

# Impact Report

Certified B

2024

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### Our mission

## Building brilliant sales and leadership teams

We believe everyone can sell themselves.

You might be an employee who wants to sell an inspirational vision to others.

You might be a business owner who needs to sell yourself to build the business of your dreams.

You might be a new employee who needs that one big chance to show the boss what you can do.

Whichever way, successful organisations are built around brilliant teams.

Inspirational leaders, motivational management and engaged employees is what creates the buzzing culture businesses thrive on.

Martin & Lynne. Co-founders



## Why did we become a B Corp?

#### A tricky question...

Sorry. There was no "hallelujah" moment.

When we came across B Corp it simply felt like it embodied our values about business.

We always believed that business needed to do more than just exploit resources and people.

And that business needs to respect the environment in a way that leaves the planet healthy.

Ultimately it's about more than just the money.

Add to this that the B Corp community is the most collaborative and supportive group you can wish to be a part of and we were sold.

B Corp isn't for everyone (the certification process is as tough as reported) but we're happy to share our experience and help everyone make their organisations more sustainable.

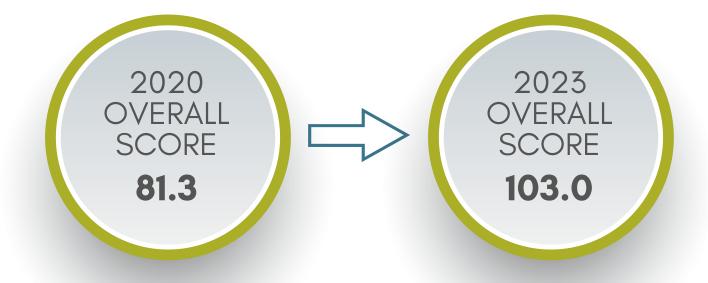




### We recertified as a B Corp in 2023

We've been a B Corp since 2020. B Corps are required to recertify every three years to ensure that they continue to meet the B Corp standards.

The recertification process guarantees that certified companies consistently uphold and continue working towards their benchmarks of social and environmental responsibility.



Amazingly, we improved our points "score" from 81.3 to 103.

### How is our score made up?

### **Community** Overall score: 56.5



### **Environment** Overall score: 15.9

### **Customers** Overall score: 12.5







## How we are doing against our goals

<b>SUPPLIER DIVERSITY</b> Over 25% of purchases from diverse-led businesses by 22/23	TARGET $25\%$	actual 89%
<b>LOCAL SUPPLIERS</b> Over 50% of non-labour expenses from suppliers local to HQ (50 miles)	target 50%	actual 100%
<b>CUSTOMER REPEAT RATES</b> Over 80% of clients buy more than once	target 80%	actual 100%
<b>SUPPORT NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS</b> Provide over 2.5% of founder time pro bono	TARGET $2.5\%$	actual 3.9%
<b>CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS</b> Donate minimum 1% of sales	target 1%	actual 1.3%
<b>RUN THE COMPANY NET ZERO</b> Maintained net zero since 2021	target 100%	
<b>GREEN ENERGY</b> 100% of electricity from renewable sources	target 100%	actual 100%
<b>RECYCLING AND LANDFILL</b> Maintain our commitment to zero landfill	target 100%	

## Case study: A happy customer is a returning customer

When we're working with clients we always recommend they find a key customer measure: One that shows their customer values them more highly than their competition.

In some industries you might be a nominated category partner, or maybe a preferred supplier.

For us that measure is client repeat rate.

Most of our work is project-based and nothing shouts satisfaction louder than a paying customer who chooses to come back.



#### OUR GOAL: OVER 80% OF CLIENTS BUY MORE THAN ONCE

In the three years to 2022/23 100% of our clients came back. Every one. So why isn't our target higher?

This is a measure that requires patience! Not all clients come back immediately. Sometimes we need to wait a year for them to return. Other projects might be known one-offs even before we start. 100% isn't always achievable.

What underpins this goal? We have a client promise: If you're unhappy we'll re-work it.

It's a promise that's never been needed and it's our aim to keep it that way. Returning clients are happy ones.

"ABSOLUTELY INVALUABLE KNOWLEDGE. TOTALLY WONDERFUL TEAM. DON'T MISS OUT!"

## Case study: Supporting our business community

Four years ago we met a man in IKEA. In Reading. He was the regional manager for the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) and IKEA had very kindly hosted a breakfast networking meeting prior to their store opening time.

When the pandemic hit we suggested to the FSB we could host an online networking meeting for business owners stuck at home. Wycombe Wednesdays was born.

We now meet on the second Wednesday of each month, for just an hour. Since those early days we've hosted around 500 local business owners and given speaker slots to over 20 experts, more than 80% of them women.

We have a lovely mix of people who come once and the returning regulars. All are given a warm welcome, learn something and have a giggle before getting on with their day. SOME SAID ONLINE NETWORKING WOULDN'T SURVIVE THE END OF LOCKDOWN.

But by keeping this event lively and punchy we've give people a reason to attend something that doesn't take up an entire morning.

This is one community that's thriving.

"FABULOUS GROUP! REALLY GLAD TO HAVE ATTENDED. ANOTHER EXCELLENT WYCOMBE WEDNESDAY!"



## Case Study: Maintaining emissions targets

We've been net zero for three years now but we're going to miss our emissions target in 2023/24.

That might sound surprising coming from a B Corp and we're very dedicated to making sure we're operating Sales: Untangled as sustainably as possible.

But we're facing an impossible dilemma.

Most leadership development and training events get better results when they're face to face.

Being face to face means more travel. Emissions increase.

It doesn't make any sense to accept worse results just because it reduces carbon consumption.

It's a reminder that greening your business might not run in a straight line. And you shouldn't beat yourself up when you're working hard to reduce your footprint **3** 

Yes, you can choose an electric car or take public transport. But it's not practical to take a bus to Berlin or Madrid. Organisations in all sectors face these questions day after day. Climate tech is still in its infancy so often the perfect answer doesn't yet exist.

#### OUR GOAL IS TO ENCOURAGE MORE PEOPLE TO ASK THESE AWKWARD QUESTIONS ABOUT THE INDUSTRIES THEY OPERATE IN.

If enough people ask the questions then smarter people than us will eventually come up with workable answers.



### What's next?

#### There's still work to do!

Being a B Corp is central to our belief that business is about people and planet as much as it's about profit.

There are 5.5m businesses in the UK. If every one made a small step towards operating sustainably just imagine the vast potential we can unlock.

Our sustainability mission is to build business communities, spread the word about the difference we can make together, and encourage others to take the first step.

If you've enjoyed reading this then remember to tell someone else!

#### Martin & Lynne







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