



Sustainability GUIDE



Our Journey So Far

The Country Range Group understands that our responsibility extends further than enabling our members to achieve faster, more profitable growth. We believe that we have a duty to give back to the communities in which our wholesalers operate and promote sustainable and ethical practices in every aspect of our business.

We believe that sustainable practices are a fundamental part of doing business, especially within wholesale foodservice. With the future of the sector being shaped by consumer trends, government legislation and technology it is more important than ever to focus on our environmental impact and adopt a responsible approach to foodservice.

This is why we have chosen to collaborate with ClimatePartner to help us identify targets, initiatives and solutions to help us and our members operate in a more environmental and sustainable way.



WHO ARE CLIMATEPARTNER

Recognised globally as a leading climate action solutions provider, ClimatePartner currently work with more than 6,000 companies across 60 countries with all efforts geared towards the United Nations 17 Sustainability Development Goals.

ClimatePartner combines individual consultation with a leading cloud-based software to help companies calculate and reduce their carbon emissions, to help companies calculate and reduce their carbon emissions, as well as supporting climate projects, and transparently communicate these through the ClimatePartner Certified label.

This, along with the impressive success stories of existing partners which operate in the food sector, made us confident that ClimatePartner would understand the impact of both our Group and our members' operations.



Stir it up

We regularly share sustainability tips, inspiration and advice from leading caterers and experts to support our readers to create a greener planet through regular features in the magazine. As part of our environmental policy both the magazine and promotions brochure are printed using vegetable oil-based ink and the magazine has ISO14001 and FSC certification.

Sustainable Relationships



We are passionate about making relationships that make a significant difference to our members, customers and the wider community. This is why we are partners with the Natasha Allergy Research Foundation to raise awareness and vital funds, to help make food allergy history. We are proud to have strong relationships across the industry by being signatories of the FWD Standards and Dignity Charter and supporting Hospitality Action and the industry's annual Bikes Against Bombs cycle challenge.

Our Own Brands

The quality, consistency and safety of all our own brand products are at the heart of everything we do, as is our environmental impact. We are dedicated to reducing excessive packaging and moving to more recyclable, biodegradable and environmentally friendly solutions, recently we removed all black plastic from our packaging, and we are increasingly using recyclable plastic wherever possible.

UNDERSTANDING OUR IMPACT

– SCOPE 1, 2 AND 3 EMISSIONS

As a Group around 20% of our emissions are from scopes one and two, leaving around 80% of our emissions from scope 3.

- **Scope 1:** Focuses on direct emissions from company-owned or controlled operations, specifically facilities and vehicles.
- **Scope 2:** Covers indirect emissions from the consumption of purchased energy such as electricity, steam, heating, and cooling.
- **Scope 3:** Encompasses a broader range of indirect emissions:
 - Upstream activities include emissions related to purchased goods and services, operational waste, business travel, and employee commuting.
 - Excludes several downstream activities such as transportation, distribution, processing, and the use of sold products, among others.

By understanding these scopes, we have been able to better strategise our emissions reduction efforts, focusing on the most impactful areas within our operational control, allowing us and our members to identify and prioritise key actions to advance our climate journey.

- **Focus on Scope 1 and 2:** To reduce emissions, CRG and our members can target efficiency improvements in their facilities and vehicle fleets, and opt for renewable energy sources.
- **Scope 3 Complexity:** Given the wide range of activities included, addressing Scope 3 emissions requires collaboration with the Group, our members, wholesalers, suppliers and employees, along with a comprehensive sustainability strategy.
- **Exclusions:** The exclusion of certain upstream and downstream activities, like capital goods and the end-of-life treatment of products, narrows the focus but might overlook significant emissions sources.



12%

Reduction in Carbon Footprint (tCO₂e) from 2022-2023



20%

Reduction in Carbon Intensity (tCO₂e) from 2022-2023

2019-2022

Measuring our footprints for 2019 and 2022 against the above scopes enabled us to understand the impact of the Group and our members' businesses on the environment and start our climate journey. Due to the global pandemic, we chose to focus on 2019 to set a baseline of what our typical carbon emissions were like before the pandemic. Against the same criteria we measured our 2022 emissions.

Between 2019 and the end of 2022 CRG members had reduced their operational emissions by 20% and their carbon intensity by 40%, meaning in 2022 our members generated 40% less emissions for every £1 of revenue generated.

2022-2023

Between 2022 and 2023 CRG members had reduced their operational emissions by 12% and their carbon intensity by 20%, meaning in 2023 our members generated 20% less emissions for every £1 of revenue generated.

From 2019 to 2023, most members significantly decreased their carbon intensity, indicating that while their revenue increased, their emissions either decreased or did not increase at the same rate.

Whilst recent increases in food prices have impacted the carbon intensity figures, this consistent reduction across the Group demonstrates successful sustainability measures, improved operational efficiency, and the adoption of greener practices and technologies.

Emission Hot Spots Across the Group

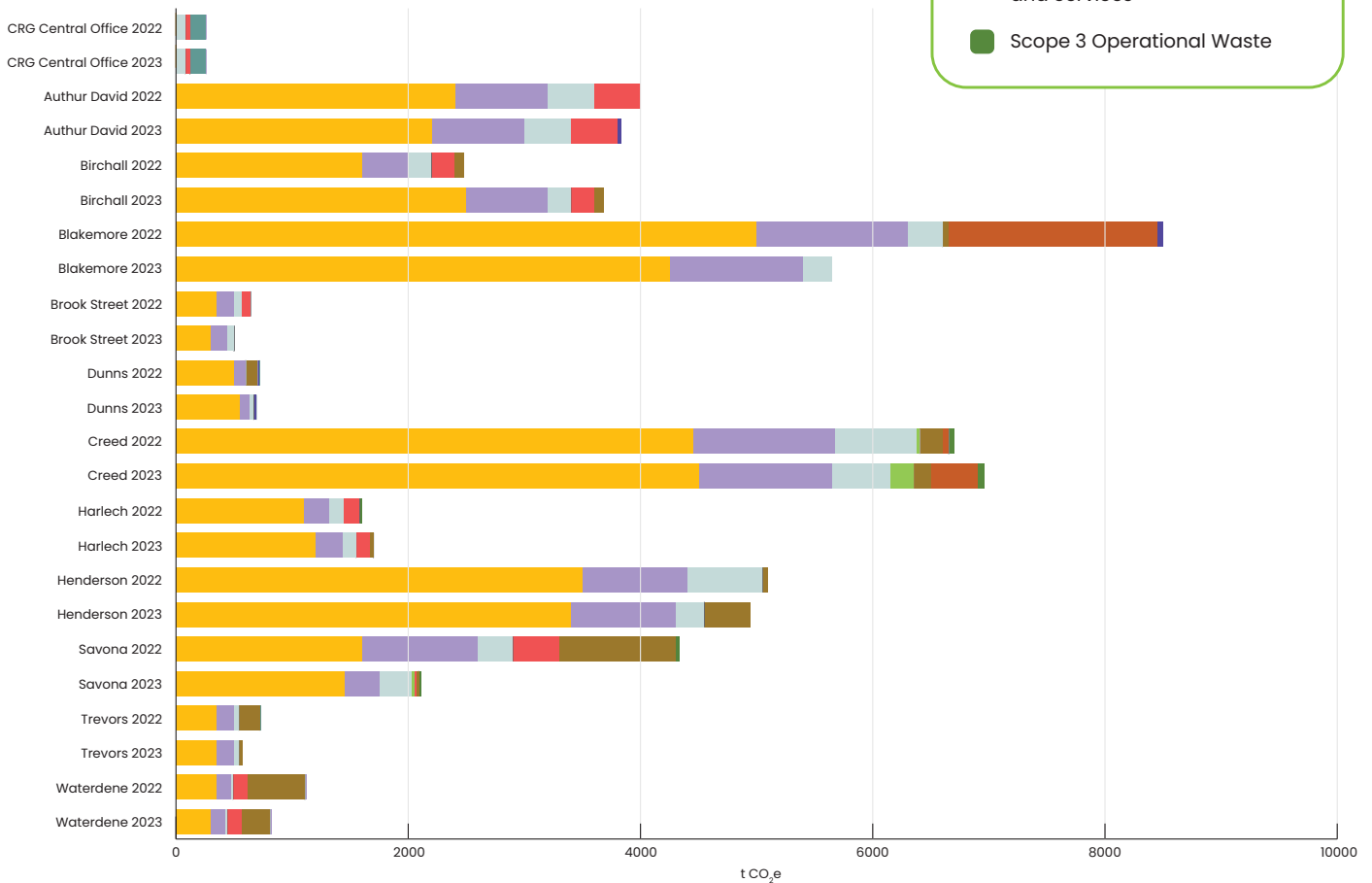
The main sources of CO₂e emissions have remained consistent over the years. Naturally key areas are vehicle fleet, commuting, electricity, and cooling.

Highest Emission Sources across the Group:

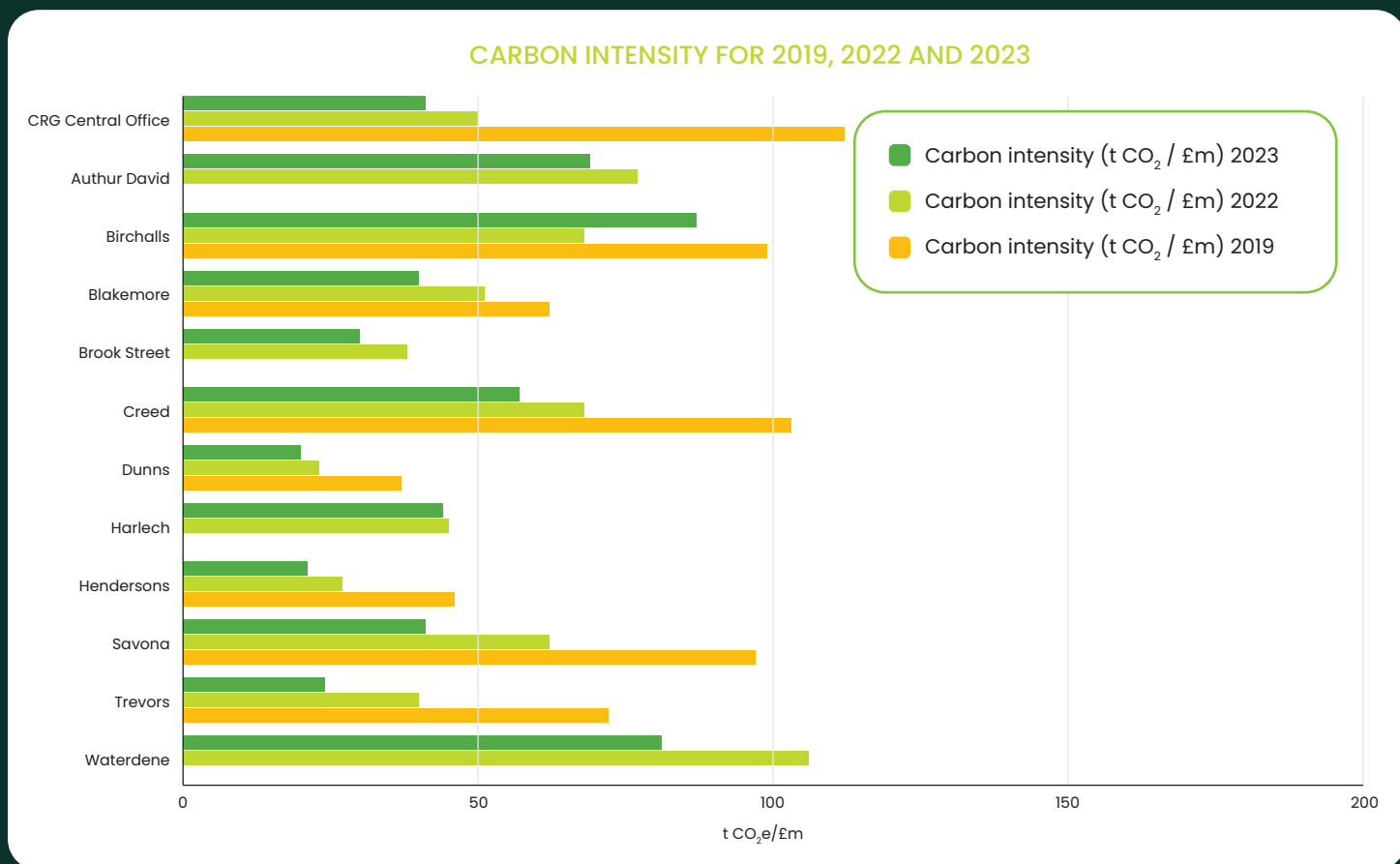
- Vehicle Fleet (Scope 1) and Employee Commuting (Scope 3) are significant contributors to overall emissions across almost all Group members.
- Electricity (Scope 2) and Cooling (Scope 1) also contribute significantly, especially in certain locations.

Other Notable Emission Sources across the Group:

- Self-generated heat and combustion are notable in some sites.
- Purchased Goods and Services, and Operational Waste are also notable in certain sites



CARBON INTENSITY HAS SIGNIFICANTLY DROPPED FOR MOST MEMBERS AS REVENUES WENT UP AND EMISSIONS WENT DOWN



FOCUS AREAS FOR EMISSION REDUCTION ACROSS THE GROUP

By addressing these key areas, substantial reductions in CO₂e emissions can be achieved across the Group.

- **Vehicle Fleet:** Implementing more efficient or alternative fuel vehicles.
- **Commuting:** Encouraging remote work or carpooling to reduce commuting emissions.
- **Electricity:** Increasing energy efficiency and incorporating renewable energy sources.
- **Cooling:** Improving cooling systems to be more energy-efficient.

By continuing to focus on the following strategic areas, our members can further reduce their carbon footprint whilst still increasing their revenues.

- **Continuous Improvement:** Maintain and enhance strategies that have proven effective in reducing carbon intensity.
- **Monitoring and Reporting:** Regular tracking and reporting to ensure sustained progress and identify areas needing improvement.
- **Best Practices Sharing:** Sites with significant improvements can share best practices with others to drive overall efficiency.

THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS HAVE LED TO A 9% REDUCTION ACROSS THE GROUP FROM 2022 TO 2023

- Reduced fleet vehicle emissions
- Switching to renewable electricity suppliers
- Significant reductions in commuting
- Reducing cooling leaks and refrigerant emissions

Redefining foodservice with sustainable solutions

Savona Foodservice is dedicated to sustainability, with a strategic focus on reducing carbon emissions, enhancing community well-being, and fostering an environmentally responsible business model.

[Find out more](#)



26%

Reduction in Carbon Footprint
(tCO₂e) from 2022-2023



36%

Reduction in Carbon Intensity
(tCO₂e) from 2022-2023

We remain as passionate as ever, and act with urgency to make a difference to the earth and future generations. Our journey to net zero has never been more crucial.

TRANSPORTATION AND ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Recognising transportation as a major contributor to our carbon footprint, we have introduced two 100% electric, multi-temperature lorries. These vehicles, the first of their kind in Europe, are used for daily deliveries in North Devon and Oxford. Additionally, our team has consolidated delivery routes and encourage our customers to opt for fewer, larger deliveries, aligning with sustainable practices and governmental guidelines.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE RESOURCES

Our commitment to sustainability extends to our energy consumption. By selecting a renewable energy provider and implementing LED lighting, the company has significantly reduced our carbon footprint. Furthermore, we have planted 2,288 trees to offset emissions and is investing in solar panels for our Devon and Oxford sites.

FOOD WASTE AND SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

Savona partners with a “zero to landfill” company to manage food waste, converting it into fuel or green energy. The company was a pioneer in eliminating single-use plastics, introducing alternatives like seaweed-based packaging and plant-based takeaway products. These initiatives empower customers to avoid single-use plastics.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

We are proud to support neurodiverse schools by offering employment to students, helping them develop life skills and transition into the workforce. We also regularly organise fundraising events, support local sports clubs, and donate products to food banks and charities.

PEOPLE AND EMPLOYEE WELFARE

Employees are a central focus for our business which is why we are an accredited Living Wage employer, offer financial and legal advice through Hospitality Action, and provide fresh fruit weekly to promote healthy eating. Additionally, we offer flexible working hours, free uniforms, eye tests, life assurance, and a “Refer a Friend” scheme. The “Warehouse to Wheels” program funds training for warehouse staff to become qualified drivers, supporting internal career progression.



CO₂ Emissions Reduction

Through the Country Range Group we have partnered with Climate Partner to thoroughly assess our carbon footprint, with the ultimate goal of achieving net zero emissions. Our comprehensive strategy includes measuring emissions, allowing for the precise tracking of our progress. Key achievements include:

- A **26% overall reduction in emissions** across three sites.
- An **87% decrease in electricity emissions** by switching to a provider using 100% renewable energy.
- A **17% reduction in vehicle emissions**, partly through the introduction of electric and hybrid vehicles.
- However, **cooling emissions increased by 61%** due to outdated equipment, which has since been replaced with more efficient alternatives.

Future Plans

Our sustainability roadmap includes further investments in solar energy, continued collaboration with sustainable manufacturers, and enhanced carbon offsetting projects such as planting native British trees, the Aruba Wind Project, and initiatives to reduce deforestation in the Amazon rainforest.



As the Head of Purchasing, I want to steer the company towards a more eco-conscious future by making buying decisions that reflect the ever-growing demand for environmentally friendly and sustainably sourced products”.

Michael Organ, Head of Purchasing



Total Foodservice adopts a holistic approach to reducing our environmental impact and supporting our local communities.

The team at Total Foodservice is dedicated to running an efficient and sustainable business, focusing on minimising our environmental impact while actively contributing to the communities where we live and serve.

[View our report](#)



Having joined the Country Range Group (CRG) in 2024 we are excited to be continuing the next stage of our sustainability journey with their support. Like us CRG believe that sustainable practices are a necessity for doing business, especially within wholesale foodservice. With the future of the sector being shaped by consumer trends, government legislation and technology it is more important than ever to focus on our environmental impact. By being part of the Group we are confident that we will continue to grow in a more environmental and sustainable way.





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