

Environmental & Sustainability Policy

APS Group is a marketing services company. Bringing together thinkers, content creators and production experts, APS Group ‘makes more possible’ – empowering brands to talk to their customers in the most relevant and rewarding way. Our mission statement is: To make more possible for our customers and be famous for combining our production heritage with creative talent, forming a new breed marketing and communications group. We have six key values within APS, these are:

- Be Open
- Be Energetic
- Be Ambitious
- Be Committed
- Be Passionate
- Be Honest

These values are re-enforced using sustainable business practices, social and environmental responsibility, and equal opportunities. This policy is effective immediately and is applicable in scope to all APS Group sites. Overall accountability for this policy lies with the Group Managing Director and the wider APS Group Board of Directors, with day-to-day responsibility vested in the business’ compliance team who support the business to ensure that APS Group:

- Commits to the protection of the environment, including the prevention of pollution.
- Fulfils all environmental compliance obligations.
- Monitors its environmental performance and delivers effective continuous improvement on all environmental goals and objectives set to enhance the business’ environmental performance.

To help achieve this APS Group’s top management have committed to develop, implement, and maintain an effective integrated management system corresponding with the ISO 14001:2015 standard. As signatories to the Terra Carta, we recognise our responsibility to minimise our impact on climate change, and the need for net-zero emissions, as well as to sustainably reduce waste, and achieve the sustainable and efficient use of natural resources in the production process. We recognise the consumption of paper and packaging products as our most significant environmental aspects and the associated impacts of ecological damage, loss of biodiversity, energy consumption in the manufacture of those products and the potential for waste pollution if products are not treated carefully during manufacture through to final disposal.

Recognising our environmental impacts and the commitments we have made under the Terra Carta, APS Group has set a target of achieving net zero in greenhouse gas emissions across our entire organisation, over scopes one, two and three, by the year 2040. To achieve this, we have targeted annual falls in direct greenhouse gas emissions of at least 5%, expressed as reductions in kilograms of carbon dioxide-equivalent (KgCO₂-e). APS Group has an objective of joining the Science-Based Targets Initiative in 2023 and following this we will also begin to set emission reduction targets for our indirect emissions. Progress towards this target, and the status of any objectives raised to support this target and any other objectives raised to drive continual improvement of the integrated management system, will be reviewed during our internal quarterly business forums and during the biannual management review of our integrated management system’s performance. We will publicly disclose our performance towards net zero, and our objectives to achieving that target, on an annual basis through our Carbon Net Zero report which we will publish on our externally facing website.

To mitigate these risks, APS Group commits to:

- Sourcing only paper that is claimed under either the FSC or PEFC certification schemes, thereby supporting sustainable forestry and conserving biodiversity, preserving natural habitats and local communities.
- Purchase our electricity solely from fully 'green' tariffs to reduce the impact of electricity consumption in our manufacturing, warehousing, and distribution facilities. In keeping with our key values, we will, however, disclose for scope two our location-based data as well as our market-based figure to show our raw electricity consumption before the mitigating impact of green tariffs.
- Pursuing 'zero-to-landfill' status for our operational waste, and whilst this is not currently possible given our existing production processes, we will ensure that our landfilled waste is as close to zero as possible, not exceeding 0.25% of our total waste profile. As technology evolves, we will continue to assess impact to facilitate our ultimate zero to landfill target.
- Maintaining our membership of the EcoVadis assessment programme to ensure that we continue to consider sustainability in terms of both people, planet, business ethics and the supply chain. We aim to achieve Gold award status in 2023 as part of our longer-term goal of achieving Platinum award status in 2024.
- Promoting transparency in our carbon reporting and therefore we will be targeting membership of the Science-Based Targets Initiative in 2023, thereby giving APS Group confidence in the accuracy of our carbon monitoring and assurance that we are playing our part in limiting global temperature rises to a maximum of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels by 2050.

This policy is endorsed by top management and reviewed alongside the framework on a biannual basis and is communicated out to all relevant parties after each review.

Signed and Authorised:



Nick Snelson

Group Managing Director

Dated: 11 November 2022