

CSR Report

2024 - 2025



About Us

Established over 50 years ago, in Wrexham, North Wales, the Platts Group remains a family owned and run group of companies.



The Platts Group is run by 2nd Generation MD Caroline Platt, and 3rd generation, Chris Whittaker, who joined the business in 2020.



Platts Agriculture Limited

Manufacturing and supplying sawdust and shavings products to farmers throughout the UK and Ireland.



Platts Transport Limited

A diverse fleet of commercial vehicles offering general haulage services Nationwide.



Platts Commercial Services

DVSA Approved HGV Garage & MOT Facility providing commercial vehicle support to our own fleet, and externally.

Our Mission

To manufacture and deliver exceptional animal bedding solutions for our clients through the creative blending of our customers needs, environmental stewardship, value creation, innovation and our people.



Our Values

As a company, our values underpin everything that we do.

Passion

Loyalty

Accountability

Trust

Transparency

Sustainability



Our Strategy

In order to achieve the world we all want - here's how we're committed to operating in a corporately sustainable way...



Growing our Platts People



Responsible Sourcing



Aiming for Net Zero



Supporting our Community



Reducing Emissions



Reducing Waste

Net Zero Goals

Platts are proud to be committed to reaching net zero. With dedicated resource, we have a robust strategy in place to enable us to transition to full decarbonisation.

Here are just some of the ways we've progressed so far:

- Reducing Waste
- Monitoring our Carbon Footprint
- Working towards SMART environmental objectives
- Demonstrating responsible manufacturing to stakeholders and suppliers

Since monitoring began,
we've reduced our
carbon footprint from
**419t CO₂e / million
turnover to 181t CO₂e**



Our Environment



Platts Pasture

In 2022, we first decided to leave our 'mound' of neatly mown grass at Platts HQ to grow as part of 'no mow May' and 3 years later, the parcel of land has now developed into a lovely wildflower meadow, providing a green space on our busy industrial estate.



Keep Wales Tidy

In 2023, Platts partnered with 'Keep Wales Tidy', to make Llay a litter free zone - the first in our area. Staff regularly take part in lunchtime litter picks, to keep our local community tidy.



Green Team

Our Green Team meet regularly to discuss how we can encourage staff to make a difference. Some positive changes driven by the team include improved recycling systems, reusable bottles, and milk deliveries.



Charity at Home

At Platts, we encourage our teams to consider their own impacts at home. We've hosted a charity clothes swap, enjoy a bring-and-share bookshelf, eco-secret Santa, and more.



Green Wrexham

In November 2023, Platts Group won the 'Green Wrexham' award, at the inaugural Wrexham Business & Community Awards, following another year of intentional work in this area.

Our Environment



This year, Platts launched our 'Drastic Plastic Action Plan' to tackle the global plastic pollution crisis and reduce its impact on both the environment and human health.



Platts' 'Digital Transformation' journey is underway, as we work towards becoming paperless!



Our local-first procurement policy is driving reinvestment in local businesses, supporting the local economy. Whenever possible, we source products from sustainable, local suppliers.



We've partnered with AMRC to explore energy reduction techniques.



Demonstrating quality

We hold these certifications, showing our commitment to quality and standard.





The road to sustainability...

Driver Behaviour Coaching



Drivers receive coaching to develop an efficient driving style. Across the fleet, MPG has improved 0.5mpg over the last 12 months.

Heavy Goods Vehicles



We replace our HGV's regularly, to benefit from new technology and improved efficiency features, like turbo-compound engines and eco-drive modes.

Reduced Fuel Usage



In 2024, our HGV fleet fuel consumption was 10.7% less vs previous year, with a focus on various ways to improve fuel efficiencies.

Employee Commute Efficiencies



With many employees living in the local area, carpooling, walking and cycling is encouraged!

Supplying Electric Vehicles



Since 2021, all new company vehicles, are fully electric to help our Team reduce their Carbon Footprint too.

Trialling Electric HGVs



Trialling of Electric HGVs is underway for local deliveries, with a view to understand how they can be permanently included in the fleet.

Shout About Farming

What is the aim of our campaign?

To showcase the impact UK farming has on the economy, increase awareness about agriculture, and foster increased interest and engagement within the industry and directly with consumers.

We've partnered with farmers, suppliers and universities to create videos addressing key issues and challenges within the industry, showcasing why it is so important to shout about farming.

The impact of our campaign so far...



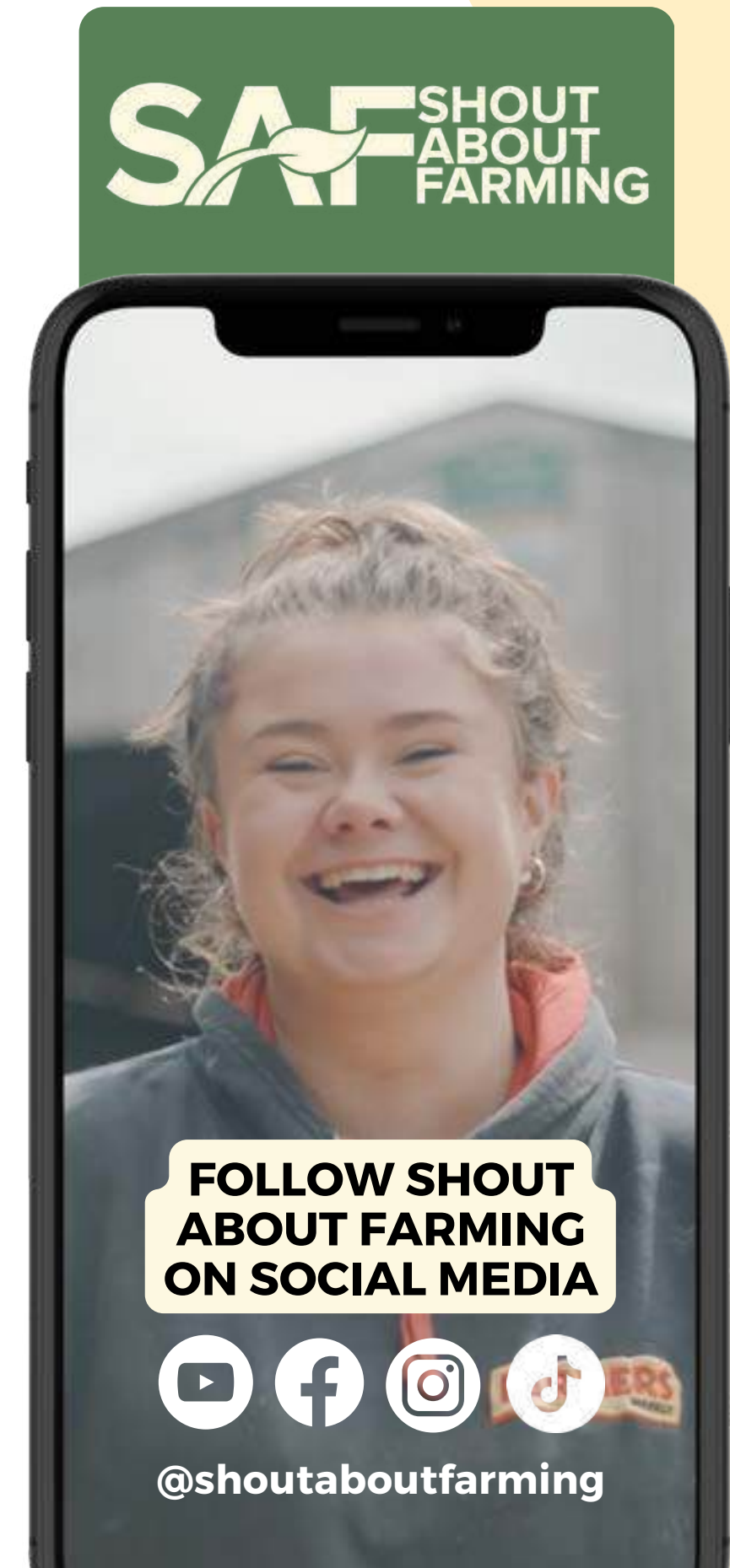
Over 30 different farmers, colleges & universities, charities and agri-suppliers featured in our videos



Over 1,190,400 views on our videos across all of our social platforms, including Instagram, YouTube and TikTok



More than 58,100 interactions, including likes, comments and shares, on our video content



Charity Partners

It's hugely important to us at Platts to give back where we can, so we regularly partner with local charities and charities supporting our industry.

Throughout 2024, we pledged to donate a percentage of every single bale sold to agricultural charity, The Farming Community Network. In addition to this, we created regular content to promote their important message and organised for them to provide mental health training to Platts staff.

Throughout the last 12 months, we've held regular events in aid of local charities, including Christmas Jumper Day and Pyjama Day, as well as supporting Platts People in their own fundraising challenges for various local causes, including JCB Toy Appeal, sponsored marathons, Strictly Nightingales and an Arctic Trek.

Platts Group is proud to offer every member of staff one paid day per year to support a registered charity of their choice.



Through paid CSR days alone, offered to all staff, we donate approx. **455 hours** to local charities each year

Community Engagement



Local Schools

We love to support the local schools and colleges. We've participated in Dragon's Den style events at local secondary schools, visited a junior school for their innovation and entrepreneur fair and had school visitors to site.



Future Generations

Wherever possible we strive to support the next generation of business leaders. We have proudly hosted a 'Gappie' from WeMindTheGap, worked closely with Careers Wales and have provided opportunities for apprentices in multiple departments.



Cub Scouts

As well as local schools, we're proud to support local young people in other ways too. We have recently invited groups of Cub Scouts to site to explore our fleet of vehicles, meet the team and learn about road safety.



Army Cadets

We will be working closely with the Army Cadet Charitable Trust UK (ACCT UK) as one of our charities of the year. ACCT UK make life-changing opportunities accessible to all young people through the Army Cadet Force and with our local Cadet detachments



VIP Visitors

We think it's vitally important to keep in touch with the local councils and governments and have had site visits from the local mayor, local AM and local MP as well as inviting members of the Welsh Government to visit us on site.

Leading By Example

Whilst continuing to support our community and our own staff, we're also working hard to support our local area, Wrexham, as well as North Wales as a whole.

With this in mind, our MD Caroline uses her positions as board member of the FSB, founding member and chairperson of the Wrexham Leadership Alliance and advisor on the panel for Future Generations Commissioner for Wales to ensure the future generations of business leaders are at the forefront of development in our area.



Platts People

Our vision is of vibrant, inclusive workplaces where we can all achieve our potential.
We're proud to champion better work and working lives for all at Platts.

61
staff employed
by Platts

15% of all staff
have been
with Platts
for 10 years
or more

Average length of
service at Platts is
5 years



The ages of Platts
People range from
23-76



Our workforce is predominantly local people...



Training & Development



We have worked closely with local education providers (Coleg Cambria & Wrexham University) to provide training to staff in Generative AI, Power BI, Next Gen Manufacturing and Strategic Leadership Training.



At Platts we offer a wide range of apprenticeship programmes. Our schemes offer the ability to learn on the job whilst earning a wage, and work towards a recognised qualification.



Platts have pledged to work closely with our Business Engagement Advisor and support local schools in partnership with Careers Wales, and our staff are able to share their own knowledge and experience with the next generation.

Success Stories

As a family run business, we care about our employees and their own personal progression. That's why we invest in our staff, to enable them to be the 'best they can be'.

Steve joined Platts in 2013 in the Accounts team on a college work placement. He worked with Platts to achieve his AAT qualification and is still a valued member of our team!



Steve - Accounts Assistant



Tom - Group Transport Manager

Tom joined Platts as a driver in 2021 and eventually progressed into his current role as Group Transport Manager, all whilst completing a Transport Manager CPC qualification.

Health & Wellbeing

At Platts, the wellbeing of staff is our number one priority. Every person employed by Platts is entitled to a £30 per month contribution towards something that supports their health and wellness.

Some examples of the things our staff claim for include:

- **Gym membership**
- **Massage**
- **Zoo membership**
- **Fitness classes**
- **Denplan**
- **Meditation**
- **Yoga**



Help & Advice

Wherever possible, Platts strive to provide important and useful health and advice to staff. This includes providing training or advice seminars with knowledgeable and trusted third parties.



Mental Health

We take mental health seriously at Platts, not just for our staff but for our customers and suppliers too. Staff from all departments have undergone mental health training delivered by The Farming Community Network. This training helped participants recognise the signs of poor mental health and how to sign post those struggling to the correct help.



Physical Health

Alongside mental health, we take the physical health of our staff seriously. As well as offering our staff a monthly health and wellbeing allowance, we are working alongside local partners and the NHS to deliver informational sessions to our staff across the next twelve months.



Financial Wellbeing

Financial security is a huge part of ensuring our staff are looking after their mental health. We're pleased to be able to work alongside local financial advisers to host seminars designed to offer advice on maintaining financial wellbeing, offering practical advice, including pension advice, and retirement planning.

Equality and Diversity

We are a Disability Confident employer. Disability Confident is a government initiative designed to encourage employers to be more inclusive by recruiting and retaining disabled people and those with health conditions.

The scheme helps identify Platts as an employer committed to equality in the workplace, for example, through an interview guarantee scheme.



Armed Forces Covenant

In March 2024, Platts signed the Armed Forces Covenant. The Covenant is a promise by organisations to ensure those who serve or who have served in the armed forces and their families are treated with fairness and respect.

Alongside the Covenant we were awarded the Ministry of Defence's Employer Recognition Scheme Bronze Award in December 2024. In 2025 we aim to upgrade to the Silver Award to enhance our work supporting the armed forces.



Award Winning...

We are incredibly proud of our team, without whom we wouldn't have been nominated for, and won, so many incredible awards and accolades.



Finalists -
Shipper of the Year

