



## **INDEPENDENT LIMITED ASSURANCE STATEMENT**

**To: The Stakeholders of DS Smith Plc**

### **Introduction and objectives of work**

Bureau Veritas UK Limited ('Bureau Veritas') has been engaged by DS Smith Plc ('DS Smith') to provide independent verification of the restated base year emissions calculations for the financial year 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019 to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020. This Assurance Statement applies to the related information included within the scope of work described below.

### **Selected information**

The scope of our work was limited to assurance over the following data for the period 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> April 2020 (the 'Selected Information'):

- Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions;
- Emissions from Energy exports
- Total production.

The reporting boundaries cover DS Smith's global operations.

### **Reporting criteria**

The Selected Information has been prepared in accordance with internal definitions and methodologies set in DS Smith's Sustainability Data and Reporting Policy, aligned with the GHG Protocol.

### **Limitations and Exclusions**

Excluded from the scope of our work is any verification of information relating to:

- Activities outside the defined reporting period;
- Appropriateness of the reporting criteria
- Other information other than the scope defined above.

This limited assurance engagement relies on a risk based selected sample of environmental data and the associated limitations that this entails. The reliability of the reported data is dependent on the accuracy of metering and other production measurement arrangements employed at site level, not addressed as part of this assurance. This independent statement should not be relied upon to detect all errors, omissions or misstatements that may exist.



## **Responsibilities**

This preparation and presentation of the Selected Information in the Report are the sole responsibility of the management of DS Smith.

Bureau Veritas was not involved in the drafting of the Report or of the Reporting Criteria. Our responsibilities were to:

- Obtain limited assurance about whether the Selected Information has been prepared in accordance with the Reporting Criteria;
- Form an independent conclusion based on the assurance procedures performed and evidence obtained; and
- Reporting our conclusions to the Directors of DS Smith.

## **Assessment Standard**

We performed our work to a limited level of assurance in accordance with International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE) 3000 Revised, Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information (effective for assurance reports dated on or after December 15, 2015), issued by the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

## **Summary of work performed**

As part of our independent verification, our work included:

1. Conducting interviews with relevant personnel of DS Smith;
2. Reviewing the data estimation process used to calculate the Selected Information, including assessing assumptions made, and the data scope and reporting boundaries;
3. Checking the data aggregation calculations performed at Head Office; and
4. Assessing the disclosure and presentation of the Selected Information to ensure consistency with assured information.

## **Conclusion**

On the basis of our methodology and the activities described above for the agreed scope, nothing has come to our attention to indicate that the Selected Information as stated below are not fairly stated in all material respects.



2019/20 base year emissions	
Scope 1 (mt CO <sub>2</sub> e):	2,181,890
Scope 2 (mt CO <sub>2</sub> e): (Location-based)	875,544
Scope 2 (mt CO <sub>2</sub> e): (Market-based)	792,275
Emissions from energy exports (mt CO <sub>2</sub> e):	791,810
Total production (mt nsp):	10,222,065

### Statement of Independence, Integrity and Competence

Bureau Veritas is an independent professional services company that specialises in quality, environmental, health, safety and social accountability with over 190 years history. Its assurance team has extensive experience in conducting verification over environmental, social, ethical and health and safety information, systems and processes.

Bureau Veritas operates a certified Quality Management System which complies with the requirements of ISO 9001:2015<sup>1</sup>, 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.

Bureau Veritas has implemented and applies a Code of Ethics, which meets the requirements of the International Federation of Inspections Agencies (IFIA)<sup>2</sup>, across the business to ensure that its employees maintain integrity, objectivity, professional competence and due care, confidentiality, professional behaviour and high ethical standards in their day-to-day business activities.



**Bureau Veritas UK Ltd**  
**March 2022**

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<sup>1</sup> Certificate available on request

<sup>2</sup> International Federation of Inspection Agencies – Compliance Code – Third Edition