



WWF-UK SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

JULY 2022 - JUNE 2023

CONTENTS

ABOUT THIS REPORT..... [3](#)

PERFORMANCE AGAINST OUR TARGETS..... [4](#)

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE [5](#)

ECONOMIC..... [16](#)

SOCIAL..... [17](#)

CARBON OFFSETTING [19](#)



ABOUT THIS REPORT

We're WWF, the global environmental charity, and we're bringing our world back to life. With nature in freefall, we're urgently tackling the underlying causes that are driving the decline – especially the food system and climate change. And we're finding solutions so future generations have a world with thriving habitats and wildlife.

We recognise the importance of 'walking the talk'. Our responsibility does not end with influencing others to build a future with thriving habitats and species – we must also play our part, reducing our own impacts as well as inspiring others to do the same.

Although preserving the natural world is fundamental to the work we do, the environment is just one of the three pillars of sustainability. To achieve a future where people and nature thrive, we must act sustainably, which means considering social and economic factors, as well as environmental ones (the three pillars of sustainability).

This report covers our financial year from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 (FY23) and is divided into three sections which cover the environmental, social and economic factors and the efforts we're making as an organisation to address them. A copy of our environmental goals and the measures we have in place to achieve these can be found on our website at: [wwf.org.uk/walkingthetalk](https://www.wwf.org.uk/walkingthetalk)



PERFORMANCE AGAINST OUR TARGETS

OUR PROGRESS			
AREA	TARGET	PERFORMANCE THIS YEAR	LABEL
Business travel – air	Reduce our air travel emissions by 46.2% by FY30, using 309 tonnes CO ₂ e as the baseline (2019) Internal air travel carbon budget for FY23: 257 tonnes CO ₂ e	230.5 tonnes CO ₂ e	 Aligned to target
Business travel – road and rail	Reduce our road and rail emissions by 46.2% by FY30, using 56 tonnes CO ₂ e as the baseline (2019)	25.5 tonnes CO ₂ e	 Aligned to target
Energy	Reduce our emissions from energy by 46.2% by 2030 using 171 tonnes CO ₂ e as the baseline (2019)	119.5 tonnes CO ₂ e	 Aligned to target
	Consume ≤160kWh/m ² of energy in the Living Planet Centre	166 kWh/m ²	 Target missed
Waste	Recycle at least 84% of our waste per year	86%	 Aligned to target
Food waste	Produce ≤17kg of food waste per person per year	10kg	 Aligned to target
Plastic	Eradicate all avoidable single-use plastic in our products, operations and supply chain	0 avoidable single-use plastic used	 Aligned to target
Water	Use ≤400 litres of water per m ² per year	216 litres per m ²	 Aligned to target
Paper	Use 100% recycled or FSC-certified material for all paper and timber	100% of paper and wood was 100% recycled or FSC-certified	 Aligned to target
	Reduce our paper and print emissions by 46.2% by FY30 using 121 tonnes CO ₂ e as the baseline (2019)	94.3 tonnes CO ₂ e	 Aligned to target
Print	Use ≤0.5 sheets of paper per employee per working day	0.7 sheets per person per day	 Target missed

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

We have four offices in the UK. The table below shows the environmental impacts we're able to measure and report for each one. The majority of our operations are based at our head office, the Living Planet Centre in Woking, Surrey, which is the main office space for more than 90% of our staff. It is the main focus of our report in relation to building impacts.

	Property areas (m ²)	Electricity	Gas	Water	Waste	Business travel	Paper and timber purchases
Living Planet Centre, Surrey	3,675	✓*	No gas supply to building	✓	✓	✓	✓
The Tun, Edinburgh	256	✓	Tenant within offices where we are currently unable to measure our individual use		✓**	✓	✓
Churchill House, Cardiff	190	✓			✓**	✓	✓
Somerset House, London	115	Tenant within offices where we are currently unable to measure our individual use				✓	✓

*At the Living Planet Centre, solar panels on the roof generate electricity – it is assumed that this electricity does not generate CO₂ emissions.

** We are tenants in our Scottish and Welsh offices, sharing waste services with the other tenants. But we have begun to weigh our waste output before it is communally collected.

CARBON EMISSIONS

Our emissions footprint has increased by 34 tonnes CO₂ in the last five years however, our footprint per capita has reduced by 27% over this period. This was expected as we have also expanded the scope of our emissions reporting substantially over this period. There are plans to expand the scope of our reporting to include commuting in next year's report.

CO ₂ e emissions (tonnes CO ₂ e)	FY23	FY22	FY21	FY20	FY19
Scope 1: Direct CO₂e emissions					
Direct emissions from burning fuels for energy	0	0	0	0	0
Total Scope 1:	0	0	0	0	0
Scope 2: Indirect CO₂e emissions					
Indirect emissions from office electricity	119	112	121	131	171
Total Scope 2:	119	112	121	131	171
Scope 3: Other indirect CO₂e emissions					
Business travel	256.1	59	1.7	180.4	366.9
Courier deliveries	2.9	5.0	4.5	-	-
Food and drink	21.8	13.4	5.6	-	-
Hotel stays	18.4	5.7	0.7	-	-
Paper, timber and print	94.3	98.7	127.2	137.2	121.4
Plastic	0.02	0.02	0.02	83.4	-
Purchased goods	36.4	83.8	117.5	-	-
Waste disposal	0.2	0.1	0.04	0.1	-
Water consumption and disposal	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.6	-
Working from home*	142.9	144.5	145.4	-	-
Total Scope 3:	573	411	403	402	488
Total CO₂e emissions	693	524	524	532	659
Carbon intensity (per capita)	1.44	1.21	1.31	1.47	1.96

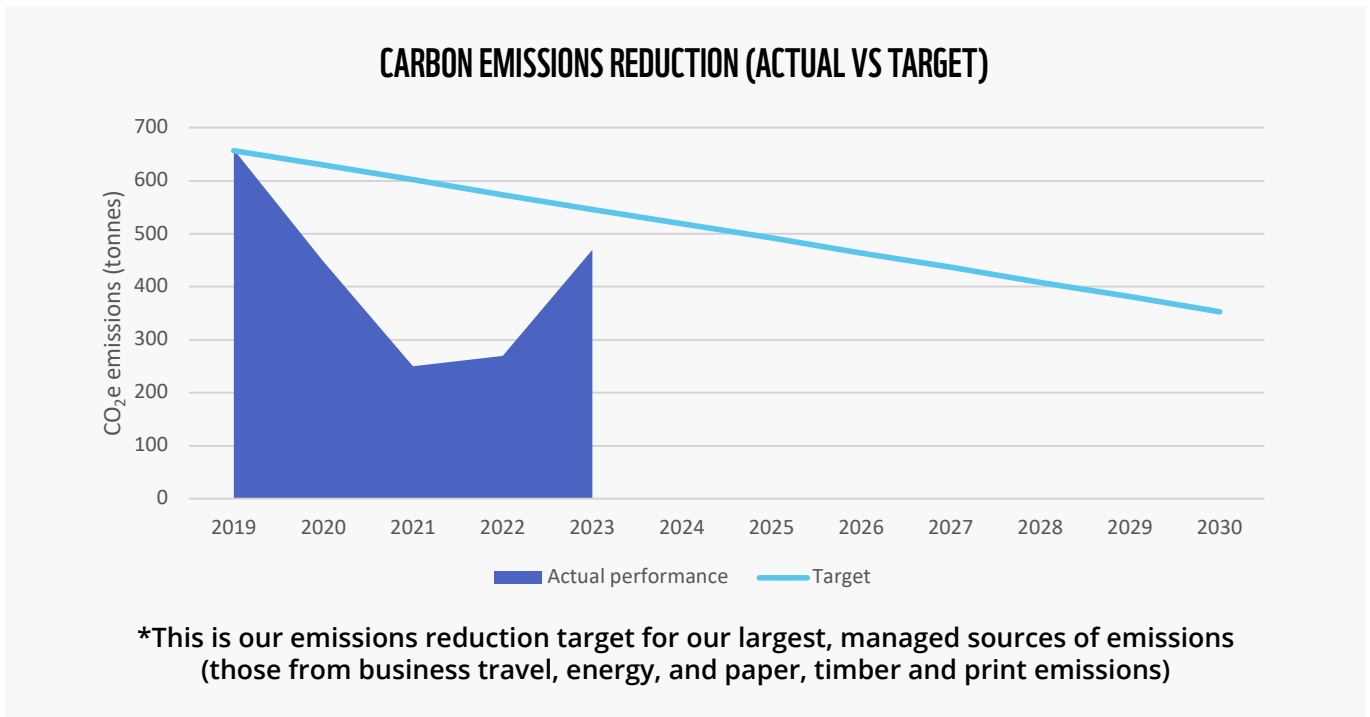
*We will be expanding our scope 3 emissions in FY24 to include 'commuting' to reflect the benefits of flexible working.

CO₂ equivalent (CO₂e) emissions are a way of accounting for the impact of different greenhouse gases, expressed as the amount of CO₂ that would produce the equivalent amount of warming. Emissions are categorised as Scope 1, 2 or 3 as defined by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol. We calculate these emissions by applying the UK government's carbon conversion factors. All CO₂ figures referenced in this report are CO₂e figures.

EMISSIONS REDUCTION TARGETS

We have a science-based emissions reduction target which is aligned with a 1.5°C level of warming. This target was set in 2019 and covers our largest (and manageable) sources of emissions: **business travel, energy consumption, and emissions from paper, timber and printing.**

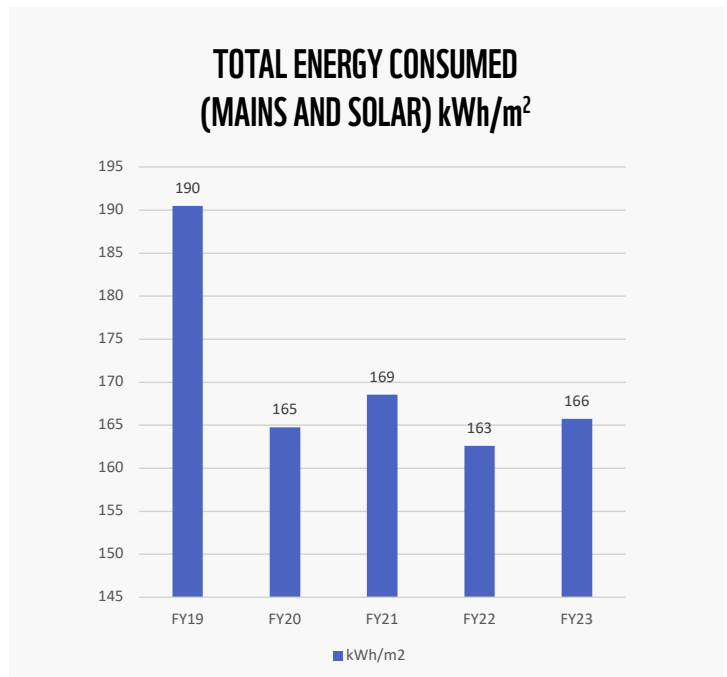
The target is to reduce these emissions by 46.2% by FY30, using FY19 as a baseline. As shown in the graph, although emissions are rising following the pandemic, we are making progress towards this reduction target.



ENERGY

The Living Planet Centre

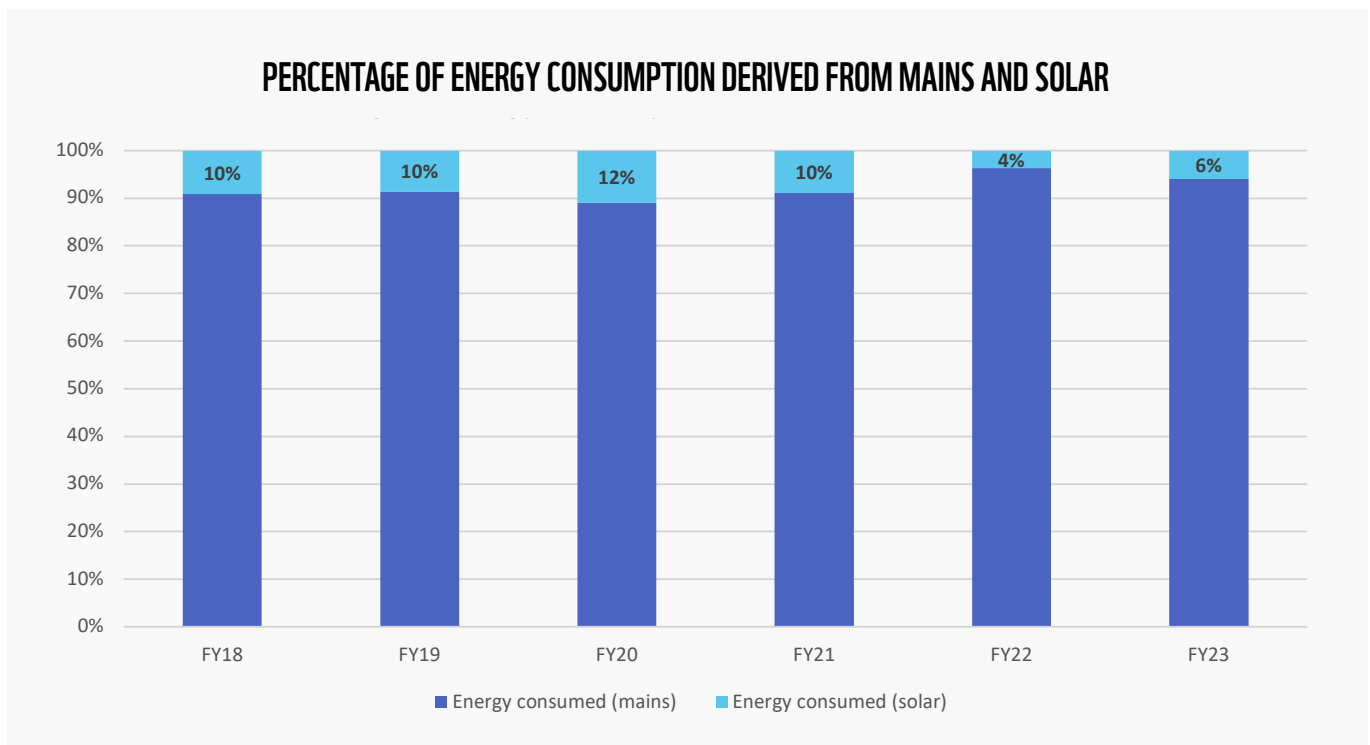
Our target is to reduce total energy consumption, including energy from renewable sources, to 160kWh/m². This year our energy consumption increased by 2%, largely because of colder winter and warmer summer temperatures, requiring additional heating and cooling.



We therefore missed our target by consuming 166 kWh/m². We need to bring energy consumption in line with our target and are currently exploring long-term plans to achieve this.

We upgraded our office printers to more efficient, low energy models, and reduced the number of available printers. This year we also completed our Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme (ESOS) audit and will be implementing changes suggested by our auditors.

Overdue remedial works were carried out to our solar array, resulting in a small increase in solar production. However, there is still an outstanding fault which needs addressing before they can perform at maximum capacity.

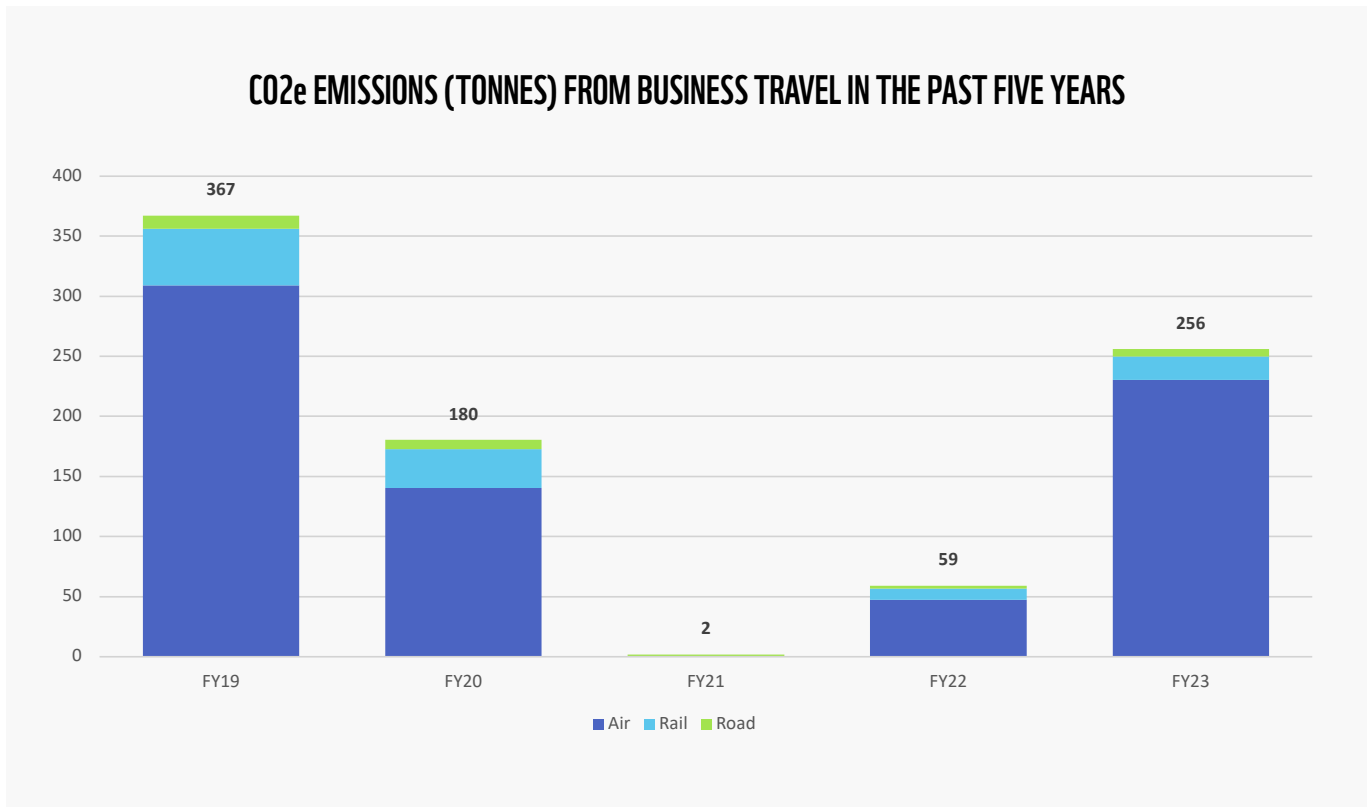


WALES AND SCOTLAND

Our Edinburgh and Cardiff offices became busier this year as staff returned to the workplace, increasing energy demand. Energy consumption rose 15% in Wales and 37% in Scotland as the size of the Scottish team has grown. Despite these increases, energy consumption is still lower than pre-pandemic levels as we made substantial savings through the LED lighting and double-glazing upgrades.

BUSINESS TRAVEL

This has been the first year since the pandemic when we have been able to travel freely to most destinations. Our work is global and therefore travel is essential to achieving our goals. However, to reduce the impact of travel we have a Sustainable Travel Policy (available on our website) which prioritises conference calling and green transport options, and imposes limits on air travel.



AIR

We took 241 flights this year and 40% were long-haul. Each year we set an air travel budget to help us limit our footprint and meet our science-based emissions reduction target. This year’s budget was 257 tonnes CO₂e. Our total emissions from air travel were 230.5 tonnes CO₂e – 10% under budget.

RAIL

Our rail travel doubled this year. We travelled 265,000 extra miles and emissions rose from 9.1 tonnes in FY22 to 19.4 tonnes CO₂e in FY23. Although we want staff to choose trains over planes and private vehicles, we need to ensure that emissions from train travel also reduce by carefully choosing whether travel is necessary or could be avoided by using conference calling.

ROAD

Our road travel increased by around 14,000 miles this year, compared to FY22. Despite this, road travel is lower than it was five years ago, before the pandemic. In FY19, our road travel was 10.9 tonnes CO₂e; this year it was 6.1 tonnes CO₂e.

Private vehicle use accounted for 89% of all our road travel miles, with bus journeys and taxi hire making up the remainder. This is largely due to our work on the Wild Isles television series, which required many colleagues to travel to remote areas of the UK. Staff are encouraged to take public transport where possible to reduce our emissions from travel and we will be reminding staff to prioritise public transport in FY24, to ensure we meet our emissions reduction targets.

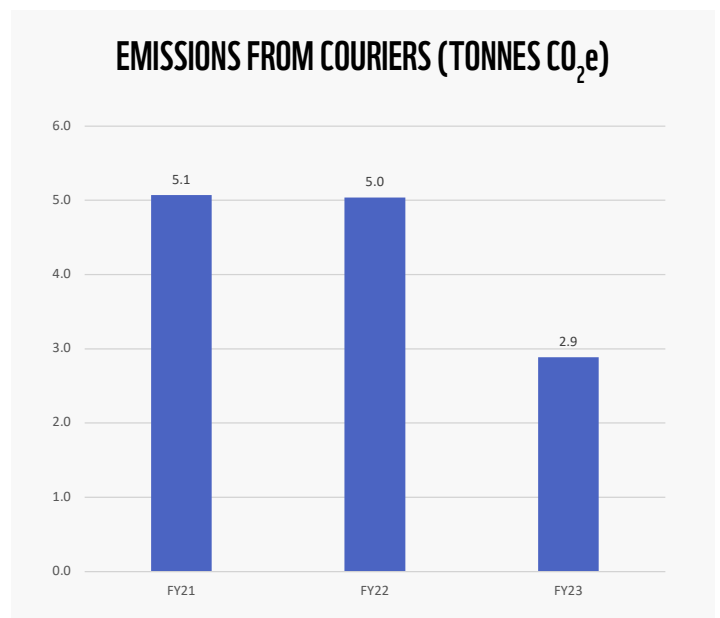
HOTELS

As travel increased, so too did hotel stays. Over half of these stays were in the UK (55%), mostly to help facilitate our Wild Isles project, and our work across England, Scotland, and Wales which often require long-distance travel and an overnight stay. This was an important year for biodiversity, with the UN Biodiversity Conference (COP15) being held in Canada in December. Several key members of WWF-UK staff were required to be present to contribute to these negotiations; this accounted for 8% of our hotel stays.

	FY21	FY22	FY23
Carbon (tonnes CO ₂ e)	0.7	5.7	18.4
Number of nights	52	449	1401

COURIERS

Our emissions from courier transport reduced by 43% this year. As staff return to the office on a more regular basis fewer couriers are required as staff can collect and drop off items in our offices. Our hierarchy is to choose the smallest delivery vehicle possible to reduce the emissions impact, such as small vans and motorbikes. For local deliveries of kit and equipment, particularly for filming, we use a local delivery service.

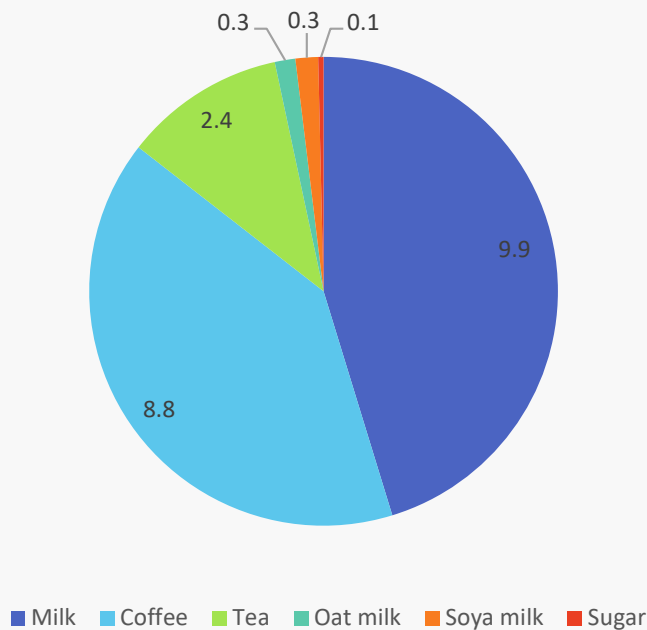


FOOD

The emissions from food and drink provided in our offices increased by 63% compared to last year (21.8 tonnes CO₂e compared to 13.4). As more staff returned to our offices on a flexible basis so too did their need for tea and coffee. Our biggest footprint comes from cow’s milk. However, demand for dairy alternatives is growing faster than demand for dairy milk. Demand for milk alternatives increased by 117%, compared to a 41% increase in demand for cow’s milk. Many of our staff are conscious to reduce their environmental footprint, and switching to dairy-free alternatives can be a small but effective change.

To calculate these emissions, we use the Cool Food Calculator developed by the World Resources Institute and we account for both agricultural supply chain emissions (metric 2) and carbon opportunity costs (metric 4).

EMISSIONS FROM FOOD AND DRINK PROVIDED IN OUR OFFICES (TONNES CO₂e)

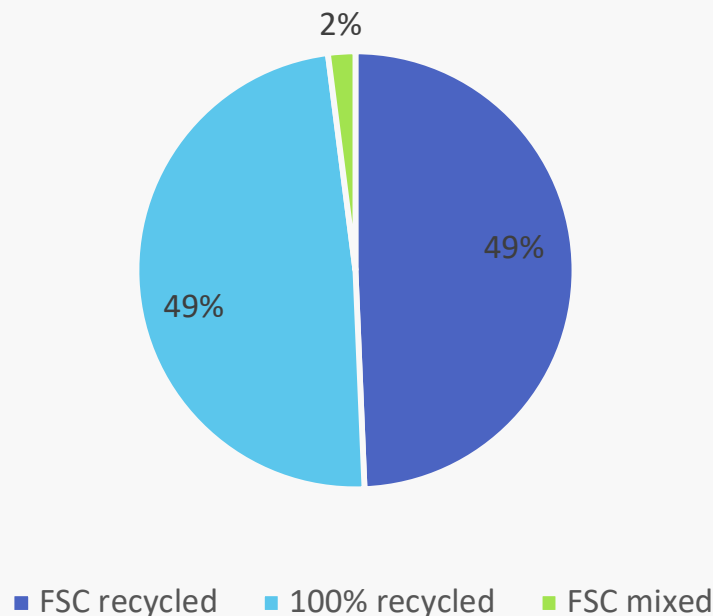


This year we set a new target for food waste. Previously we aimed to halve the weight of food waste between 2018-2023. We met this target, but our positive performance was assisted by the reduced occupancy of our office from flexible working and the pandemic. To ensure food waste is reduced per person, we took the opportunity to set a new target of <17kg of food waste per person per year. This year we achieved 10kg per person, significantly under our target. We are pleased with this achievement and will continue to monitor performance in the coming years, revising the target if performance remains low.

PAPER, TIMBER AND PRINT

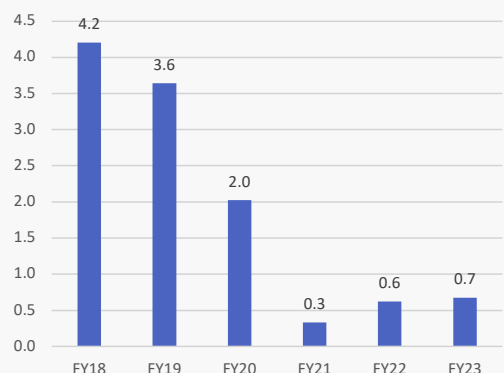
This year, we achieved our target of using only wood and paper that is either FSC-certified or 100% recycled. The total volume of paper, timber and print we used this year was 129 tonnes, 4% less than in FY22. This had an emissions footprint of 94.3 tonnes CO₂e. Our Supporter Engagement team continue to work with our print management company to find new, creative ways to reduce our footprint from printed communications. For example, we now have a digital supporter platform called MyAction, where our supporters can access articles, pictures, wallpapers and advice. By offering digital materials we hope to reduce supporters’ need for paper materials.

PAPER AND TIMBER PRODUCTS PURCHASED IN FY23 (TONNES) BY CATEGORY



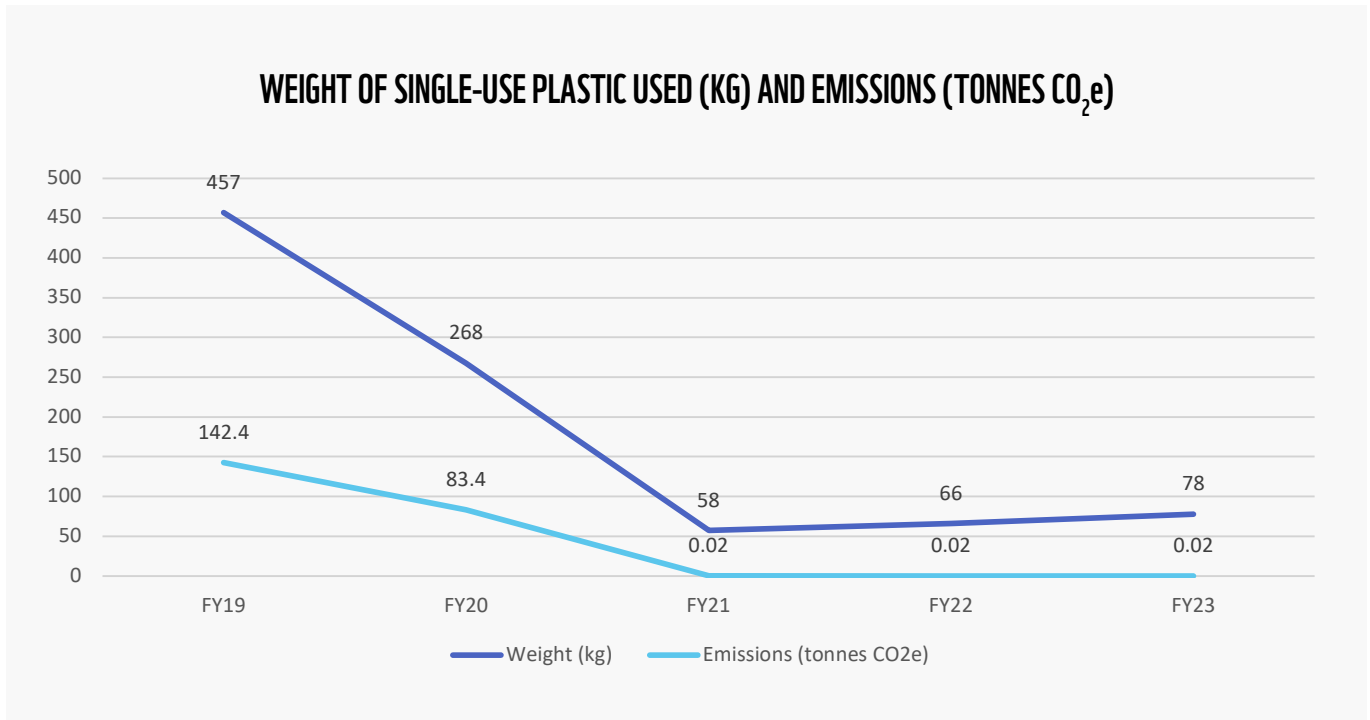
For everyday office printing we’ve revised our target to make it more ambitious. Previously our target was to limit printing to 3 sheets per person per day. However, as we consistently print below this figure, we revised this target to 0.5 sheets per person per day. To facilitate this, we provide a variety of software on our laptops to help staff reduce their need for printing. For example, digital editing and proofing tools, digital document signing for contracts, and cloud storage to avoid physical archiving where possible. As print is increasing, we will be targeting teams who consistently print more than others and working to find solutions with our IT team that could help them reduce this.

SHEETS PER PERSON PER DAY



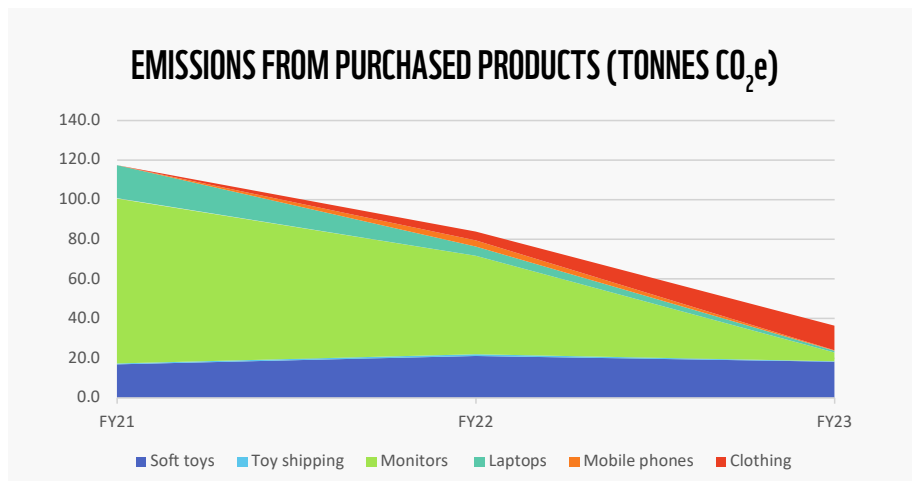
PLASTIC

With our staff returning to our offices, we saw a small increase in single-use plastic, though emissions remained the same. Our target is to remove all avoidable single-use plastic in our operations, products and supply chain. The 78kg of single-use plastic from FY23 was all unavoidable – for example, 66% of this was bin bags.



PURCHASED GOODS

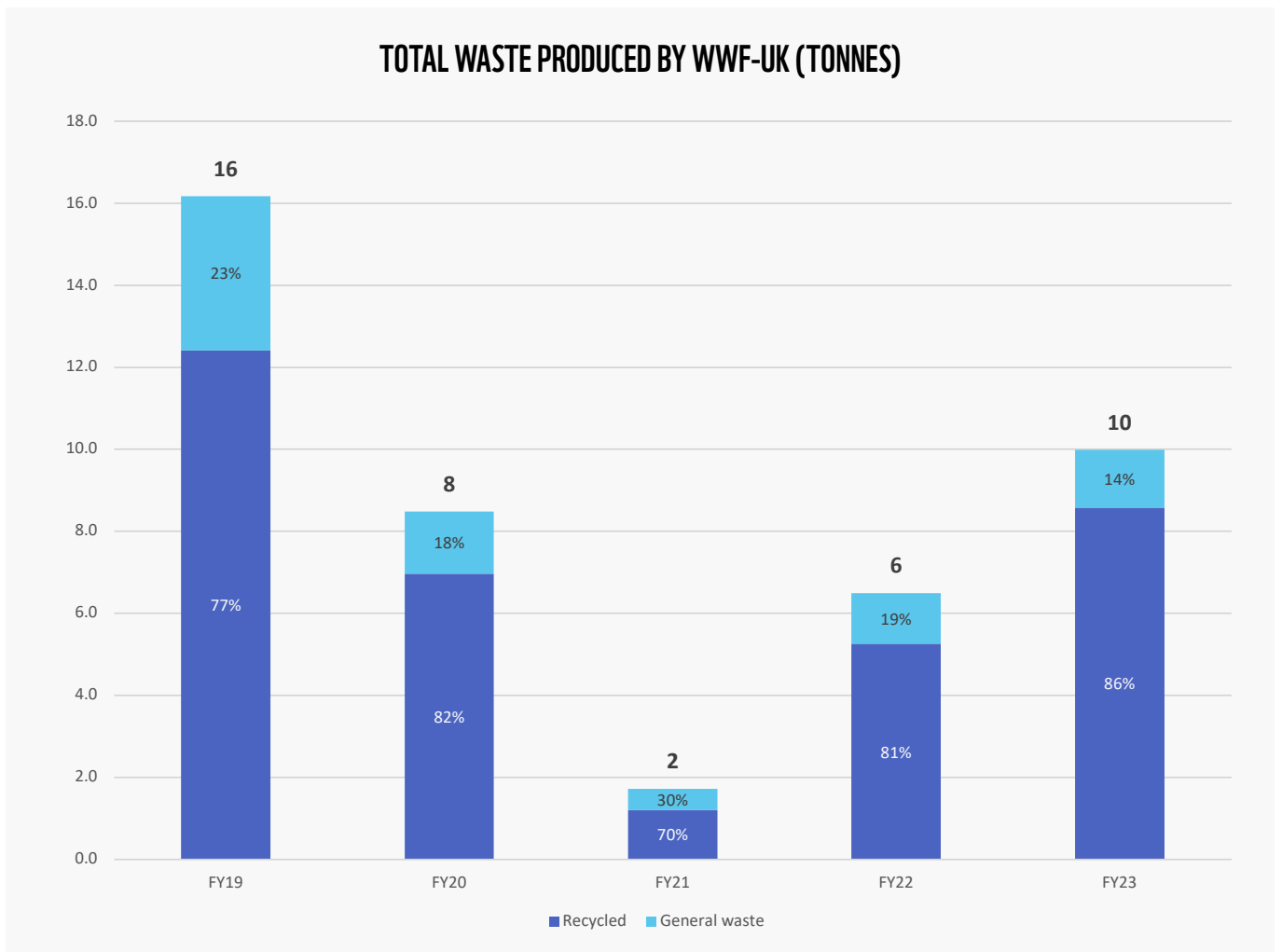
As shown in the graph, we’re making good progress to reduce the footprint from purchased goods such as laptops, monitors and clothing. This has reduced from 118 tonnes CO₂e to 36 tonnes in FY23. Last year we switched to remanufactured laptops, which has significantly reduced the footprint from laptop estate.



Similarly, for monitors we have also started to test refurbished monitors instead of purchasing new. Our footprint from clothing increased by 8 tonnes CO₂e this year as we held more fundraising events and activities in person. Next year we are planning to revise the materials we purchase, to reduce our footprint where possible. We are also undertaking a project to calculate our emissions footprint from services.

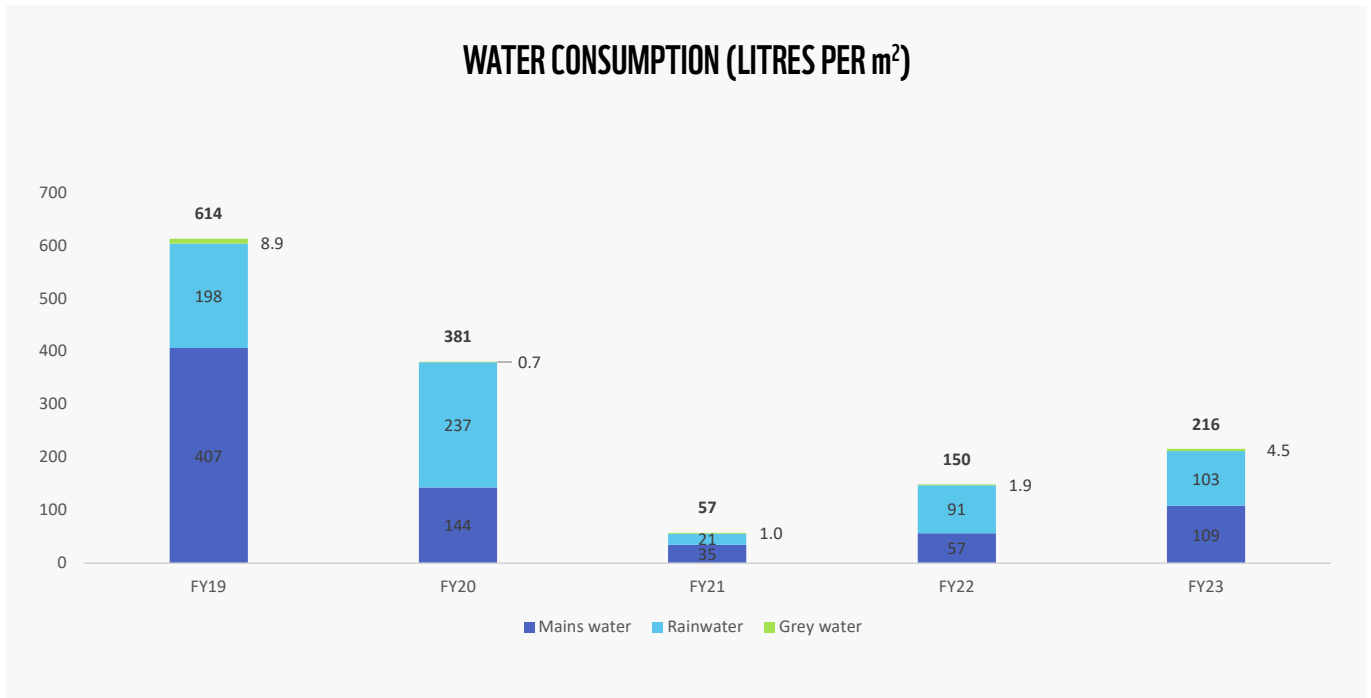
WASTE

This year we met our very ambitious target of recycling at least 84% of our waste. Our aim is not only to recycle as much waste as possible, but also to follow the waste hierarchy by reducing the total volume of both waste and recycling in the first place. This year we recycled 86% of our waste across our office locations, and reduced the total waste overall compared to pre-pandemic levels (16 tonnes in FY19 compared to 10 tonnes in FY23).



WATER

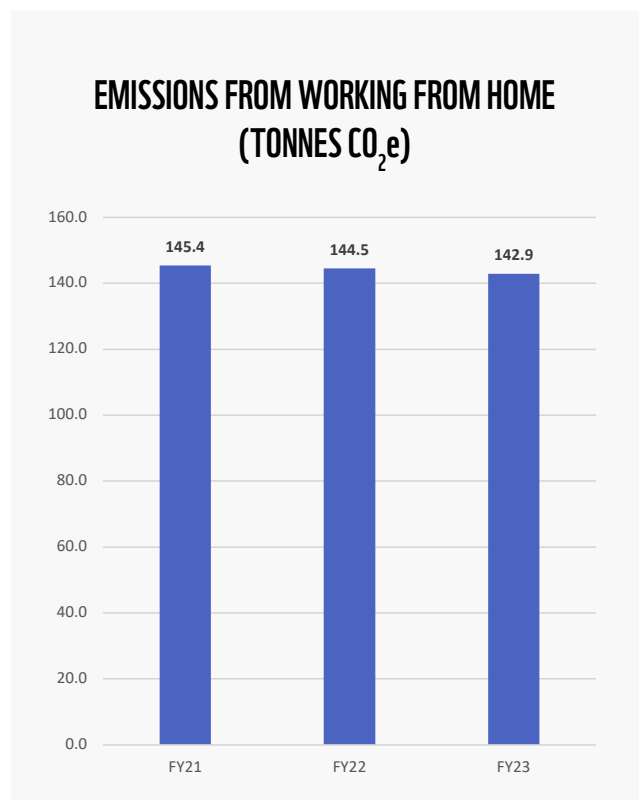
Our target is to limit water use for our Living Planet Centre to 400 litres per m². This year we used 216 litres per m², 50% of which came from harvested rainwater and recycled greywater. We used less recycled water than last year as there was a long period of drought in the summer of 2022. However, being able to use recycled rainwater during wetter months substantially reduces our footprint compared to standard offices where all water comes from the mains.



WORKING FROM HOME

There was a slight reduction in working from home emissions this year as staff returned to the offices on a more frequent basis. Across the year, our staff spent 21% of their time working from an office instead of from home. The biggest proportion of this footprint comes from heating and cooling homes.

Next year we will expand our scope 3 emissions reporting to capture our commuting footprint. Enabling staff to work flexibly between the office and home has environmental benefits by reducing their footprint from travel but must also be balanced with the working from home footprint. This will help us to more accurately calculate the emissions that have been saved through working from home.



ECONOMIC

SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT

Since 2021 we've been implementing the guidance of the ISO 20400 Standard for Sustainable Procurement. We want our supply chain to reflect the values of our organisation and use our influence to work with our supply chain to implement positive changes. All items that we sell through our online shop must meet our strict environmental requirements and have a valid social audit for their production facilities. Where possible, we try to ensure that we meet these same requirements for other goods that we purchase, although this is not always practical.

We work with our supply chain to encourage suppliers to adopt more sustainable practices where possible, and distribute our Supplier Toolkit as a useful resource to help. This toolkit contains our Sustainable Office Guide, ideas for setting environmental targets and commitments, and a guide to emissions reduction targets. If you would like a copy of this toolkit visit: wwf.org.uk/walkingthetalk

We conduct training to educate our staff about the challenges of sustainable procurement and what they should look out for when sourcing goods and services. This year, 94% of tender processes considered sustainability, and we are confident that next year we will reach our target of 100%.

Performance indicator	FY23		FY22	
	Number of suppliers	%	Number of suppliers	%
Percentage of suppliers used who qualify as a Micro, Small or Medium Enterprise	587	83%	486	84%
Number of suppliers used who are charities, social enterprises or B-Corporations	72	10%	42	7%
Percentage of suppliers used who are local to a WWF-UK office (within a 10-mile radius)	53	7%	43	7%
Percentage of suppliers used that have a corporate environmental policy or an environmental management system (such as ISO 14001 or equivalent)	233	33%	117	20%
Number of tenders where sustainability has been given a weighting in the evaluation process	15	94%	19	79%
Percentage of goods purchased which considered environmental sustainability	590	96%	560	87%
Percentage of goods suppliers who can demonstrate social sustainability considerations (such as factory social audits)	40	55%	23	44%

SOCIAL

THE LIVING PLANET CENTRE

We are very proud of our headquarters, the Living Planet Centre, located in Woking, Surrey. Not only does it help us to reduce our environmental impacts but it also lets us connect with others to spread the message of sustainability.



The Living Planet Centre is a BREEAM Outstanding building, scoring 90.6% in its assessment, making it one of fewer than 100 Outstanding buildings in the UK to score over 90%. In the 10 years since its construction, we have had visitors from around the world come to see this shining example of a sustainable building. Although our visitor experience is not yet back open to the general public, we have started to welcome visitors for guided tours and for hired events. This year we welcomed 1,000 people for tours and events, including friends from other charities such as the National Trust, Butterfly Conservation, and Zero Carbon Guildford.

To find out more about our Living Planet Centre, you can read the full story of the building on our website, and if your organisation is interested in visiting our headquarters for a guided tour or to hire a space for an event, get in touch.

VOLUNTEERING

Each member of WWF-UK staff is gifted one volunteering day a year so we can help preserve habitats and species in the UK through local conservation action. We run a variety of activities during summer and winter, supporting our local conservation charities. This winter we joined the Horsell Common Preservation Society to clear invasive tree species that threaten our native heathland in a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). In summer, we volunteered with the Woking Biodiversity Group to clear invasive Himalayan balsam from the banks along the Hoe Stream and Mayford Meadows Nature Reserve.

STAFF ACTION

We have impassioned members of staff in our organisation who support other organisations and charities. This year, one member of staff collected unwanted backpacks from our offices and donated them to Care4Calais, Vauxhall branch, to help London-based asylum seekers. Another group of staff have established a 'swap shop', called Fashion Zero, to reduce the impact of fast fashion by encouraging the public to bring unwanted clothes and pick up second-hand clothes for free. We hosted three swap shops at our Living Planet Centre this year.

RESTORATION FORTH

Restoration Forth is a major marine restoration programme working with communities to restore seagrass habitats and native oyster populations in the Firth of Forth. This project will create a toolkit for marine restoration – inspiring communities in delivering further marine restoration efforts across Scotland, securing by 2030 at least 42 hectares of critical coastal habitat restored in the Firth of Forth, and influencing Scottish government policy for stronger marine protection.

In 2023, the project will have restored at least 1 hectare of seagrass and 10,000 native oysters, and a community skills development programme will have been rolled out. By the close of the project in 2024, the project will have restored 4 hectares of seagrass and 30,000 native oysters.

WWF CYMRU

In August 2023, WWF Cymru received the Cynnig Cymraeg Welsh language commendation from the Welsh Language Commissioner. The Cynnig Cymraeg (Welsh Offer) is the official recognition by the Commissioner given to organisations with a strong plan.

WWF Cymru is part of WWF-UK, with an office in Cardiff and staff located across Wales. Half the team are either fluent Welsh speakers or new speakers. In Wales we take action to tackle climate and nature crises at home and abroad, and influence environmental and sustainability governance.

CARBON OFFSETTING

Reducing our carbon emissions is our top priority and offsetting is a last resort in our sustainability hierarchy. We purchase Gold Standard carbon offsets, which are equal to the emissions detailed in this report plus any travel by our trustees for trips taken on our behalf. Gold Standard projects are high-quality initiatives that contribute to the sustainable development of the countries in which they are hosted.

This year we have chosen to offset our carbon footprint using the Orb Rooftop solar project in India, which funds solar panels and solar heating systems enabling households to reduce dependence on kerosene and fossil fuels. This project delivers progress towards Sustainable Development Goals 1 (No Poverty), 3 (Good Health and Wellbeing), 4 (Quality Education), 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and 13 (Climate Action).

This report summarises our sustainability performance during FY23 (July 2022–June 2023). For more information about our environmental goals and our approach to managing our impacts, please see our environmental performance page on our website: [wwf.org.uk/walkingthetalk](https://www.wwf.org.uk/walkingthetalk)

This report has been reviewed by an external audit team from EnviroSense to verify its reliability, completeness, accuracy and appropriateness. It is endorsed by our executive group, and Finance and Business Committee.

If you have any comments or queries about this report, please email our environmental manager, Lauren Wiseman (lwiseman@wwf.org.uk)

