

# LAURA ASHLEY

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT 2008





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## **1. BOARD STATEMENT**

This is Laura Ashley's seventh annual environmental report. Each report covers our environmental performance for the previous calendar year with data relating to the principal environmental aspects common to all business units in United Kingdom and Ireland.

The body of this report contains further information about activities in each Division of the business.

### **EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW**

From the Board's perspective, the following are the most notable points:

- Once again, we maintained our excellent record of pollution prevention and compliance with environmental legislation
- We remained listed in the FTSE4Good index
- We continued to make good progress towards achieving our targets and milestones set for 2008 (average score of 79.8% compared with 70% last year)
- We doubled our recycling rate to 41% as compared with 20% last year due to extension of good practice into all divisions
- The fuel efficiency of our distribution services improved by a further 1% from 11.36 miles per gallon to 11.47 miles per gallon of fuel
- We introduced low-emission vehicles into our company car fleet
- We reduced our water consumption by 85% and our energy use in manufacturing by 50% in total in the last 5 years following changes to processes and product offerings.
- Our energy consumption increased by 7% over last year due to our aggressive store opening programme

Our future plans for 2009 are set out in Section 6.

Lillian Tan  
Chief Executive Officer