwater
harvesting** installed

£16,000 for living wall and rainwater harvesting
system

Living wall can save up to 350,000 litres of
water a year

TEAM AND APPROACH

- 3 team members have an environmental remit: Fundraising Manager, Finance Officer and Director
- Finance Officer has dedicated time to research new environmental actions
- Finance Officer built on their own interests and completed all energy audits internally with no formal training, starting in 2018
- Environmental sustainability included as a key pillar of the five-year plan agreed with the board in 2021, marking the start of the Green Phoenix Project
- Team continually research and plan potential actions, and scan relevant funding opportunities, so they are ready when funding becomes available



Thermal Imaging Survey conducted on the building prior to the Secondary Glazing project

FUNDING

- Team has seen the funding landscape change over the last 10 years, becoming increasingly competitive
- They remain nonetheless successful in securing funding and believe their approach of constantly researching and being ready when a funding opportunity arises has supported with this
- Having a dedicated Fundraising Manager whose remit includes environmental funding has been key to success
- Successful Crowdfunding for smaller amounts, making use of matched funding opportunities e.g. from the M&S Community Energy Fund

A Window to the Future at Exeter Phoenix

Exeter, Devon, United Kingdom



£12,389

Successful



101 supporters

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Need to raise money?
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“It's generally just a case of scanning and keeping an eye out for any opportunities that are available and making sure that we are ready to move on a series of viable, well researched, costed up projects as and when the opportunities arise.”
Holly Lawrence - Fundraising & Development Manager

KEY INSIGHTS AND TIPS

BENEFITS

Venue has a much warmer, more comfortable environment, with fewer draughts due to the secondary glazing

Living Wall, part of the Rainwater Harvesting system, has enhanced the venue's visual appeal

Improving the experience and feel of the venue wasn't the original reason for the capital investments, but has been an unexpected co-benefit .

CHALLENGES

Ensuring a balance between accessibility and environmental needs - accessibility is prioritised

While they have had a lot of funding success, the team also have lots of ideas they want to secure funding for, but are not always successful

TOP TIPS

Take time to research first. Check out existing resources, which provide step-by-step guidance, such as those provided by Julie's Bicycle and the Theatre Green Book. You can start small and don't have to start with bigger investments such as solar panels.

Have project ideas ready to go when funding opportunities become available.

Take the audience with you and share the story of your projects.

Celebrate what you have achieved!

**Living wall
installed at Exeter
Phoenix in 2024**

