

BHC - Office Furniture Group

The **Senator** Group
CSR Report **2018**



welcome...

We're delighted to present The Senator Group's fifth sustainability report. This report aims to fully package together all the various strands to our constantly evolving business.

At The Senator Group, we believe our success as a company is a culmination of an excellent, dedicated and skilled workforce and a strong belief and a constant desire to improve. This statement is true for all parts of the business, whether it be our product range, distribution channels or our approach to the environment.

The Senator Group is now a truly global brand, and our environmental and social responsibilities have grown as we have and this report highlights all the good things we've been doing along the way. Many of these items will probably be new, even to our closest partners/employees, as we do not openly advertise these. We do these things as we believe they are the right thing to do, not because they present a publicity opportunity.

We see a certain amount of 'green-wash' presently in the media, with many companies claiming they do the correct thing, when really they are really only scratching the surface of

what we believe is possible. At The Senator Group, we realise that sustainability is a journey, with no real end point; it's a constantly changing landscape which challenges us to continually evolve and improve.

Like all other companies, The Senator Group has found the economic climate difficult over the last few years, however, we have not used this as an excuse to downplay the importance of the environment. In fact, the current climate has made us even more determined to conduct our business in a more environmentally and socially responsible way. We've invested our time, money and effort into what we believe is the most sustainable and environmentally-friendly office furniture manufacturing operation in the world.

Our future will see the continuation of heavy investment across all disciplines, bringing innovative and progressive products to market. But above all, we will strive to maintain impeccable service levels, not accepting second best in any way.



Sustain™

The Senator Group has its own specialist division, Sustain, which handles all its own waste, and waste material from the furniture industry. Recently we have merged two recycling centres into one dedicated recycling operation. We process both packaging waste and furniture recycling at the 15,000ft² purpose built recycling centre.

The Senator Group ensures that for every piece of material that it puts in to the market there is a route for recycling the equivalent piece of redundant material at the end of its life. Back-loaded transport is utilised wherever possible, to bring back all cardboard, plastic and polystyrene packaging, as well as customer's old furniture.

All product packaging is 100 per cent recyclable and most of it is fully reusable. In the past two years The Senator Group has reused over 275,000 units of packaging, with a further 1,500 tonnes being recycled. No packaging that has been returned to Senator in the past five years has ended up in landfill.

Any furniture that has been classed as redundant by customers is sent back to The Senator Group's dedicated furniture recycling facility, irrespective of who originally manufactured the item. All woods, metals, plastics, fabrics and foams are all separated and segregated and then recycled. The customer is then given a certificate afterwards showing how much they have recycled and how much carbon they have saved.

No furniture that is returned to The Senator Group ends up in landfill. In the past three years more than 200,000 items recycled, which have a combined weight of 2,668 tonnes. This is a carbon saving of over 2,668,419 kg/CO₂e.



Watch our video **Senator Reduce** on our Youtube channel.

AMOUNT OF MATERIAL
RECYCLED IN 2018

3,498

TONNES

AMOUNT OF MATERIAL
RECLAIMED IN 2018

4,469

TONNES

Design

Too often, design is the last function to consider the environment. The Senator Group's in-house design team understand and embrace their role in the overall sustainability process, and we believe good design is the starting point for sustainable products. The aesthetics and functionality of new models/ranges are vitally important, but they should never be developed at the expense of the environment.

We believe doing this for all products is more important than having a dedicated range of 'green' products.

We use components with higher recycled content and increased recyclability, so less virgin materials needed to manufacture our products and there is no waste at the end of the product's life.



RECYCLED MATERIAL BY PRODUCT 2018

Foam Fabric Leather 53 (tonnes)	Metals 690 (tonnes)	Cardboard & Paper 591 (tonnes)
Plastics 210 (tonnes)	Wood Recyled Board 1,947 (tonnes)	Wood Recyled Biomass 4,469 (tonnes)

Suppliers

The Senator Group works with all suppliers to try and improve sustainability right through the supply chain. The earlier that up-stream sustainability measures are put in place the better. All suppliers are assessed for their environmental accreditations.

Any suppliers which aren't up to scratch are offered time and advice to achieve the set sustainability criteria. As a bare minimum we expect all suppliers to continually monitor their sustainability policies

The Senator Group always prefers to use local suppliers (within 50 miles) wherever possible. Not only does this reduce the embedded carbon footprint of products, but also keeps local people employed.



TOTAL NUMBER OF PACKAGING
ITEMS RE-USED IN 2018

152,000

ALMOST

404,000+

ITEMS OF PACKAGING OVER
THE LAST 3 YEARS

Manufacturing

The Senator Group utilises thousands of tonnes of material each year producing approximately one million items. Therefore, the manufacturing processes and facilities need to be state of the art to maximise efficiencies and minimise waste material, time and labour.

CAD and CAM techniques are used to maximise the yield on raw material, and so minimise any waste material in the process. All waste material is reused, where applicable, before it is recycled.

The Senator Group spend more on new equipment and machinery than any other office furniture manufacturer in the UK. Usually, the rationale behind new equipment is to either reduce energy or material usage.



NUMBER OF BAGS OF PACKAGING RETURNED FOR RE-USE



Packaging

We design products that are easy to assemble, disassemble and reassemble, so components can be reused, remanufactured and recycled. For example, plastic components are marked up in accordance with ISO11469:2000

We design products with packaging, logistics and manual handling in mind. For example, our products are now made from lighter weight materials, to maximise the quantity that can be transported at any one time, and to make loading and unloading easier.

All our design team have signed up to our policy of designing the most sustainable products, and only using certain materials and manufacturing processes.

ELECTRICITY GENERATED BY OUR SOLAR PANELS IN 2018



42,185kw

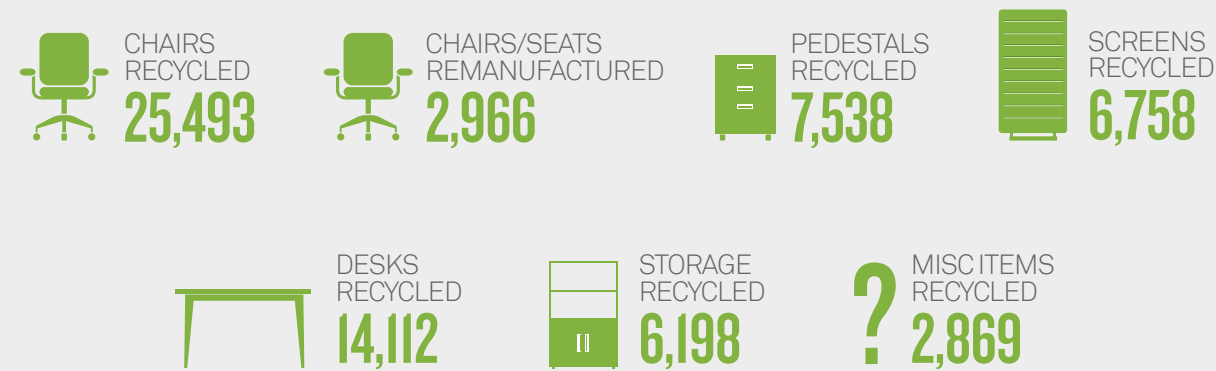
Energy

The Senator Group's Global Headquarters is heated by waste materials from a biomass boiler. All the waste wood and sawdust from the Desking factory is burnt to provide heat to the offices and warehouse at the 250,000 sq ft facility. At the end of 2015 we installed a new biomass boiler to heat the Seating factory. We also extended the factory and the roof was covered in solar panels

The Senator Group is the first manufacturer in the UK furniture industry to achieve the ISO50001 Energy Management accreditation at each of its manufacturing sites. Each department has nominated and publicised environmental champions, who are responsible for communicating sustainability objectives to our wide workforce.

In 2016 our main manufacturing sites created 3,821 tonnes of CO₂e. Per unit produced this is 17.9 per cent reduction on the previous year.

ITEMS OF FURNITURE RECYCLED AND
REMANUFACTURED IN 2018



TOTAL =
65,944

Carbon Footprint

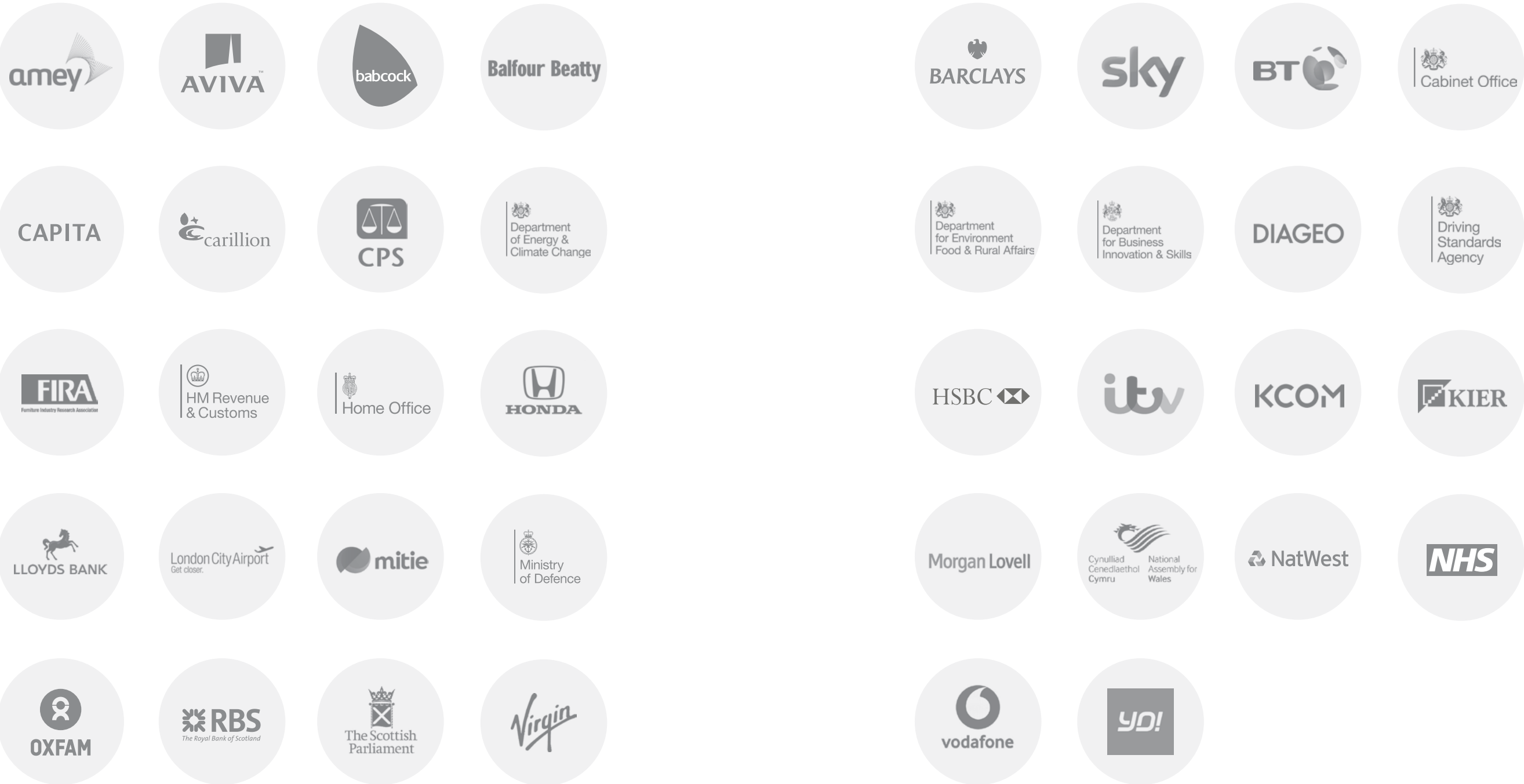
A Carbon Footprint is considered the quantifiable means of measuring a product or company's impact on the environmental; it is the total set of greenhouse gas emissions caused by an organisation, event, product or person.

There is no standard for a furniture industry product Carbon Footprint, however, The Senator Group uses common sense to minimise supplier delivery costs, vehicle mileage and companywide/commuting travel, as well as reducing energy and material usage during manufacturing.

We do produce EPA's for all products though and these are independently, externally audited to ISO14025.

The Senator Group publishes Carbon Footprint figures for all models, which is calculated from 'Goods In' material to the customer's door, essentially the activities we can control, measure and reduce.

people we work with...



CORPORATE & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES



APPRENTICESHIPS

We have 48 apprentices in total. We took 18 on in 2018 and 54 people are being upskilled through apprenticeships.

WHAT I’VE LEARNED FROM SENATOR

Bethany Ecroyd, Graduate

I came to Senator in 2015 as a business graduate. My job is within the Standards team, making sure that the company complies with all the various accreditations we have, which are really important to our clients – such as Quality, Environmental, Health and Safety etc.

I enjoy the fact that no two days are the same in this job. I spend a lot of time out around the business talking to people and auditing many different processes and systems. I am implementing continuous improvement through strengthening and interrogating the business and its processes, and seeing an issue or project develop through my involvement and working with the many talented people across Senator, is one of the best things about my job.

Senator have provided multiple opportunities for training and development, both internally and externally, and my ambition is to become an Integrated Management System specialist, and have the knowledge and experience to manage these systems right across the globe for the business.

FAMILY FUN DAY



The sun was shining and we couldn’t have wished for better weather at our annual family fun day on Saturday June 30th at Salesbury Hall, Ribchester.

The collection of fairground rides included the classic dodgems and waltzers and for the more daring there was the spectacular spin out ride, taking riders upside down at high speeds!

The main ring hosted an impressive array of attractions throughout the day. From Falconry displays and hay bale tossing to some high energy thrilling performances from Dangerous Steve and the amazing Vander Space Wheel Super Heroes.

And let’s not forget the one everyone was talking about: the gorillas! As the mid summer sun set, the evening festivities really started. The gates reopened in the evening for the adults.

The rides from the day continued until it was time to go home. There was plenty of Prosecco, wine and beer throughout the night as well as a delicious barbecue, followed by a lot of dancing with a DJ in the marquee and a live outdoor performance from the fantastic light up neon band with a sax, percussion and vocalist.



CHARITY DONATIONS & SPONSORSHIPS

BLACKBURN YOUTH ZONE	25,000	S JUMP BALL	360	JEANS FOR GENES	119
MACMILLAN CANCER	1,004	ST LEONARDS FLOWER FESTIVAL	300	HAVENS HOSPICES	100
HUNCOAT IN BLOOM	550	DERIAN HOUSE	250	BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION	100
EAST LANCS HOSPICE	500	GO KIDS GO	200	OXFAM	79
BLACKBURN YOUTH ZONE	500	ROTARY CLUB OF BLACKBURN	200	CHURCH CRICKET CLUB	50
ACCRINGTON ROAD RUNNERS	500	HAVENS HOSPICES	150		
HUNCOAT PRIMARY SCHOOL	500	EAST LANCS HOSPICE	120		
					TOTAL = £30,832

BHC - Office Furniture Group

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