

Independent Assurance Report to the Directors of DS Smith PLC

We have been engaged by the Directors of DS Smith PLC to perform a limited assurance engagement relating to the Selected Information within the Annual Report and Sustainability Report, as set out in the appendix to this report for the year ending 30 April 2022.

Use of report

This report is made solely to the Directors of DS Smith PLC in accordance with our agreed terms of engagement. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Directors of DS Smith PLC those matters we have agreed to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. Without assuming or accepting any responsibility or liability in respect of this report to any party other than DS Smith PLC and the Directors of DS Smith PLC, we acknowledge that the Directors of DS Smith PLC may choose to make this report publicly available for others wishing to have access to it, which does not and will not affect or extend for any purpose or on any basis our responsibilities. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than DS Smith PLC and the Directors of DS Smith PLC as a body, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusions we have formed.

Our conclusion

Based on our work as described in this report, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the Selected Information for the year ending 30 April 2022 have not been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the applicable criteria as defined within the Basis of Preparation prepared and published by DS Smith PLC at www.dssmith.com/sustainability/reporting-hub.

Respective responsibilities of the directors and assurance provider

The Directors are responsible for:

- Making available all necessary records, correspondence, information, and explanations necessary to allow the successful completion of the Services;
- Selecting and/or developing the applicable criteria;
- Measuring and reporting the Selected Information based on the relevant criteria;
- Designing, implementing, and maintaining internal controls over information relevant to the preparation of the Selected Information that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the Selected Information based on our procedures. We conducted our engagement in accordance with the International Standard for Assurance Engagements 3000 ("ISAE 3000") and Assurance Engagements on Greenhouse Gas Statements ("ISAE 3410") issued by the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board ("IAASB"), in order to state whether anything had come to our attention that causes us to believe that the Selected Information have not been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the applicable criteria as defined within the Basis of Preparation.

Our procedures consisted primarily of:

- Performing enquiries and interviews with management to understand how the applicable criteria have been applied in the preparation of the Selected Information;
- Understanding internal controls, the quantification process and data used to prepare the Selected Information, the methodology for gathering qualitative information, and the process for preparing and reporting each Selected Information;
- Inspecting documents relating to the Company's environmental performance, including extracts of board committee minutes, to understand the level of management awareness and oversight of the Selected Information;
- Considering the risk of material misstatement of the Selected Information;
- Performing procedures over the Selected Information including recalculation of relevant formulae used in manual calculations to assess whether the data has been appropriately consolidated;
- Performing procedures over underlying data on a sample basis through a combination of virtual and live location visits to assess whether the data has been collected and reported in accordance with the applicable criteria;
- Performing procedures over the Selected Information including assessing management's assumptions and estimates;
- Reviewing, on a sample basis, source documentation for the corresponding Selected Information; and
- Accumulating misstatements and control deficiencies identified and assessing whether material.

Criteria

The self-defined applicable criteria; the nature of the Selected Information; and absence of consistent external standards allow for different, but acceptable, measurement methodologies to be adopted which may result in variances between entities. The adopted measurement methodologies may also impact comparability of the Selected Information reported by different organisations and from year to year within an organisation as methodologies develop.

Inherent limitations

Our engagement provides limited assurance as defined in ISAE 3000 and ISAE 3410. The procedures performed in a limited assurance engagement vary in nature and timing from, and are less in extent, than for a reasonable assurance engagement and consequently, the level of assurance obtained in a limited assurance engagement is substantially lower than the assurance that would have been obtained had a reasonable assurance engagement been performed.

Inherent limitations exist in all assurance engagements due to the selective enquiry of the information being examined. Therefore fraud, error or non-compliance may occur and not be detected. Our work does not involve testing the operating effectiveness of controls over the underlying data, nor have we sought to review systems and controls beyond those relevant to the Selected Information.



Our independence and competence

We complied with Deloitte's independence policies, which address and, in certain cases, exceed the requirements of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants in their role as independent auditors, and in particular preclude us from taking financial, commercial, governance and ownership positions which might affect, or be perceived to affect, our independence and impartiality, and from any involvement in the preparation of the report.

We have applied the International Standard on Quality Control 1 and accordingly maintain a comprehensive system of quality control including documented policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

Deloitte LLP

Deloitte LLP
London, UK
11 July 2022

**Appendix – Selected Information in the Annual Report and Sustainability Report for
the year ending 30 April 2022**

Selected Information	Reported Value	Unit
Direct (Scope 1) GHG emissions	2,023,278	tonnes CO ₂ e
Indirect (Scope 2) GHG emissions (market-based)	759,257	tonnes CO ₂ e
Indirect (Scope 2) GHG emissions (location-based)	886,062	tonnes CO ₂ e
Total Direct (Scope 1) and Indirect (Scope 2 market-based) GHG emissions	2,782,535	tonnes CO ₂ e
GHG emissions from energy export	647,258	tonnes CO ₂ e
Total GHG emissions (net)	2,135,278	tonnes CO ₂ e
GHG emissions per tonne production	194	kg CO ₂ e / t nsp
Energy consumption	15,324,120	MWh
Energy exported	1,774,539	MWh
Energy consumption (net)	13,549,581	MWh
Water withdrawals	54,644,995	m ³
Water discharges	41,584,291	m ³
Total water consumption	13,604,030	m ³
Waste sent to landfill	255,920	tonnes
Total production	11,014,256	tonnes