

BRITISH FASHION COUNCIL

13th February 2020

Dear Extinction Rebellion,

The British Fashion Council (BFC) recognises that there is a climate emergency and encourage all businesses to address how they can reduce their negative impact on the planet. As an organisation we use the power of the London Fashion Week (LFW) platform to communicate to both industry and consumers, and again this season there will be a focus on Positive Change.

We are currently supporting two industry focused campaigns: Switch to Green encourages brands to commit to switching UK offices and retail stores to a green energy supplier, transitioning energy usage into a renewable source. Switch to BLUE[®] asks that fashion businesses commit to replacing their sample hangers from a single-use plastic solution with no circular life cycle, to Arch & Hook marine plastic hangers, a 100% recycled, fully closed loop alternative.

We launched the Positive Fashion Exhibition in September 2019 to showcase new business models and the creative young businesses that are addressing the key dimensions of responsibility: Environment, People, Craftmanship & Community. The 2nd edition of the exhibition will be part of LFW February 2020, with the ambition to push this platform further in September 2020.

We shared our intention to form the Institute of Positive Fashion (IPF) last September. To this end, we have accelerated our plans and are on track to launch the IPF platform within the first half of 2020. Over the past six months the BFC, together with the Positive Fashion Committee, have developed the IPF framework that has already been shared with some Government departments to discuss how we can work together to address the challenges we face. The IPF will be a resource of information to help businesses improve their impact through all business verticals. When we met previously, I articulated the need to create practical action to help businesses and the IPF will do this.

At our official venue, we are committed to working closely with our suppliers and production partners to host as sustainable an event as possible by using PVC-free recyclable vinyl signage and energy efficient lighting as well as reusing materials and furniture, providing digital passes and water refill stations for our visitors.

This LFW we look forward to showcasing businesses that are re-imagining our industry and using this event to further engage businesses and the public to address the significant issue of sustainability.

Yours faithfully,



Caroline Rush
Chief Executive