

# **Energy and Carbon Footprint: 2020/21**

**Oplo Group Limited**



# Oplo Group Limited

## Initial Carbon Footprint Reporting

1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 Summary

### Growth

#### Acquisitions

None through year

### Carbon & Consumption

#### Natural Gas

15,465 kWh

2.84 tCO<sub>2</sub>e

#### Electricity

164,227 kWh

38.29 tCO<sub>2</sub>e

#### Transport

13,675 kWh

3.24 tCO<sub>2</sub>e

#### Electricity - Transmission & Distribution

(Scope 3)

3.29 tCO<sub>2</sub>e

#### Water

(Scope 3)

562 m<sup>3</sup> (supplied)

0.59 tCO<sub>2</sub>e

### Overall

Carbon: **48.25 tCO<sub>2</sub>e**

Consumption: **193,367 kWh**

Consumption: **562 m<sup>3</sup>**

### Energy and Carbon Saving Projects

#### Implemented

- Renewable Electricity Procurement
- Tree Planting Projects
- LED Lighting Refurbishments
- Electric Vehicle Initiative
- Sustainable Working Policies

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# Executive Summary

Energy usage, associated emissions, energy efficiency actions and energy performance for Oplo Group Limited.



This report summarises the initial findings related to energy usage, associated emissions, energy efficiency actions and energy performance for Oplo Group Limited, for the financial year 2020/21.

It also summarises, in the appendix, the methodologies utilised for all calculations related to the elements reported.

## 2020/2021

Oplo's Scope 1 direct emissions (combustion of natural gas) for this initial year of reporting are 2.84 tCO<sub>2e</sub>, resulting from the direct combustion of 15,465 kWh of fuel. It should be noted that as of 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020, there has been no natural gas consumption in buildings Oplo operates from.

Scope 2 location-based indirect emissions (purchased electricity) for this year of reporting are 38.29 tCO<sub>2e</sub>, resulting from the consumption of 164,227 kWh of electricity purchased and consumed in day-to-day business operations. It should be noted that as of August 2020, Oplo have consolidated the portfolio reducing the number of offices in the business. The baseline carbon footprint for the year 2021/22, currently being calculated, will provide the true carbon footprint for the business operations.

Scope 3 emissions, accounting for purchased electricity transmission and distribution losses (T&D) and emissions associated with water supply and treatment are 3.88 tCO<sub>2e</sub>. Scope 3 emissions resulting from business travel undertaken in personal vehicles are 3.24 tCO<sub>2e</sub>.

## Organisational Structure and Qualification



### Oplo Group Limited

Oplo Group Limited is the parent company of a number of small subsidiaries, including Oplo HL Limited, Oplo CF Limited and Oplo PL Limited.

The subsidiary businesses that make up the Group do not qualify for mandatory carbon reporting under Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) for disclosure in statutory annual accounts, however the group will look to make voluntary emissions disclosures for 2021/22 and onwards.

# Data Quality and Completeness

Invoices have been entered into a fully managed energy database up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.



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## Data Completeness

All Oplo's available electricity, gas and water invoices have been entered into a fully managed energy database up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, and data quality checks have been carried out for data completeness and accuracy.

Data for the serviced office leased in Manchester was not available for this reporting period, and as such has been estimated for full transparency of the anticipated total Scope 2 emissions of the business. Investigations are underway to be able to obtain verifiable data for operations in this site for the purposes of 2021/22 carbon baseline calculations for Oplo.

Investigations are being undertaken to determine the amount of electricity generated by a solar panel array installed at Viscount Court, and whether this is being utilised by operations on site. This will in turn allow Oplo to demonstrate the carbon reduction achieved through the use of this self-generated energy.

# Annual Reporting Figures

The total consumption and emissions figures for energy supplies reportable by Oplo Group Limited



## Consumption (kWh) and Greenhouse Gas emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) Totals

The following figures make up an indicative carbon footprint report for Oplo, in advance of the availability of data making up the 2021/22 reporting, chosen to be the baseline year.

Scope 1 consumption and emissions relate to direct combustion of natural gas.

Scope 2 consumption and emissions relate to indirect emissions relating to the consumption of purchased electricity in day-to-day business operations.

Scope 3 consumption and emissions arise from sources not directly owned by the reporting company. For Oplo, this is related to transmission and distribution (T&D) losses of purchased electricity, water supply and treatment, and business travel undertaken in personal vehicles for this indicative report.

### Totals

The total consumption (kWh) figures for energy supplies reportable by Oplo are as follows:

Utility and Scope	2020/21 Consumption (kWh / m <sup>3</sup> )
Grid-Supplied Electricity (Scope 2)	164,227
Gaseous and other fuels (Scope 1)	15,465
Transportation (Scope 3)	13,675
<b>Total kWh</b>	<b>193,367</b>
Water supply (Scope 3)	562
<b>Total m<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>562</b>

The total emission (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) figures for energy supplies reportable by Oplo are as follows. Conversion factors utilised in these calculations are detailed in the appendix:

Utility and Scope	2020/21 Consumption (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)
Grid-Supplied Electricity (Scope 2)	38.29
Gaseous and other fuels (Scope 1)	2.84
Transportation (Scope 3)	3.24
Transmission & Distribution (Scope 3)	3.29
Water supply and treatment (Scope 3)	0.59
<b>Total tCO<sub>2</sub>e</b>	<b>48.25</b>

## Intensity Metric

An intensity metric of tCO<sub>2</sub>e per FTE has been applied for the annual total emissions of Oplo. The methodology of the intensity metric calculations are detailed in the appendix, and results of this analysis is as follows:

Intensity Metric	2020/21 UK Intensity Metric
tCO <sub>2</sub> e / FTE	0.17

## Renewable Energy

Oplo have ensured that electricity procured directly by the business is generated from a renewable source. Through these renewable purchases, the carbon footprint of Oplo is reduced to **16.42 tCO<sub>2</sub>e** for 2020/21.

## Dual Reporting

When the baseline carbon footprint for Oplo is calculated, the business will present emissions in a dual reporting format. This will include location-based (grid-average) emissions calculations, in addition to market-based emission calculations. These market-based figures will demonstrate the carbon reductions that Oplo are actively making to their footprint through purchasing choices, as well as offsets produced through tree planting initiatives already underway by the business.

# Energy Efficiency Improvements

Oplo Group Limited are committed to year-on-year improvements in their operational energy efficiency.



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## Energy Efficiency Improvements

Oplo are committed to year-on-year improvements in their operational energy efficiency. As such, a register of energy efficiency measures available to Oplo has been compiled, with a view to implementing these measures in the next 5 years.

### Measures ongoing and undertaken through 2020/21:

#### Renewable Electricity Procurement

Oplo have committed to ensuring that electricity utilised in their operations is of renewable origins. This is in place with direct energy contracts Oplo place, and conversations with the landlord of offices leased by Oplo are underway to encourage the purchase of renewable energy in these properties also.

#### Tree Planting Projects

Oplo have implemented a significant tree planting initiative, undertaking to plant a single tree per customer. This has formed an approximate investment of £180,000 to date across two projects in Scotland and Carnforth, which the business looks to expand on in the future. By the end of 2021, Oplo looks to have planted 30,000 trees as part of this project.

#### LED Lighting Refurbishments

Upon the relocation of office staff to a central site in Blackpool, Oplo undertook a significant refurbishment of the property, ensuring that all lighting was of a highly efficient LED standard. The business looks to ensure this standard is held to across the portfolio, where

Oplo has responsibility for refurbishment and maintenance of properties.

#### Electric Vehicle Initiative

Oplo are committed to ensuring that the carbon footprint of staff – even outside of business operations – is mitigated where possible. To that end, electric vehicle charging points have been installed at the offices where possible and have collaborated on a scheme to fund the installations of EV charging points in employee’s homes to further encourage the purchase of sustainable vehicles by staff.

#### Sustainable Working Policies

A number of policies have been implemented in the day-to-day operations of Oplo to ensure that sustainability is championed in all areas of the business. There is an active recycling programme on site, with a number of separated waste streams to ensure that as little as possible is sent to landfill. The business also has installed mains-fed water coolers in place of bottle-fed water coolers, removing a significant source of plastic consumption from the business. The Paperless Office Project is also planned for the business from September 2021, following the phased return to normal working conditions after the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Measures prioritised for implementation in 2021/22:

### Carbon Action Programme

Oplo have undertaken a carbon monitoring and reduction project, which over the coming years will monitor energy consumption and resulting emissions for the business, setting achievable targets for carbon reduction, and demonstrating progress through the years.

A baseline year for the carbon footprint of Oplo has been selected for 2021/22, and this will demonstrate the impact of the excellent work already undertaken by the business to mitigate carbon emissions from day-to-day operations.

### Energy Efficiency Review

In May 2021, an energy review of the Blackpool office of Oplo was undertaken. The goal of this survey was to understand where there may be opportunities for the business to reduce energy consumption through optimisation of the operation of existing plant, further supporting the carbon reduction mission of the business.

The energy review also examined the existing solar installation of the property, with the aim of (in addition to review of documentation received by Oplo) understanding if the energy generated is utilised on site, and the impact of this on the carbon footprint of the office if so.

### Hybrid Working Model

Following the COVID-19 pandemic, like a number of businesses, Oplo is examining the feasibility of a hybrid model of working for the future. This would involve some staff being office based, some working both from home and the office environment, and others solely from home. Once a decision has been reached regarding this, Oplo will ensure to evaluate the carbon footprinting undertaken,

to ensure emissions from home working are accounted for accordingly, allowing full transparency in the impact of the business from operations. Operational policies will also be reviewed for home workers, to encourage renewable domestic energy procurement, promoting carbon reduction not only for the business, but for the individual also.

### Staff Engagement Programme and 'The Green Deal'

Oplo have undertaken some significant steps in order to engage and educate all staff within the business on the importance on the reduction in emissions for the planet.

91% of staff within Oplo have undertaken a Pawprint tracker exercise, highlighting where in their day-to-day lives they have the highest carbon impact, and how they can reduce this. The average carbon emissions per staff member has been calculated to be 12.61tCO<sub>2</sub>e, with each department grouped to also determine which area of the business has the highest carbon footprint. This will allow Oplo to gamify carbon reductions in employee's personal lives, and encourage more significant reductions not only in their homes, but within their operations in the business too. Directors within the business, following the Pawprint, have all converted to electric vehicles, resulting in a significant expected carbon reduction for the business.

Oplo have also implemented 'The Green Deal' for employees. This is designed to improve not only the business carbon footprint, but the personal carbon footprint, and social values of the employees also, with financial benefits made available for activities including employees volunteering and fundraising for charities, ensuring personal energy contracts are renewable, and driving a low emission, hybrid or electric vehicle.

# Appendix

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## Reporting Methodology

Scope 1 and 2 consumption and CO<sub>2</sub>e emission data has been calculated in line with the 2019 UK Government environmental reporting guidance. The following Emission Factor Databases consistent with the 2019 UK Government environmental reporting guidance have been used, utilising the current published kWh gross calorific value (CV) and kgCO<sub>2</sub>e emissions factors relevant for reporting year 01/04/2020 – 31/03/2021:

Database 2020, Version 1.0.

Calculation Limitations:

- Energy data was not available for the Manchester office leased by Oplo. This has been estimated based on per person occupancy of offices where consumption data was available, and applied to the occupancy of the Manchester office.
- Energy generation from solar panels has been excluded from the 2020/21 carbon footprint. The situation with where this energy is consumed will be clarified and this data will be included in the 2021/22 formal carbon footprint.

Intensity metrics have been calculated utilising the 2020/21 reportable figures for the following metrics, and tCO<sub>2</sub>e for both individual sources and total emissions were then divided by this figure to determine the tCO<sub>2</sub>e per metric:

- Average FTE **276**



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