

Carbon Reduction Plan

Parent Document: [Environmental Policy](#)

1. Introduction

Cromwell's mission is to "maximise resourcefulness by providing industry-leading flexible film products", and to stay true to its value of resourcefulness.

Our commitment to invest in industry leading infrastructure and technology to support our growth and maintain high standards of safety and sustainability under the 6 Pillars of Excellence is reflected in our commitments within our CSR and Environmental Policies.

This Carbon Reduction Plan expands upon our environmental policy and outlines our pathway to achieve **carbon neutrality** by 2050. As a UK-based wholesale supplier of polythene bags, we acknowledge our role in both the packaging supply chain and the broader environmental impact of plastic use, and are committed to sustainability.

Our carbon footprint has been calculated on a gate-to-gate basis. It covers the Scope 1 and 2 emissions for Cromwell Polythene's operations and the Scope 3 emissions that are within the reasonable management control of the organisation.

It is reviewed and recalculated annually by the Marketing Manager, and independently verified by a third party.

Our approach to achieving carbon neutrality focuses on **reducing operational emissions**, **influencing supply chain practices**, and **offsetting residual emissions** through verified carbon offsetting schemes.

The plan below outlines our current scope of emissions, details our baseline as per our 2024 calculations, and then outlines our strategy for emissions reductions to achieve neutrality by 2050.

As with everything we do at Cromwell, it is a team effort. Each action identifies an owner who is responsible for planning, actioning and reporting on progress. The Board of Directors will review the calculations annually, and amend the plan as necessary.

It is Cromwell's belief that by working in partnership with our internal and external stakeholders, the company can achieve its goal and fulfil its mission to maximise resourcefulness.

2. Scope of Emissions

Scope 1: Direct emissions: These are all the emissions that an organization directly causes and controls.

- Company-owned delivery vans or vehicles
- Gas for heating

Scope 2: Indirect emissions from imported utilities: Most commonly Scope 2 covers emissions from purchased electricity and covers all emissions from power stations that have generated the electricity.

- Electricity consumption at Cromwell's head office and distribution centre

Scope 3 (relevant sources): Indirect emissions: These are all other emissions that an organization causes to occur but which it does not control. Common types of indirect emissions include emissions from transport in vehicles owned by other organizations or emissions from outsourced activities or the supply chain.

- Imported product transport (freight from overseas manufacturers)
- Third-party logistics (couriers and pallet networks)
- Staff commuting and business travel
- Waste disposal (e.g., plastic waste, packaging)
- Water supply and treatment

3. Baseline Emissions

Baseline Year: The table below summarises the estimated annual emissions by scope as at 2024 (unaudited at the date of this plan).

Scope	tCO ₂ e per Yr
Scope 1: Direct Emissions	46
Scope 2: Imported Power/ Utilities	314
Scope 3: Other indirect emissions (i.e. not owned)	4,454

4. Emissions Reduction Strategy

A. Operational Emissions (Scopes 1 & 2)

Focus Area	Action	Responsibility	Target Year	Estimated Impact
Warehouse Energy	Continue to use 100% renewable electricity; LED lighting	Purchasing Manager	2030	Moderate
Energy	Increase solar panels installed	Finance Director	2030	Moderate
Transport	Replace company-owned diesel vehicles with electric vehicles'	Finance Director	2026–2030	Moderate

B. Supply Chain and Scope 3 Emissions

Focus Area	Action	Responsibility	Target Year	Estimated Impact
Product Sourcing	Prioritise suppliers using recycled or lower-carbon polythene	Purchasing Manager	2026	High
Freight	Work with suppliers to optimise shipping routes	Purchasing Manager	2026	High
Freight	Work with freight providers to select low-emission or offset shipping options	Commercial Director	2026	High
Freight	Work with customers to reduce	Commercial Director	2026	High

Focus Area	Action	Responsibility	Target Year	Estimated Impact
	number of consignments and hence mileage			
Packaging	Reduce secondary packaging and use recyclable materials	Purchasing Manager	2026	Low–Medium
Employees	Incentivising staff for EV usage, car sharing and or cycle-to-work scheme	Finance Director	2026	Low

5. Carbon Offsetting Strategy

For residual emissions (particularly unavoidable emissions from overseas shipping), we will:

- Purchase **verified carbon offsets** if necessary (Gold Standard or Verra-certified).
- Invest in **UK-based carbon removal** (e.g., woodland creation, peatland restoration).
- Install **living roof**.
- Explore **plastic waste capture and offset initiatives**, such as ocean-bound plastic removal schemes.

6. Monitoring and Reporting

- Annual carbon audits following the **Greenhouse Gas Protocol**.
- Use of DEFRA conversion factors.
- Emissions reviewed annually by the Board of Directors.
- Independent verification of offsetting schemes.

7. Governance and Responsibility

- **Sustainability Lead:** Finance Director
- **Executive Oversight:** Managing Director
- **Employee Engagement:** Annual sustainability training and carbon impact briefings

8. Communications and Stakeholder Engagement

- Publish the audited **Sustainability Report** annually.
- Collaborate with suppliers to raise awareness of low-carbon packaging alternatives.
- Engage B2B clients on shared carbon reduction goals.

9. Timeline Summary

Year Milestone

- 2025 Switch to renewable electricity; update baseline assessment
 - 2026 Launch supplier engagement program and offset Scope 1 & 2
 - 2026 Launch customer engagement program to reduce consignments
 - 2035 Low-emission transport adoption; packaging reforms
 - 2045 Offset full operational footprint (Scopes 1–3)
 - 2050 Achieve carbon neutral certification
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10. Conclusion

As a distributor of plastic products, we recognise both our **carbon footprint** and our **opportunity to influence sustainable change** in the polythene industry. Through targeted emissions reductions and credible offsetting, we are committed to becoming a carbon neutral organisation by 2050, while continually exploring lower-impact alternatives for our clients.