

# **Independent Limited Assurance Report**

### to the Directors of Wickes Building Supplies Limited

Wickes Building Supplies Limited ("Wickes") commissioned DNV Business Assurance Services UK Limited ("DNV", "us" or "we") to conduct a limited assurance engagement over Selected Information presented in the Annual Report and Accounts 2024 ("Report") for the reporting year ended 28 December 2024.



**Our Conclusion:** On the basis of the work undertaken, nothing came to our attention to suggest that the Selected Information is not fairly stated and has not been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Criteria.

This conclusion relates only to the Selected Information, and is to be read in the context of this Independent Limited Assurance Report, in particular the inherent limitations explained overleaf.

### **Selected Information**

The scope and boundary of our work is restricted to the metrics included within the Report for the reporting year 2024 (the "Selected Information"), listed below.

Metrics	Reported value	Unit
Scope 1 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions	12,399	tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Scope 2 GHG emissions (location-based)	8,683	tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Scope 2 GHG emissions (market-based)	7	tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Total Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions (location-based)	21,082	tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Total Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions (market-based)	12,406	tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Scope 3 GHG emissions: Category 1 – purchased goods and services	1,159,225	tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Scope 3 GHG emissions: Category 4 – upstream transportation and distribution	85,566	tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Scope 3 GHG emissions: Category 11 – use of sold products	173,469	tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Scope 3 GHG emissions: Category 12 – end of life treatment	121,127	tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Scope 3 GHG emissions: Other (Categories 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9 and 13)	40,778	tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Total Scope 3 GHG emissions:	1,580,165	tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Total Scope 1, 2 and 3 GHG emissions (location-based)	1,601,246	tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Total Scope 1, 2 and 3 GHG emissions (market-based)	1,592,571	tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Annual energy use	99,273,071	kWh
The % of females in the management population	36.98	%
The % of Underrepresented Ethnic Minority (UEM) colleagues in the management population	11.86	%

To assess the Selected Information, which includes an assessment of the risk of material misstatement in the Report, we have used the "GHG Accounting Methodology 2024" and the "Gender and Ethnicity Balance Methodology Statement 2024" (together the "Criteria"), which can be found on the Wickes website <a href="here">here</a>.



### Standard and level of assurance

We performed a **limited** assurance engagement of specified data and information using the 'Greenhouse Protocol – A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard' (revised 2015) and international assurance best practice including the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE) 3000 – 'Assurance Engagements other than Audits and Reviews of Historical Financial Information' (revised) issued by the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. To ensure consistency in our assurance process, we conducted our work in accordance with DNV's assurance methodology, Verisustain<sup>TM</sup>, applying only the pertinent sections of the protocol relevant to the specific purpose of the activity. This methodology ensures compliance with ethical requirements and mandates planning and execution of the assurance engagement to obtain the desired level of assurance.

DNV applies its own management standards and compliance policies for quality control, which are based on the principles enclosed within ISO IEC 17029:2019 - Conformity Assessment - General principles and requirements for validation and verification bodies, and accordingly maintains a comprehensive system of quality control including documented policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards, and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

The procedures performed in a limited assurance engagement vary in nature and are shorter in extent than for a reasonable assurance engagement. Consequently, the level of assurance obtained in a limited assurance engagement is substantially lower than the assurance that would have been obtained if a reasonable assurance engagement had been performed.

### **Disclaimers**

The assurance provided by DNV is limited to the selected indicators and information specified in the scope of the engagement. DNV has not conducted an assessment of the reporting organisation's overall adherence to reporting principles or the preparation of the report. Therefore, no conclusions should be drawn regarding the reporting organization's compliance with reporting principles or the quality of the overall report. The assurance provided by DNV is based on the selected indicators and information made available to us at the time of the engagement. DNV assumes no responsibility for any changes or updates made to the indicators or information after the completion of the assurance engagement.

### Our competence, independence and quality control

DNV established policies and procedures are designed to ensure that DNV, its personnel and, where applicable, others are subject to independence requirements (including personnel of other entities of DNV) and maintain independence where required by relevant ethical requirements. This engagement work was carried out by an independent team of sustainability assurance professionals. DNV did not provide any services to Wickes in the reporting period that could compromise the independence or impartiality of our work. Our multi-disciplinary team consisted of professionals with a combination of environmental and sustainability assurance experience.

#### Inherent limitations

DNV's assurance engagements are based on the assumption that the data and information provided by Wickes to us as part of our review have been provided in good faith, are true, and are free from material misstatements. Because of the selected nature (sampling) and other inherent limitation of both procedures and systems of internal control, there remains the unavoidable risk that errors or irregularities, possibly significant, may not have been detected. The engagement excludes the sustainability management, performance, and reporting practices of Wickes's suppliers, contractors, and any third parties mentioned in the Report. We did not interview external stakeholders as part of this assurance engagement. We understand that the reported financial data, governance and related information are based on statutory disclosures and Audited Financial Statements, which are subject to a separate independent statutory audit process. We did not review financial disclosures and data as they are not within the scope of our assurance engagement.

The assessment is limited to data and information in scope within the defined reporting period. Any data outside this period is not considered within the scope of assurance. DNV expressly disclaims any liability or co-responsibility for any decision a person or an entity may make based on this Independent Limited Assurance Report.



#### Basis of our conclusion

We are required to plan and perform our work in order to consider the risk of material misstatement of the Selected Information; our work included, but was not restricted to:

- Conducting interviews with Wickes management to obtain an understanding of the key processes, systems and controls in place to generate, aggregate and report the Selected Information;
- Performing limited substantive testing on a selective basis of the Selected Information to check that data had been appropriately measured, recorded, collated and reported;
- Interviews with data owners at Wickes and across the business to review processes for checking and consolidating the data subject to review;
- Reviewing that the evidence, measurements and their scope provided to us by Wickes for the Selected Information is prepared in line with the Criteria;
- Assessing the appropriateness of the Criteria for the Selected Information; and
- Reading the Report and narrative accompanying the Selected Information within it with regard to the Criteria.

In performing these activities, we did not come across limitations to the scope of the agreed assurance engagement.

We found a limited number of non-material errors and these were corrected prior to inclusion in the Report.

For and on behalf of DNV Business Assurance Services UK Limited London, UK
19 March 2025

Holly Wallis-Copley Lead Verifier DNV Business Assurance Services UK Limited Paul O'Hanlon Technical Reviewer DNV Business Assurance Services UK Limited



## Responsibilities of the Directors of Wickes and DNV

The Directors of Wickes have sole responsibility for:

- Preparing and presenting the Selected information in accordance with the Criteria:
- Designing, implementing and maintaining effective internal controls over the information and data, resulting in the preparation of the Selected Information that is free from material misstatements;
- Measuring and reporting the Selected Information based on their established Criteria; and
- Contents and statements contained within the Report and the Criteria.

Our responsibility is to plan and perform our work to obtain limited assurance about whether the Selected Information has been prepared in accordance with the Criteria and to report to Wickes in the form of an independent limited assurance conclusion, based on the work performed and the evidence obtained. Our Independent Limited Assurance Report represents our independent conclusion and is intended to inform all stakeholders. DNV was not involved in the preparation of any statements or data included in the Report except for this Independent Limited Assurance Report.

### DNV Supply Chain and Product Assurance

DNV Business Assurance Services UK Limited is part of DNV – Supply Chain and Product Assurance, a global provider of certification, verification, assessment and training services, enabling customers and stakeholders to make critical decisions with confidence.