

RWAP Services Carbon Impact 2024

RWAP Services trades under various brands, RWAP Software, RWAP Services, Internet Business Angels, SellMyRetro and Retro-Printer. We operate from a premises based in the UK and have undertaken a number of measures over the years to ensure that our carbon footprint is as small as possible.

We do not engage in carbon offsets or carbon credit trading, as we do not believe that these have any actual impact and are in the main a construct to enable larger companies to claim that they are taking action to reduce their carbon footprint, without actually doing anything in practice.

As a small business, we are not required to produce a carbon impact statement, but we have prepared one as we believe that it is important for everyone to bear in mind the impact their actions have on the planet and undertake simple steps to reduce that impact.

The following are the measures we have undertaken since setting up our business in 1986 to ensure that our carbon impact is kept to the minimum.

Travel Measures

- Travel is by Electric Vehicle (EV), walking or train. We do not use aeroplane travel.
- Work from home with 99% of office meetings over the internet
- Limited trips to the post office to 2 per week (2-mile round trip) – walking when practicable
- EV used as main vehicle.

Energy Conservation Measures

- Bought highly energy efficient devices (rated B or better) including PCs, fridge freezer as they have required replacement
- Windows and external doors changed for uPVC with double glazing
- House is a Timber-framed dwelling with cavity wall insulation
- Extra loft insulation installed
- Low energy light bulbs throughout premises
- Gas Central Heating system – condensing boiler, with room thermostats and Smart Radiator valves to prevent heating unused rooms
- Solar Panels installed on property.

- As previously planned, we have installed and use a House Battery to store energy during low-demand periods and use it during periods of peak demand.
- Run high energy usage devices only at night (such as charging the car).
- Use standby savers to ensure that equipment is not left on standby when not in use.
- As previously planned, we have invested in a community wind farm to generate the electricity which we use.

Practical Measures to Offset Carbon Impact

- Undertaken practical conservation tasks on all holidays and many weekends 1990 – 2000, leading and training others in conservation work – including planting large number of native trees, woodland, wildlife, footpath and hedgerow maintenance.
- Worked as full time voluntary officer leading practical conservation tasks 6 days a week for 12 months (1997-1998)
- Set up and run a twice monthly local conservation group to maintain and improve public footpaths in the area. Training volunteers as necessary in use of hand tools and encouraging others to use the public footpaths.
- All holidays are taken in the UK
- Reuse packaging materials where possible – ie cardboard, bubble wrap, packaging chips, padded envelopes.
- Reuse single sheet paper where possible (print on back where blank and not required for permanent records)
- Any food and garden waste is recycled using garden composters.
- A water butt has been installed to provide ALL water used in the garden
- All other waste is separated, washed and recycled where possible
- The majority of our products (99%) are manufactured in the UK in order to reduce carbon miles in the supply chain.

General Measures to Encourage Others to Reduce Carbon Impact

- Business primarily aimed at extending the working life of old computers and equipment from the 1980s / 1990s in order to keep them away from landfill. As part of this, we have supplied over 1,400 Retro-Printers to businesses to enable them to

extend the life of existing equipment (and whole manufacturing plant) rather than replacing it with new equipment for the sake of not being able to print reports

- Our Retro-Printer enables businesses and individuals to reduce the amount that they print, by capturing and storing printouts electronically – we estimate that this saves over 221kg of paper pa (based on sales of 2,212 Retro-Printers to date).
- We offer a low-cost second-hand marketplace and encourage our customers to re-sell unused items through that platform and/or to use our contacts to get repairs undertaken.
- We offer access to our electric charging point to other EV drivers to help encourage the use of EVs
- As part of the working conservation holidays we have undertaken, we acted as leader and trained over 200 volunteers in how to carry out practical conservation tasks.
- We are signed up to the WEEE return to base recycling schemes for our electrical waste (less than 0.001 tonnes pa).
- We invest in other businesses which are tackling climate change and offer real solutions to reduce waste and improve energy efficiency.

Overview

Annual Gas Usage now 16,499 kWh pa (up from 4,470 kwh) having moved to much larger premises.

Annual Electric Usage now 3,595.2kWh (up from 2,270 kwh) having moved to much larger premises.

Total estimated carbon usage: 4,403 kgCO₂e – split as to 3,830 (direct energy) and 573 (indirect impact from electricity)

Planned actions:

- Purchase share in community solar farm through Ripple Energy to cover our Electricity generation needs.
- Continue to replace the low energy light bulbs with LED bulbs as they need replacing
- Replace gas boiler with an electric boiler when replacement is necessary