Sustainability overview

UK & Ireland

Accreditations and Participations

The breadth of Viking's accreditations and participations in the UK and Ireland demonstrate a genuine commitment to sustainability.

ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001

ISO 9001 (quality), ISO 14001 (environment) and ISO 45001 (health and safety) norms are international standards that provide companies with guidelines, which must be permanently controlled internally and externally. Independent auditors assess that the respective management system meet the requirements of the standard. The ISO certificates give the customer the assurance that the company has procedures and organisational structures in place that comprehensively cover these topics.

ISO 14064-1

As part of our commitment to third party verification of its environmental data the annual UK & Ireland greenhouse gas footprint report is independently assured to ISO14064-1. Details of our footprint can be seen below.

World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Timber Scorecard - 2019

Once again we achieved the highest possible rating of three trees, earning the company recognition for its commitment to responsibly sourcing timber products.The WWF Timber Scorecard 2019 is a three-part procedure which determines the dedication of businesses in acting in a more environmentally friendly manner with regards to timber products.
We maintained our high score, after first achieving "three trees" back in 2017. A total of 122 businesses were involved in thereport and only 43 achieved the highest rating.

EcoVadis Silver Award

The RAJA Group, of which Viking is a part, was awarded a Silver EcoVadis Medal in 2022. EcoVadis provides holistic sustainability ratings of companies on a broad range of non-financial management systems including environmental, labour and human rights, ethics and sustainable procurement impacts. Each company is rated on the material issues as they pertain to their company's size, location and industry. This result places the RAJA Group in the top 5% of companies rated by EcoVadis in the non-specialised wholesale trade industry.

At Viking, we are not only passionate about what we do, but also how we do it and the impact we have on the world around us. We are proud to have an extensive 'green' range of environmentally conscious brands and products. This range includes many products certified by organisations such as FSC®, PEFC™ and Fairtrade®.

Discover all environmental claims

Waste Management

Site Waste (tonnes)	2021	2022
	UK	UK
Total Waste	886	532
Total Recycled & Recovered	777	455
Recycling %	**88%**	**86%**
Total Waste to Energy	108	77
Waste to Energy	**12%**	**14%**
Total Diverted from Landfill*	886	532
Landfill Diversion %	**100%**	**100%**

*excludes sanitary waste. Leicester recycling rates based on MRF average

Zero waste to landfill was achieved for the seventh consecutive year.

Energy Consumption

Our greenhouse gas report is independently verified to ISO14064-1:2006 by SGS. Verification number CCP254913/30/08/2022.

Actual Usage Comparison	Tonnes CO_2e			
	2021	2020	2019	2018
Scope 1 (gas and diesel oil, refrigerants, owned delivery vehicles, propane, fire extinguishers and company cars)	900	1238	1786	2004
Scope 2 (purchased electricity) Market Based	3	201	420	—
Scope 2 (purchased electricity) Location Based	1337	1821	224	2785
Scope 3 (third party deliveries, hire cars, business travel Inc. hotel stays and electricity transmission and distribution)	5018	5661	6050	6354
Total	**5921**	**7100**	**8256**	**11143**

From 2019 scope 2 has been calculated on market based emissions, as purchased renewable energy. Homeworking gas and electricity, Waste and Water added to scope 3 emissions from 2020. Office only buildings gas and electricity added to scope 1 and 2 emissions respectively from 2020.

Carbon Neutral Deliveries

Since 2020 we have purchased carbon offset certificates to offset the emission created by the transport of goods from our warehouses to customers in the UK and Ireland. Therefore enabling us to provide carbon neutral deliveries to our customers. This initiative continues with investment in projects supporting wind energy in Namibia, afforestation in Uruguay and safe water access in Uganda.

Wind energy in Namibia

60% of Namibia's national electricity is imported, mainly from fossil fuel plants. The domestic supply is almost entirely reliant on hydropower. As Namibia is largely desert land this makes the country vulnerable to external shocks like drought and import tariffs. The project is located in the Karas region; an area with some of the highest wind speeds. The project will install 5 wind turbines. Once installed the turbines will deliver 36,700MWh of clean electricity. Based on average annual consumption, the project will sustainably meet the electricity needs of just under 23,000 Namibian's every year.

Forest plantation in Uruguay

Uruguay's economy is based primarily on the use of natural resources, with 86.6% of total surface area used for agriculture, livestock and forestry. According to the World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Uruguay has 659 known species of amphibians, birds, mammals and reptiles of which 2.3% are endemic and 5.6% are threatened. This afforestation project is located in the Cerro Chato/Valentines and Regis/Garao regions of Uruguay. This is a livestock-forest-environmental project, whose main activity is to establish a forest for obtaining high-value, timber products and for sequestering carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. The forest comprises a total of 21,298 ha of land previously grazing land for more than 50 years. The project will mainly plant Eucalyptus trees over a 5 year period.

Clean drinking water in Uganda

Over 20 million people in Uganda do not have access to clean drinking water, which has negative health, social, economic and ecological impacts. Health issues include malnutrition and lung infections with water-born diarrheal disease being the leading cause of death for children under the age of five. The issue is compounded as boiling contaminated drinking water and buying bottled water is expensive. Boiling water has also led to increased deforestation as the fuel usually comes from primarily non-sustainably harvested wood. At the same time, increasing CO_2 emissions and indoor air pollution. The focus of the project is to support around 200 local communities, schools and refugee camps throughout Uganda with safe access to clean drinking water through the distribution of locally manufactured ceramic water filters. The filters reliably remove microbes and pathogens from contaminated water so that it no longer needs to be boiled.

March 2023 Version 4.0