

OHEAP FIRE & SECURITY CARBON REDUCTION PLAN 2021

We are committed to achieving Net Zero Carbon by 2040.

It is vital to remember at all times that **our core business provides an enormous direct benefit to the environment** by reducing the risk of significant fires & the resulting, potentially devastating, impact on the environment from escape of harmful substances into land, air and water. Therefore, in building our business and taking on new customers we are automatically increasing the positive environmental impact that we generate.

We have carried out an Environmental Risk Assessment and have engaged with managers across the business in order to determine the greatest impacts and prioritise the most meaningful objectives.

Where year on year objectives are specified we will use 2019 as the baseline year; this is because in 2020 our use of resources was greatly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic so this year does not represent a realistic baseline from which to measure future performance. Hence any reference in this document to a 'year on year' target means 2021 when compared with 2019 (and then 2022 compared with 2021, and so on)

Many of the lessons learned during the pandemic will feed into our thinking about how to manage our resources in a more environmentally conscious way, and one of the unexpected benefits of the pandemic has been to change behaviours in a way that directly reduces our environmental impact (e.g., reducing travel and increasing the use of virtual meetings).

Vehicle Fleet

The operation of our Vehicle Fleet is a very significant aspect of our business in relation to our effect on the environment. We will make lifecycle, fuel efficiency and emissions control core aspects of decision making when sourcing, using, maintaining and disposing of vehicles.

Our objectives will be to:

1. Ensure that all company vehicles have an odometer reading of at least 100,000 miles before replacement (excluding unforeseen events such as insurance write offs)
2. Reduce average total miles travelled per company vehicle by 5% year on year
3. Reduce per capita usage of fossil fuels by 5% year on year

Purchasing, Supply Chain & Direct Sale of Product

This is another crucial aspect of our business, in terms of product selection, transportation options, usage of packaging, etc. The nature and size of our business means that we do not have enormous influence over the behaviour of manufacturers or suppliers, and we recognise that the majority of the products we sell in a highly competitive marketplace are manufactured in areas where environmental considerations are not always to the fore, and which involve long journeys from manufacturer to end user, but our objectives will be:

4. Reduce the use of single-use plastics in our supply chain by at least 5% year on year (replace with cardboard or biodegradable alternatives)
5. Increase the proportion of products that are drop-shipped by 5% year on year
6. Increase the proportion of cardboard that is either reused or recycled within the business by 5% year on year

7. Return 100% of defective products to suppliers for recycling or rework where they are under warranty.

Service Delivery by Extinguisher, FD&A and Security Divisions has a significant part to play in our environmental performance. We have a network of over 40 skilled engineers working from well-stocked vehicles which means they can operate autonomously for the majority of the time, visiting HQ perhaps once a week on average to restock. We will:

8. Send all dry powder for reprocessing/reuse and eliminate all powder going to landfill by the end of 2021
9. Maintain Discharge and refill activity on extinguishers at or above 2019 levels as a proportion of the number of extinguishers serviced.
10. Eliminate use of stickers on FD&A equipment by year end 2021

HQ Operations

Impacts from building operation & maintenance include:

- Electricity use – heating/lighting/electrical and IT equipment. Given the existing energy efficiency measures in use, the only way to significantly reduce reliance on external supplies would be to install solar panels – this is planned for 2021/2022 but we are unlikely to achieve a reduction during 2021. This will be revisited when deciding 2022 objectives.
- Water use & waste water (including provision of fresh drinking water) – again the water system is already very efficient but there may be opportunities to install grey water handling facilities on site during 2021 or 2022 so again this will be revisited when looking at 2022 objectives.
- Air conditioning system operation & maintenance monitor and control use of refrigerant gas. The 2021 service of the system has already taken place, so before the 2022 service takes place we will engage with suppliers to explore and where possible reduce the environmental impact of this activity.

Impacts common to Office, Warehouse and Workshop activities include:

- Staff travel to work – during the remainder of 2021 we will look at ways to incentivise car share/cycle to work/public transport
- Use of paper – current processes require large quantities of paper usage; full details awaited. Our engineer activity and invoicing are intended to migrate to a paperless system during 2021 and once this has been achieved, we will seek to derive formal objectives.
- Recycling & General Waste Disposal: currently waste is handled as follows:
 - General waste REL – sent to Willshees for sorting – recycling/landfill.
 - Cardboard REL
 - Metal - collected and recycled by Baker Metals of Derby
 - Extinguisher powder – IBCs sent to landfill when filled
 - Batteries – Lead Acid & Nicad in separate containers, sent for recycling when filled
 - Fluorescent tubes – in separate bins – sent to recycling when filled
 - Confidential waste – at present this is shredded on site and placed into the general waste. It cannot be used for filling packaging due to the amount of dust contained within it.

- The purchasing manager has been tasked with identifying alternative recycling methods, in particular for confidential waste and also for sorting general waste as there are no facilities on site for separating waste within the office, which would assist with segregating waste at source. At present some staff members voluntarily take glass containers home and place them in local recycling facilities but this is commercial waste so this practice needs to cease when an alternative is found.
- Targets for waste management will be finalised once this exercise has been finalised.

Offsetting

As our strategy develops it is unlikely that we will achieve Net Zero Carbon status simply by changing our working practices and adapting our building.

In that context we will adopt an offsetting strategy with trusted partners.