

JOHN LEWIS  
PARTNERSHIP

JOHN LEWIS & PARTNERS      WAITROSE & PARTNERS

Janet Finch-Saunders AM/AC  
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Dear Ms Finch-Saunders

Thank you for your letter to Rob Collins regarding Petition P-05-878 Shut the Door on Wasted Energy. He has asked me to reply on his behalf as I am responsible for the John Lewis Partnership's property, which includes our refrigeration systems. We are absolutely committed to doing all we can to minimise our impact on the environment and have set ourselves some challenging targets to achieve this. I am delighted to have the opportunity to share details with you.

As you may know, Waitrose and Partners is a trading brand of the John Lewis Partnership which has pledged to achieve "net-zero" carbon emissions for its direct operations by 2050 at the latest, without purchasing carbon offsets.

In a first step towards the commitment, the Partnership has set an interim aim of cutting its operational carbon footprint by one-third by 2028. This initial reduction will be achieved through a series of investments into low-carbon technologies such as biomethane trucks, electric vans and energy-efficient refrigeration. Overall, the John Lewis Partnership is targeting 100% British-generated renewable electricity for its stores, offices, distribution centres and other UK facilities within the next nine years.

These short-term moves are collectively predicted to mitigate the emissions equivalent of those produced by 16,000 petrol cars annually.

Looking to the long-term, the Partnerships has set a target of 2028 to reduce its energy use by 25% against a 2010 baseline, phasing out all hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) from its core refrigeration and cooling systems and developing all new stores in line with BREEAM building standards.

We have developed innovative solutions for our refrigeration systems to ensure they are as environmentally friendly as possible and are soon to introduce a next generation system. In early 2019 we will install new frozen food cabinets in some of our shops. These will have glass doors and contain a refrigerant which is extremely low in its global warming potential. Two of our shops in Wales have Water Cooled Refrigeration which is an all natural solution and does not use any hydrofluorocarbon refrigerants.

We are also introducing EcoBlade™ technology - shelf edge strips - to our shops to reduce energy consumption by up to 25%, equivalent to running 150 average houses for a year. When introduced to all our shops, it could save the equivalent amount of electricity to run 3,300 average houses in the UK for a year. It will also have the added benefit of creating an improved shopping environment for our customers and Partners (employees) due to warmer aisles. We have fitted EcoBlades where we've been able to do so in our shops in Wales, for example in Pontprennau.

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We have one of the lowest refrigerant leakage rates in Europe at below 5% . This means we keep more of the refrigerant gases within the pipes than others in the industry.

In our efforts to further reduce energy loss at our shops, we will be introducing an 'invisible door' call the Air Door in partnership with Wirth Research. This will prevent warm air being lost from our shops during colder temperatures and cold air being lost during warmer temperatures as customers enter and exit our shops. We will trial this technology from November this year.

I hope this helps to reassure the Committee that we are finding innovative ways to reduce our impact on the environment and make our shops as sustainable as we can.

Yours sincerely



Chris Harris  
Group Property & Development Director