## The Archwood effect

*Sustainability Report* 2022



## We want to continue to do our part in having a positive impact on the planet and society.

"Each and every one of us plays an important role in our sustainability journey and we're encouraging colleagues and customers to get involved in any way they can."

**JOSH BURBIDGE** Managing Director



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#### **OVERVIEW**

# Responsibility - we want our business to be environmentally friendly and sustainable

Climate change is undoubtedly one of the most pressing issues facing businesses across the globe. A total review of operations and business practices is critical to ensure businesses are operating as sustainably as possible with minimal impact on the natural environment. Today, consumers expect businesses to not just care about sustainability but prioritise sustainability as part of their core values. The need to prioritise ethical and sustainable products, packaging and business practises, not just locally but globally, is greater than ever. Climate change will have a huge impact on the global timber supply and we all must adapt and evolve to meet the challenges ahead.

Archwood Group is a family-run and leading manufacturer of timber products with two trading brands: Richard Burbidge, a manufacturer and supplier of stairparts, decking accessories and decorative mouldings, and Atkinson & Kirby, which supplies premium hardwood flooring. Established in 1867, we have been passionate about the design, manufacture and supply of timber products over 150 years. We feel privileged to work with this incredible natural resource every day and will always champion ad support sustainable timber sourcing and production.



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#### OVERVIEW

# Responsibility - we want our business to be environmentally friendly and sustainable

Archwood Group have always supported sustainability and pushed for transparency by leading the way over many decades. In 1991. Richard Burbidge Ltd was a founding member of the WWF 1995 Club. Its members vision was to ensure that their timber and paper supplies came from well managed forests and did not contribute to forest destruction and illegal logging practices. In 1993 the WWF 1995 Club helped create the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) to find solutions which promote responsible stewardship of the world's forests. In 1997. Richard Burbidge Ltd was amongst the first UK companies to be certified to the Forest Stewardship Councils (FSC) chain of custody principles and criteria. In 1999 we published our first Environmental Policy & Management Plan detailing specific targets and actions in relation to wood waste, energy consumption, air quality, noise, water, transport, packaging materials and raw materials.

We believe that every business has a responsibility to drive change and that together, it will be these changes that have the potential to have a big impact globally. Here at Archwood we pledge to make our contribution towards a more sustainable future by committing to achieve Net Zero by no later than 2050. Ensuring that we continue to deliver on our promise to give our customers the most eco-friendly and sustainable selection of timber products.



Richard Burbidge Environmental Policy and cuttings from 1990

## Committed - to being a net zero business by 2050

As part of Archwood Groups ongoing commitment to sustainability, the business joined the United Nations Race to Zero campaign in November 2021. Race to Zero is the UN-backed global campaign rallying businesses to take rigorous and immediate action to halve global emissions by 2030 and deliver a healthier, fairer zero carbon world.

As part of our Net Zero pledge we have committed to:

- Halve our greenhouse gas emissions before 2030
- Achieve Net Zero emissions before 2050
- Disclose our progress on a yearly basis

We are also proud to announce that we have partnered with Planet Mark as part of our commitment to sustainability and the United Nations Race to Zero campaign.

As a business, it is critical that we measure our own impact on the environment. Planet Mark will support us with measuring and validating our carbon footprint, creating a clear picture of all our environmental impacts. This will allow us to identify ways to take rigorous and immediate action to halve our carbon footprint by 2030 and achieve Net Zero by no later than 2050.





## Action - so we have to reduce our carbon footprint

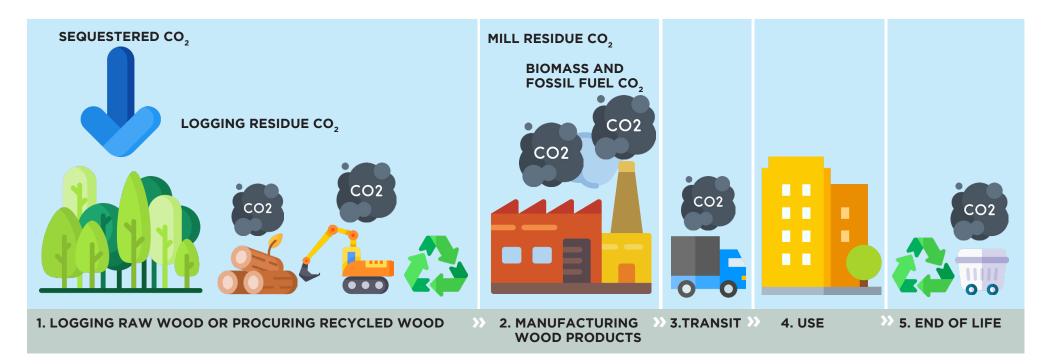
Having made the commitment to halve our global greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, we have to take action to reduce our carbon footprint.

At the start of 2022, to accelerate our sustainability journey, we set 6 objectives to focus action throughout our business for the year ahead.

CARBON FOOTPRINT	ENERGY	PACKAGING	COMMUTING	WASTE/RECYCLING	SUSTAINABLE TIMBER
CONFIRM BASELINE FOR FINANCIAL	INCREASE ENERGY RESILIENCE,	REDUCTION / REMOVAL OF	ENCOURAGE USE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT,	INCREASE SITE RECYCLING AND	INCREASE AMOUNT OF CERTIFIED TIMBER
YEAR 2020/21 AND DEVELOP A	EFFICIENCY & MITIGATION OF	PLASTICS FROM ALL PRODUCT AND	CYCLING AND INCREASE	EMBED SUSTAINABLE	PURCHASED AND AS
MANAGEMENT PLAN	INCREASING COSTS IN	TRANSIT PACKAGING	EMPLOYEE ELECTRIC VEHICLE TAKE UP	CULTURE	PART OF PRODUCT RANGE
THROUGH TO 2030	ELECTRICITY MARKET				
			6		

## Our carbon footprint - where it comes from

Below are the typical carbon impacts of wood from growing, logging, milling, manufacture, including the transportation through to use and end of life. When any timber is recovered at the end-of-life, then its sequestered carbon is transferred to the recovered product. Data from the Environment Agency's Waste Interrogator 201822 suggest that less than 1% of the UKs waste wood ends up in landfill. With biomass, energy recovery and recycled wood based products and animal bedding the predominant end of life applications.



### Our carbon footprint - by scopes

We have now confirmed our baseline carbon footprint for our financial year ending 2021.

The extent of the assessment covers our full Scope 1 & 2 emissions impact and the emissions impact included in the below Scope 3 categories.

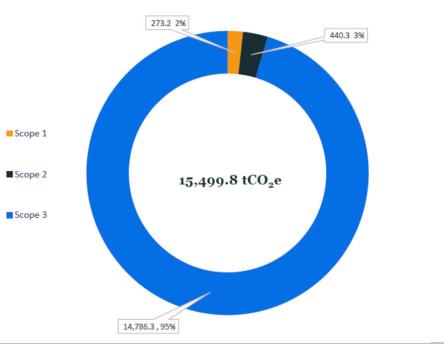
The Scope 3 carbon footprint assessment represents 85% of total spend which includes the emissions impact of all factored goods and timber raw material suppliers, including the upstream and downstream transportation of all timber and timer products. Many companies only report on their Scope 1 & 2 emissions but we want to be as transparent as possible by measuring and reporting our full direct emissions and the indirect emissions impact along the value chain which includes the transportation from timber source, to supplier, to Archwood and onto our end customer.

#### Baseline Carbon Footprint – FY 2020/21

### **Total carbon footprint.**

Scope	Category	Emissions (tCO2e)	Proportion of total footprint
Scope 1	N/A	273.2	1.8%
Scope 2	Location-based	440.3	2.8%
	Market-based	610.4	
Scope 3	1. Purchased goods and services	5,491.4	35.4%
	2. Capital goods	N/A	N/A
	3. Fuel and energy related activities	39.1	0.3%
	4. Upstream transportation and distribution	8,921.2	57.6%
	5. Waste	37.0	0.2%
	6. Business travel	15.5	0.1%
	7. Employee commuting	N/A	N/A
	8. Upstream leased assets	N/A	N/A
	9. Downstream transportation and distribution	282.2	1.8%
	10. Processing of sold products	N/A	N/A
	11. Use of sold products	N/A	N/A
	12. End-of-life treatment of sold products	N/A	N/A
	13. Downstream leased assets	N/A	N/A
	14. Franchises	N/A	N/A
	15. Investments	N/A	N/A
	Total scope 3	14,786.3	95.4%
Total see	ope 1,2,&3 (location-based)	15,499.8	
Total sco	ope 1,2,&3 (market-based)	15,669.9	

Total scope 1, 2, and 3 carbon footprint for year ending 2021, tCO\_2e



All rows and tables are rounded to one decimal place. This may lead to slight discrepancies in totals within the report.

## Making a difference - solar power

We have now completed the installation of 2,600 solar panels at our North Wales factory. This is a significant investment in our commitment to reduce carbon emissions and furthers the business' commitment to only be powered by 100% renewable energy.

Following thorough assessments, Energy Gain UK Limited was chosen as the supplier in the project which took 16 weeks to complete. The 2,600 solar panels equates to a total system size of 1MW and are expected to generate 40% of the factory's total energy requirements. The expected generation is enough to power 250 UK homes annually and will provide an annual saving of 175 tonnes of CO2e.

Alongside this installation, Archwood Group has also introduced its Future Energy Strategy. The business is committed to being powered by 100% renewable energy and we have entered a contract with Sustainable Energy First (SEF) that will see a further 2 years of 100% REGO sustainable energy supply. As part of this, we have also committed to a long-term agreement that will see a direct supply of renewable energy, known a Corporate Power Purchase Agreement (CPPA), from October 2024. This will see a further source of green energy as part of our journey towards Net Zero and will also introduce new renewable energy generation infrastructure as part of the UKs clean green energy transition

OUR SOLAR PANEL INSTALLATION IS ENOUGH TO POWER 250 HOMES







## Making a difference - recycling and efficiency

#### PACKAGING

Where we need plastic it will be recycled

#### COMMUTING

We're switching to green power

#### **WASTE & RECYCLING** Efficient re-use of waste

Efficient re-use of waste products



We are pushing for 100% recycled content on all packaging materials and specifically targeting plastics for removal or replacement with sustainable alternatives within our product display and transit packaging.

We have undertaken a review and redesign project on our current plastic display packaging, with solutions found across our product range with changes coming into effect throughout 2023.



We've installed seven electric vehicle charging points at our HQ carpark. The EV charge points are free to use for all employees, visitors and contractors. We offer a salary sacrifice scheme to all employees to support them make the transition over to electric vehicles

We encourage UK business travel to be done by train where ever possible. When dealing with our international partners, our preference is to facilitate online meetings, however occasionally a flight is necessary. Our policy for all company air travel is to carbon off-set with approved schemes. We have a zero to landfill policy for all general waste. Wood waste represents 96.7% of the total wastage at our North Wales HQ. All of our wood waste is recycled and repurposed into material for

animal bedding, cat litter and

panel board. This also fuels

our sites boilers providing

winter months.

hot water and heating in the

**100%** OF OUR WOOD WASTE IS RECYCLED AND REPURPOSED.



#### **OUR PEOPLE**

## Making a difference - investing in people

WE INVEST IN WELLBEING We value people

**EMPLOYEE VOICE GROUP** Improving communications

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AIDERS

Looking out for each other

#### COMMUNITY

Integrating with the locals

#### INVESTORS IN PEOPLE We invest in wellbeing Gold



Knowing the importance of psychological wellbeing, Archwood trained two employees to become Mental Health First Aiders in the workplace.



WE HAVE RAISED A TOTAL OF £555 WHICH FQUATES TO

2.220 MEALS **PROVIDED TO THOSE** IN NEED



We did it! We are proud to announce that we have achieved the Gold standard of the **Investors in People: We** Invest in Wellbeing award.

A gold accreditation says that Archwood Group have a great wellbeing strategy in place that it's clearly supported by everyone. There are opportunities and dedicated spaces for people to work as well as socialise. People understand and support each other's mental health. And it's working!

Following feedback from our Employee Engagement Survey, we understood that communication throughout our workforce needed some improvement. As such, the Employee Voice Group was created and within this, we merged various other Archwood committees such as the wellbeing team and the charity committee. This provides all of our employees an effective forum to have a voice and be able to raise concerns and/or suggestions.

We have a School Valued Partnership programme with local schools involving support with regular careers advice. We are liaising with the council & schools to utilise Archwood's waste wood. Donating several planters to three local schools. We have regular fundraising for charity of the year, Fareshare. We sponsor local regenerative projects, tree planting events in Chirk with the local council.

#### **OUR PLANET**

Making a difference - working with sustainable timber

Wood, the only renewable building material. Wood has been used in construction for thousands of years and still remains one of the most commonly used building materials. The versatile characteristics of this raw material are what have enabled Archwood to develop a broad range of quality products for the building sector.

APPROXIMATELY

ANNUAL

**CO**<sub>2</sub>

**EMISSIONS** 

#### DURABLE

Timber products can last a lifetime with proper maintenance and care. The longer they last, the less often they'll need to be replaced, using less energy on the production of new products.

#### ABSORBS CO<sub>2</sub>

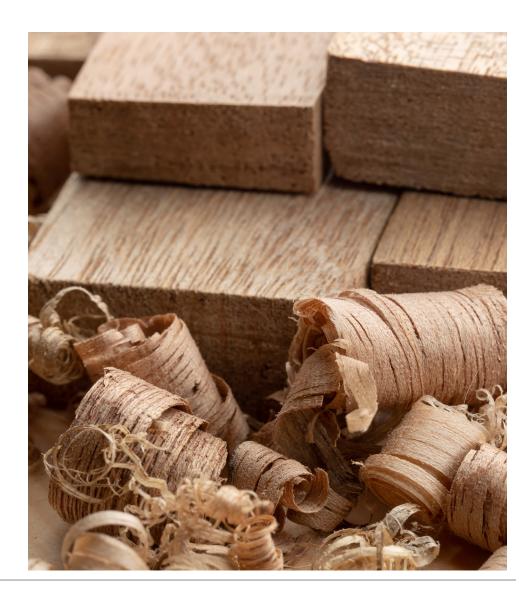
Trees absorb the carbon dioxide emissions from the atmosphere that are driving global warming. Mature trees absorb 22kg of CO. each year [1], with approximately 30% of annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions being absorbed by trees. [2] When the tree is felled, the wood acts as a 'carbon store', locking in the CO<sub>2</sub> when used in construction

#### BIODEGRADABLE MATURE TREES ABSORB There is very little waste when crafting 30% of

timber products, offcuts and chippings can be repurposed and recycled into new products. like sawdust and panel boards. Wood is a natural material meaning that timber waste is 100% biodegradable, under the right conditions, timber will break down and decompose back into the earth.

#### RENEWABLE

Timber is a renewable and natural resource. Opt for FSC<sup>®</sup> or PEFC certified products as the timber is harvested as part of responsible and sustainable forest management.



#### OUR PLANET

## Making a difference - our carbon reduction plan

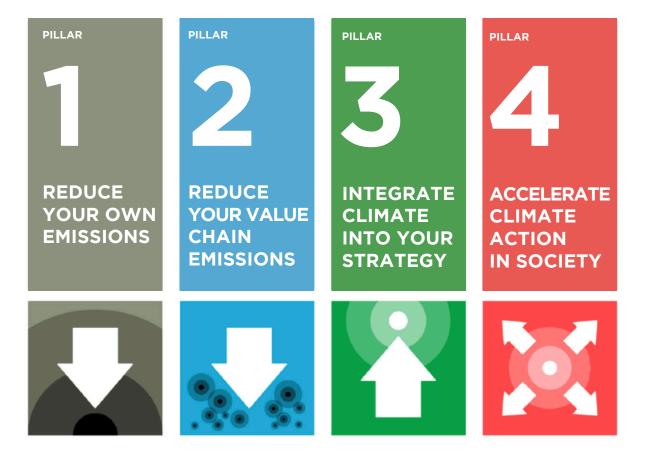
We will shortly publish our carbon reduction plan on how we will halve our carbon emissions by 2030 and achieve Net Zero by 2050.

We believe that every business has a responsibility to drive change and that together, it will be these changes that have the potential to have a big impact globally.

At Archwood, we pledge to make our contribution towards a more sustainable future and through 2023 we will continue to reduce our own emissions, engage with our value to chain to drive down emissions, further integrate climate into our strategy and accelerate climate action in society.

> SETTING TARGETS HELPS US TO FOCUS ON OUR SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

> > CO<sub>2</sub>



"We want to do our part in having a positive impact on the planet and society. Each and every one of us plays an important role in our sustainability commitments."

**Josh Burbidge** 



#### **Richard** Burbidge

Stairparts, decorative mouldings and decking accessories

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Atkinson & Kirby Solid and engineered hardwood flooring.

tel: 01695 573234 *www.akirby.co.uk* 

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