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Thursday January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are writing to ask for your support in measuring and reducing the environmental footprint of the global publishing industry.

Climate change is a leading concern for our businesses. As Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions continue to rise, and our planet continues to warm, the negative consequences become increasingly clear. The recent United Nations climate change report finds that global temperatures are now 1.07°C above what they were before the Industrial Revolution. This is already causing increased heatwaves, droughts, extreme weather such as heavy rainfall and tropical cyclones, and flooding. The report warns that **without rapid action to reduce GHG emissions now, the Earth will warm by significantly more than 1.5°C with a dramatic impact on its ability to support human and other life** ([Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis](#)).

In response to this, **governments, investors, employees and consumers are all demanding that we, as large businesses, take action to tackle the climate crisis.** For example, in the United Kingdom (where many of our companies are listed) large companies are required to report their GHG emissions and climate-related risks in line with the [Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures](#) (TCFD), which includes requiring disclosures on emissions and climate-related risks in our supply chain. Investors are writing to us regularly, demanding similar disclosures and details of our plans to reduce emissions across our value chain. Our customers and consumers want to know that the books we publish have been produced in as environmentally friendly a way as possible. Paper can amount to over 50% of a printed product's carbon footprint, of course depending on the product and paper used. Therefore, the environmental performance of paper mills is key for the publishers which participate in the Book Chain Project, and their customers.

The Book Chain Project's Environmental Questionnaire is an essential tool used by our industry to gather information on the environmental performance of paper and print suppliers. It asks you to enter information about your production, management systems, energy use, GHG emissions, water use and wastewater treatment, as well as existing reduction projects and targets. **By filling in one questionnaire, you can provide important information on your environmental performance to 27 large [publishers](#) with a combined annual turnover of £32bn which participate in the Book Chain Project.**

This transparency is a vital step in reducing the environmental impact of the publishing supply chain, and so it **is essential that all our suppliers support this request and submit a Questionnaire as soon as possible, if they have not already done so, and in any case by February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022.** We will use this information to better understand our supply chain's environmental impacts and inform our future purchasing decisions.

The Book Chain Project team is available to help you with the submission, as are various useful resources. Please contact your admin if you require assistance.

Yours sincerely



## Signatories:



**Robert Owen**  
Purchasing Manager



**Louise Cameron**  
Group Production Director



**Markus Guldstrand**  
Production Director



**Roy Jensrud**  
Production and  
Sustainability Director



**Helen Griggs**  
Director of Global  
Procurement & Environment



**Shaun Hodgkinson**  
Chief Operating Officer



**Ben Groves-Raines**  
Publishing Operations  
Director



**Charlotte Veaney**  
Group Production Director



**Debbie Knight**  
Director



**Karina Stevens**  
Head of Operations



**Rob Dalby**  
Director of Manufacturing,  
Inventory and Procurement



**Matthew Rowland-Jones**  
Sustainability Manager



**Stephen Esson**  
Group Publishing  
Operations Director



**Lisa Bowling**  
Chief Procurement Officer



**Eunice Paterson**  
Director of Manufacturing



**Lisa Serra**  
Senior Director,  
Manufacturing, Paper &  
Compliance



**Alan Lee**  
Group Production Director



**David Checkley**  
VP Global Sourcing