

Origin Green Credits System

Verification Process &
Target Scoring Guide

2022



An initiative by

BORD BIA
IRISH FOOD BOARD



Background

In order to ensure a consistent methodology in the verification of Annual Reviews under the Origin Green credits system, Bord Bia's third-party verifiers have produced this guidance document.

The document also supports Origin Green members to understand how sustainability plans and target performance will or has been objectively scored in the event feedback is requested on awarded credits within a given year.



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1. Origin Green Membership Tiers

Existing and new Origin Green members are categorised via a tiered system which is based upon their annual revenue/turnover. For companies who are submitting their first Origin Green plan, this will be based on the revenue/turnover for the baseline year of the plan. For existing members, this will be based on the revenue/turnover of the reporting year of the Annual Review.

A company's membership tier is important for verification as it specifies the minimum targets required for inclusion in the sustainability plan. In turn, it is these targets which are scored within the Annual Review to determine credits awarded. It is possible that dependent on a company's growth or reduction in revenue/turnover, its membership tier may change between reporting years and hence the minimum number of targets that will be verified under the credits system will change. Occasionally, the Origin Green independent verifiers may seek evidence of a significant change in revenue, particularly where targets are being removed within a given year.

In a scenario where a company's revenue/turnover increases and the member in question moves to a higher membership tier, it must have implemented the additional target requirements in the next Annual Review. This will form part of the recommendations from the independent verifier. This ensures companies have a sufficient timeframe to scope out any new target(s). Where existing members move down a tier and have less minimum target requirements, they can decide whether the additional target is retained or removed as they deem fit. In this instance, only optional and not mandatory targets can be removed as per the target guidelines for each respective membership tier.

Should an existing member fall below the €100,000 Origin Green entry requirement, it will be no longer eligible for the programme. In these cases, companies will be redirected by Bord Bia towards alternative services which offer tailored supports for businesses of this size.

Table 1: Origin Green Verifier Sustainability Target Performance Scorecard

Membership Tiers	Revenue/Turnover	Minimum Targets Required
Tier 1	>€250m	8
Tier 2	>€50 – €250m	7
Tier 3	>€10 – €50m	6
Tier 4	>€1 – €10m	5
Tier 5	>€100,000 – €1m	4

Should an existing member fall below the €100,000 Origin Green entry requirement, it will be no longer eligible for the programme. In these cases, companies will be redirected by Bord Bia towards alternative services which offer tailored supports for businesses of this size.

1. Origin Green Membership Tiers

1.1 Increased / Decreased Revenue

Company A – Increased Revenue Example

In 2021, Company A's revenue/turnover is €9 million, designating it as a Tier 4 member. As shown in Table 1 previously, this requires the company to have a minimum number of five sustainability targets scored in its Origin Green Annual Review.

In 2022, the revenue/turnover of the company has increased to €11 million, designating it as a Tier 3 member, requiring a minimum number of six targets within the annual review. In 2022, the verifiers will still consider the company as a Tier 4 company and score the minimum number of five targets. Should the member attain a sufficient number of credits to achieve verification, the independent verifiers summary assessment report will include a key recommendation that the company must make provisions to add the sixth target in the next Annual Review in 2023. This will give Company A time to scope out and add a robust new target.

In 2023, the company will be scored on the minimum six targets required. If the additional target is presented as a SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, & Time-bound) target with clear timelines and initiatives for implementation, the member will receive a Satisfactory/Pass grading and will be awarded 2 credits as outlined in Section 3 of this document. As the member will not have been able to demonstrate progress on this newly introduced target, the satisfactory/pass grading will be awarded to ensure that the member is not at any sort of disadvantage.

Company B – Decreased Revenue Example

In 2021, Company B's revenue/turnover is €11 million designating it as a Tier 3 member requiring a minimum number of six targets scored in its Origin Green 2020 Annual Review.

In 2022, Company B's revenue/turnover has reduced to €9 million designating it as a Tier 4 member requiring a minimum number of five targets within the 2021 Annual Review.

In 2022, the verification process will score the minimum five targets based on the requirements for a Tier 4 member. In this scenario, members can review the Tier Guidance document provided by Bord Bia to determine which targets are mandatory requirements for a Tier 4 company and drop an optional target(s) as they deem fit. If a company wishes to retain the additional target(s), it will not be actively discouraged from doing so but credits will only be awarded for five targets, made up of any mandatory targets for this Tier and the highest performing optional target(s). Retaining optional targets however may give the company a better opportunity of achieving a higher overall credits score.



2. Origin Green Verifier Sustainability Target Performance Scorecard

The Table below summarises how Origin Green sustainability targets are scored by the programme's independent verifiers.

Sustainability Target Performance	Credits Awarded	Target Grading
Target not attempted (no legitimate effort made to achieve target with no viable evidence of progress).	0	Fail
Target not achieved with a poor attempt made and little evidence of progress.	1	Unsatisfactory
Target may or may not have been achieved but a reasonable and clear effort has been made with clear supporting evidence.	2	Satisfactory / Pass
Target achieved with evidence the company has surpassed expectations.	3	Exemplary

In order to determine the credits awarded (between zero to three) to a target, the verifiers use the above performance description to differentiate between the scores.

These scores are further explained below given the range of scenarios that may relate to a specific target. The examples as outlined are not exhaustive but reflective of the most common scenarios arising each year for the Origin Green independent verifiers. Origin Green members can avoid any pitfalls as described above by striving to implement sustainability targets year-on-year to the best of their ability.

2.1 Exemplary Target Performance

In order for a milestone target to be scored exemplary, it must be deemed to be ambitious. Additional commentary on what is considered to be an ambitious target is outlined in section 3.5 of this guide.

Sustainability Target Performance	Credits Awarded	Target Grading
Target achieved with evidence the company has surpassed expectations.	3	Exemplary

Exemplary Target Grading – Further Guidance

Scenario 1: A milestone numerical target has been achieved and all of the planned initiatives within the reporting year have been completed. By achieving the milestone target and all the planned initiatives in a given reporting year, this demonstrates robust plan governance and is recognised as exemplary. Note maintenance targets are not considered eligible for exemplary scoring (see section 3.5 for further details).

Example: The 2020 milestone target of 5% reduced packaging use per kgs/tonne product has been met and both initiatives planned in the reporting year (trial lighter cardboard box and implement for all product lines) have been completed in the reporting year.

Scenario 2: A member does not complete all the planned initiatives but surpasses the projected target performance in a reporting year by 5% or greater.

Example: The member targets a reduction in electricity used to produce one tonne of product. A 2020 milestone target for electricity is set for 100kWh electricity per tonne of product produced and the member achieves 88kWh/tonne of product produced demonstrating it has surpassed the milestone target by 12%. While all the planned initiatives may not have been completed, as this performance improvement surpasses the targeted performance by greater than 10%, this is recognised as exemplary.

2. Origin Green Verifier Sustainability Target Performance Scorecard contd.

2.2 Satisfactory / Pass Target Performance

Sustainability Target Performance	Credits Awarded	Target Grading
Target may or may not have been achieved but a reasonable and clear effort has been made with clear supporting evidence.	2	Satisfactory / Pass
Satisfactory / Pass Target Grading – Further Guidance		
<p>Scenario 1: A milestone target has not been achieved but the majority of the planned initiatives within the reporting year have been completed. In this instance, the planned improvements may have been overambitious or the projected improvements over-calculated by the member.</p>		
<p>Scenario 2: A milestone target and/or planned initiatives have not been achieved but normalised performance in the reporting year was better than the previous reporting year. This improved performance may have been as a result of other unreported or unplanned initiatives and efforts by the member.</p>		
<p>Scenario 3: A member adopts a target to maintain their current performance. If improvement is not being demonstrated but performance maintained, the target will only be scored as satisfactory. Exceptions are noted in Section 3.5.</p>		
<p>Scenario 4: A milestone target has been exceeded by more than 10% (which would usually be considered exemplary) however the Member's target performance in the reporting year has worsened for the second consecutive year compared to the previous reporting years. This continued exceedance of the target whilst worsening of performance would suggest the milestone target requires updating.</p>		
<p>Scenario 5: The milestone target has not been achieved but has been clearly explained by the member to be due to reasons unplanned and/or out of the member's control. Examples could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Significant change in planned production output which impacts performance. This could include more energy intensive product mix (smaller batches of wider range of products), a product that requires more water-based cleaning/cooking, new product development that created higher than expected waste, on-site building or repair works, etc. - Customer specification, such as unplanned changes requested by a customer e.g. more packaging on the finished product, additional cleaning or wash down, cancellation of customer order or returned product that creates waste etc. - Reduced absolute production output - When production output reduces compared to planned production and/or compared to the previous year, the normalised performance of the member's targets can be negatively impacted given there is still a requirement to use energy, water etc. - External weather impacts - Abnormally hot or cold periods throughout the year can result in increases in energy to cool/heat buildings and product, impact production output (availability of raw materials), cause stock damage (spoiled stock) creating waste, require additional water for cooling/heating, potentially cause increase in likelihood of nuisance etc. - Environmental impacts - Impacts to the raw materials due to environmental conditions requiring more resource and energy to process into finished products etc. - Significant change to resources, such as the impact caused by changes to key human, financial or technological resources related to the target. 		

2. Origin Green Verifier Sustainability Target Performance Scorecard contd.

2.3 Unsatisfactory Target Performance

Sustainability Target Performance	Credits Awarded	Target Grading
Target not achieved with a poor attempt made and little evidence of progress.	1	Unsatisfactory
Unsatisfactory Target Grading – Further Guidance		
Scenario 1: The milestone target was missed by more than 50% and the performance was not improved on the previous year with little explanation surrounding the root cause as to why the target was missed so significantly.		
Scenario 2: The milestone target was missed by more than 50% and no single planned initiative was completed in full.		
Scenario 3: The milestone target was missed by more than 50% and evidence of progress is only in the form of internal testimonial i.e. lacking in physical/observable evidence (e.g. photos demonstrating qualitative data, technical drawings/design etc.) and/or documentation evidence (e.g. quantitative data, records such as invoices or stakeholder emails/letters etc.).		
Scenario 4: The target is not SMART and therefore not structured in a way to demonstrate good target governance and measureable impact.		
Scenario 5: The target is not considered to be specific to an Origin Green target area and therefore does not fulfil the intention of the programme target area. For example, the packaging target covers incoming packaging waste whereas it should focus on product primary, secondary or tertiary packaging.		

2.4 Fail Target Performance

Sustainability Target Performance	Credits Awarded	Target Grading
Target not attempted (no legitimate effort made to achieve target with no viable evidence of progress).	0	Fail
Fail Target Grading – Further Guidance		
Scenario 1: The milestone target was missed by more than 100%, the member provided no justification as to why nor what it intends to do in the following year to rectify performance.		
Scenario 2: In the event a member does not provide a status update on a target included in the scoring of credits awarded, it will be requested to do so by the verifier. In the event the requested update is not provided in a timely and appropriate level of detail, the target will be recorded as a 'fail'.		
Scenario 3: A target was removed from the plan with no justification provided by the member.		
Scenario 4: An environmental pollution incident raised and/or identified by a regulatory body resulting from the target area in question. E.g. fly-tipping of waste into the local environment, discharge of wastewater resulting in pollution to a local water body etc., with clear evidence of the offence and with little to no action taken by the member to remedy the issue. This may also relate to incidents observed by the verifiers during a site visit. In such scenarios, each incident will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.		

For the scoring guidance above, the examples as outlined are not exhaustive but reflective of the most common scenarios arising each year for the Origin Green verifiers. Origin Green members can avoid any pitfalls as described above by striving to implement & achieve sustainability targets year-on-year to the best of their ability.

2. Origin Green Verifier Sustainability Target Performance Scorecard contd.

2022 Updates

2.5 Deduction of Credits

While a member may fail a target area outright due to severe incidents as outlined in Section 2.4 previously, where it is identified that a member has been responsible for persistent damage to the environment over a period of time and/or failed to act upon a course of action as recommended by the independent verifiers, the member in question may be deducted one credit from their overall credits score. While in severe cases companies may have their overall membership of Origin Green downgraded, persistent and ongoing incidences where a member has made little effort to remedy the situation may result in a credits deduction. Members may be deducted up to one credit per incident up to a **max of two credits annually** from their overall credits score.

In addition, where members set optional targets to meet the overall target requirements for their membership tier, should they fail the optional target area for two consecutive years, it may also be given a minus one credit score for failing to act upon the recommendations of the independent verifier. This will only be relevant for optional target areas as a member will be unable to achieve verification for failing a mandatory target. Furthermore, this will only apply to optional targets which are counted towards a member's overall score, hence companies will not be penalised for setting additional targets. Overall, this will be at the discretion of the independent verifiers and will only be utilised if absolutely necessary. Should members be deducted a credit from their overall score, they will have the right to appeal this decision as appropriate and each appeal will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

2.6 Materiality Assessment

As part of the ongoing continual improvement of the Origin Green programme, a new excel based materiality assessment template has now been launched by Bord Bia. For new Origin Green applicants, the **completion of the materiality assessment is now a programme requirement**. Existing members must also complete the materiality assessment at the beginning of each new plan period. By completing the materiality assessment in conjunction with engaging key stakeholders on their main priorities, this should offer a significant insight into the most appropriate areas where targets should be set. From February 2022, eligible companies must complete the assessment as outlined above, with support, training and guidance readily available from the Origin Green team. Where a company has already completed this exercise independently of Bord Bia, it will not be required to undertake this task again but may be asked to provide proof of completion by the independent verifier.

The Origin Green independent verifiers will also review the materiality assessment during the verification audit, alongside a company's overall sustainability plan. **Completing the materiality assessment for Origin Green annual reviews is not a requirement**, however where members are not performing well throughout a plan period or significantly overachieving in their targets, they may be asked to re-complete the materiality assessment in order to recalibrate their overall sustainability plan.



2. Origin Green Verifier Sustainability Target Performance Scorecard contd.

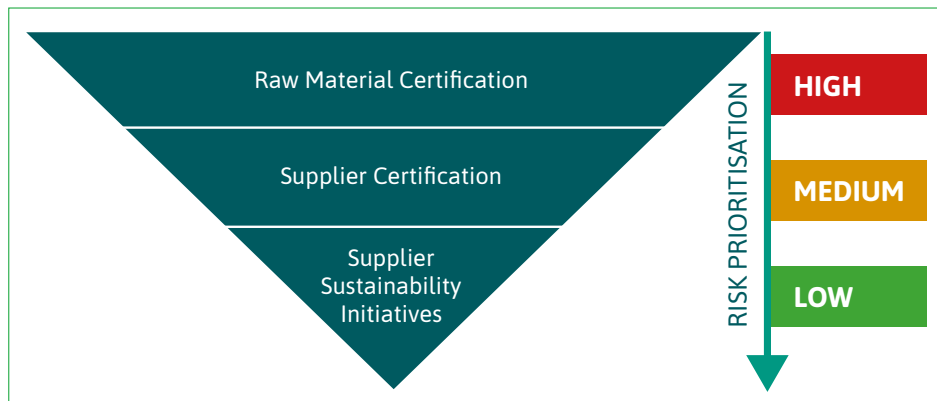
2022 Updates contd.

2.7 Raw Materials & Suppliers: New Target Hierarchy

For 2022 reporting, Bord Bia has readjusted the existing Origin Green Targets Grid across all five membership tiers and simplified the previous Raw Materials Sourcing target area. This area has now been renamed 'Raw Materials and Suppliers' and will now adopt a risk based approach to this complex area. The hierarchy in the diagram below should now be used by members when developing targets.

Members will now be required, as is best practice, to first focus on their raw materials to ensure appropriate sustainability certifications are in place around procured produce and ingredients. As a member matures in this area, it will then move down the hierarchy to focus on the certifications of the suppliers themselves and will ultimately be encouraged, where feasible, to work directly with suppliers on sustainability initiatives. This new approach will ensure members are tackling the most at risk area of their supply chains from the outset while overall driving continuous improvement. Where a member has an already established supplier certification target, Bord Bia highly recommend that this target remains in the plan, and a second Raw Material Certification target is developed. This will significantly improve the likelihood of achieving a maximum credit score in this target area.

Raw Materials & Suppliers Target Hierarchy



2.8 Mandatory Emissions Reporting

As was notified at the beginning of 2021, Origin Green members at the Tier 1 and 2 levels (turnover >€50 million) annually, are now required to set a mandatory emissions target. Training will commence for these members in February 2022 and will be delivered by leading experts in this area. The Origin Green support team will also be on hand to guide members through these new requirements as outlined below.

Origin Green Emissions Target Area Requirements 2022 – Tier 1 & 2 Members

- As previously outlined by Bord Bia, an emissions target must be submitted in 2022 in tandem with the 2021 annual review.
- Members can use the Origin Green carbon calculator tool (or equivalent) to convert Scope 1, 2 and 3 based emissions to CO₂ equivalent (CO₂e). Origin Green mentors are on hand to offer support and guidance with this task.
- Where Tier 2 members are having technical difficulties formulating a comprehensive baseline for Scope 3 emissions reporting, and provide suitable justification, they may be given an opportunity to define their scope 3 boundary throughout 2022 to be submitted in 2023. This will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. In such instances, members struggling in this area may be redirected for additional training and support.
- Due to the complexities involved in calculating Scope 3 emissions, members will be required to refresh and update these figures on a bi-annual basis.

2.9 Unsatisfactory Target Score and Gold Membership

From 2022, Origin Green members cannot score unsatisfactory in a target area and still achieve Gold Membership. This will only apply if the target area in question is counted in the overall credits score, hence members will not be penalised for setting additional optional targets.

2. Origin Green Verifier Sustainability Target Performance Scorecard contd.

2.10 Target Ambition & Category Specific Considerations

Consideration	Raw Materials and Suppliers	Manufacturing Processes (inc. Biodiversity)	Social Sustainability
Considering Ambition of Milestone Targets when Assigning an Exemplary Score	The focus of ambitious sourcing targets must be on the primary raw material utilised by the company. For example, where meat or eggs is the primary raw material, a sourcing target(s) should initially focus on these areas rather than focusing on alternative raw materials that are used to a lesser extent.	For % improvements less than 2% per annum, justification must be provided to explain why this remains an ambitious target in the context of the member's performance e.g. outlining the level of effort involved clearly.	If the target in this area does not follow a SMART format and demonstrates an uncertain, unquantifiable or ineffective impact and/or benefit, then it cannot be scored as exemplary.
	Where a multitude of ingredients are sourced, the top ingredients by volume should be assessed in conjunction with a member's Origin Green mentor to evaluate overall risk and the impact from a reputational perspective e.g. palm oil. As the risk becomes increasingly managed over time, other ingredients should be prioritised whilst maintaining any positive gains made.	Absolute targets (i.e. those not normalised against an influencing factor such as production output) will not be eligible for exemplary scoring unless clearly justified.	If the target does not follow a SMART format but does demonstrate a valuable and effective outcome then a '3' can be awarded but the member will be requested to restructure to a SMART target in the subsequent update.
	Where members are sourcing from a Bord Bia Sustainable or Quality Assurance Scheme (or an equivalent certification), targets should at a minimum correspond to the level of national coverage of such schemes and where feasible, going beyond this would be considered ambitious.		

2. Origin Green Verifier Sustainability Target Performance Scorecard contd.

2.11 Target Ambition & Category Specific Considerations contd.

Consideration	Raw Materials and Suppliers	Manufacturing Processes (inc. Biodiversity)	Social Sustainability
Considering a Maintenance Target When Assigning an Exemplary Score	A maintenance target is acceptable for a '3' or exemplary score for up to 2 years of reporting where the member demonstrates a significant level of effort in maintaining this level of performance. After 2 years, the member is expected to then focus on additional raw materials or supplier sustainability initiatives as per the hierarchy outlined in Section 2.7 of this document.	Manufacturing maintenance targets are broadly discouraged as they do not demonstrate continual improvement, and are therefore generally ineligible for exemplary scoring.	Social sustainability maintenance targets are broadly discouraged as they do not demonstrate continual improvement, and are therefore generally ineligible for exemplary scoring.
	If the maintenance sourcing target relates to a Bord Bia Sustainable or Quality Assurance Scheme (or an equivalent certification), it is expected the company will permanently retain this target within their plan but will require an additional or supplementary raw material target after 2 years and perform adequately to achieve a '3' score.	If a member can clearly demonstrate it is unable to improve beyond its current best practice level of performance , the independent verifiers will take into account supplementary initiatives which contribute to maintaining this high level of performance year-on-year.	Where a maintenance target is set, justification needs to be provided to explain why this remains an ambitious target in the context of the member's performance e.g. outlining the level of effort involved clearly.
Category Specific Considerations	Sustainability certification targets must relate to sustainability and not food safety or quality standards. For instance, BRC cannot be accepted as a supplier sustainability certification.	Carbon offsetting and 'green' renewable energy tariff related initiatives alone cannot be scored exemplary. These initiatives are acceptable for inclusion as part of a broad emissions reduction strategy but energy efficiency and consumption reduction is the priority.	If the member feels it is impractical or it cannot develop a product-related Health & Nutrition target, it must justify why and choose an additional alternative Social Sustainability target.
	Solely focusing upon low risk raw materials that represent a minuscule proportion of overall volume while in tandem neglecting a more significant ingredient will be deemed unsatisfactory and merit a '1' score.	Biodiversity targets need to follow a SMART format to be eligible for an exemplary or '3' score. From 2022, outsourcing members that set robust biodiversity targets will now be eligible for scoring.	Where charitable donations are made, the verifier will assess the level of engagement and overall staff involvement in the scoring of the target e.g. staff fundraisers, company events, etc. If this is not evident, an exemplary score will not be awarded.
	Measuring the number of suppliers with sustainability certifications without driving any meaningful performance improvement will merit no higher than a '2' score. Where possible, targets should consider the percentage volume of primary raw materials coming from suppliers with sustainability certifications, as opposed to the absolute number of certified suppliers. See section 2.7 of this document for further detail.	Where members set sub-targets in areas such as gas, electricity, diesel usage etc., this is not discouraged but they will be scored on their overall performance in the energy/emissions target area. Further clarification on this consideration is outlined in Section 5 of this document.	

3. Scoring System

Companies participating in Origin Green will have their sustainability plans scored based on the following formula:

$$\text{(Minimum Target Requirements per Tier) x (Auditor Target Performance Score)}$$

As well as the minimum number of Origin Green credits required for a participating company to retain membership, the following conditions also apply:

- Each tier's mandatory targets + highest scoring remaining optional targets are accrued to reach the minimum number of targets required. This contributes to a company's overall sustainability credits score each year.
- Companies must achieve a Satisfactory/Pass grading for all mandatory targets as outlined for their tier. Where this has not been achieved, the member may have membership downgraded or alternatively, it may be given a conditional approval to resolve the issue in question or restructure to a more appropriate target(s). See Section 4.1 for further details.
- Companies are allowed to fail one optional target annually if the remaining targets give them a score which reaches the minimum credits threshold set for their tier. This is not permitted for the same target area for two consecutive years and may result in the company being deducted one credit for the target area in question, as outlined in Section 2.5 of this document.
- Members will be ineligible for Origin Green Gold Membership after the fixed annual deadline date for entry. This deadline will always correspond to the date on a member's current Origin Green certificate.
- Members that outsource production cannot access Origin Green Gold Membership as they cannot set targets in the three mandatory target areas. Where a member feels it has been scored incorrectly, it will be entitled to one official recheck within a given year for the particular target area(s) in question. Companies must complete the accompanying template before it is sent to the independent verifier.

If an Origin Green member has demonstrated an insufficient level of ongoing progress against the sustainability targets set and/or breached legislative or regulatory requirements, the programme verifiers will recommend whether the company should have its **membership downgraded** or alternatively, recommend a **conditional approval**.

3.1 Conditional Approval

If an Origin Green member scores below the minimum credits required for its tier within a given year, remedial measures must be put in place and approved by the programme verifiers before a company can regain its membership status. In this scenario, corrective action(s) is outlined with a clear timeline for implementation. This progress is then subsequently assessed via a dedicated follow-up or close-out procedure to determine whether the member in question has implemented the requested action. Progress is also assessed in the subsequent annual review or via a spot audit on-site where necessary. The process above may also be repeated where a member has been found to have breached legislative or regulatory requirements.

3.2 Downgrading Membership

Each year, companies that fail to meet the minimum standards required for Origin Green verification have their membership of the programme downgraded. This may include instances where a member has made a poor attempt to implement sustainability targets and hence did not attain a sufficient number of Origin Green credits; failed to adequately address corrective actions attached to a conditional approval; irrevocably breached national legislative or regulatory requirements; or finally, did not submit an Origin Green annual review in a given year by the agreed final deadline date.

In instances such as the above where membership is downgraded, companies will receive correspondence outlining the rationale for this decision and the necessary corrective actions will be made clear. The member is also informed that it must immediately cease all usage of the Origin Green logo, along with any associated promotional material being used.

In the event where insufficient credits are earned, companies can regain Origin Green membership by striving to meet the necessary credits required. Ongoing support and mentorship is provided by programme partners in this regard to ensure minimum requirements are met on a consistent basis.

Please note that this criteria (and the other criteria contained in this document) is subject to change. All Origin Green members will be notified of any changes prior to implementation.

4. Selecting From Multiple Targets Under One Category

In certain cases, an Origin Green member may have more than one target within a mandatory target area. As an example, under the mandatory energy/emissions target, a member may choose to include both an electricity reduction target and a natural gas reduction target in their sustainability plan, both of which are reported on in the subsequent Annual Review.

In such a scenario, the verifier will score both targets and select the average of the two scores. A score of 1 credit for the electricity reduction target and a score of 3 credits for the gas reduction target would result in an average score of 2 for the mandatory energy/emissions target category. This would reflect a satisfactory/pass grading overall for this area. In the event where two scores average out as a half score, the verifiers will round up the average in all cases.



The exception to this averaging of scores is where a '1' has been awarded to any one of the multiple targets, an overall score of '3' is not permitted.

Where several targets under one category area have clearly unequal significance for the overall performance, the one target with the largest impact will be used as the score for the whole target.

For Tier 1 & Tier 2 member companies in particular, they are now required to set an overall emissions target, hence the various sub-targets around electricity usage, gas, etc. will be accumulated and should be converted to carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) to assess overall performance.

The examples outlined below display how this would be scored by the verifier when such cases arise:

Example A

Sustainability Target	Credits Awarded	Average Score for Mandatory Target
Electricity target not achieved with a poor attempt made and little evidence of progress.	1	2
Gas reduction target achieved with evidence the company has surpassed expectations.	3	

Example B

Sustainability Target	Credits Awarded	Average Score for Mandatory Target
Recycling target may or may not have been achieved but a reasonable and clear effort has been made with clear supporting evidence.	2	3
General waste target achieved with evidence the company has surpassed expectations.	3	

5. Adding Removing or Changing Mandatory Targets in a Reporting Year

It is common for an Origin Green member to add, remove and/or change a target within the company's sustainability plan over its lifetime. This can be due to a number of internal and/or external drivers such as making an ambitious or conservative target more in line with projected business performance, a changing marketplace or customer requirements. Where a mandatory target is replaced with another mandatory target, this is acceptable under the following conditions:

- **Removing a mandatory target** - Where a mandatory target was progressed for at least 6 months of the reporting year, the performance of the target up to the point it was changed is included within the Annual Review report. In addition, the replacement target, and its justification for the inclusion/change, must be explained.
- **Adding a new mandatory target** - Where the new target has been progressed for at least 6 months of the reporting year, this new target performance and associated initiatives are reported within the annual review.
- Where **changing a mandatory target** occurs such as the quantitative improvement (% reduction etc.), detailed justification must be provided for this change, as well as updated projections for the remainder of the sustainability plan lifetime where applicable.
- Where **initiatives are changed within a target** and where the target overall remains the same, the member must provide a justification why this new initiative(s) has been included.





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