

Gender pay report 2017

Opus Energy



Introduction



Our gender pay gap figures are not good enough. We need to build a more diverse and inclusive environment across Drax Group where colleagues are able to realise their potential and be supported to be at their best.

A commitment to diversity is fundamental to achieving our strategic goals and delivering our purpose: helping to change the way energy is generated, supplied and used for a better future. Looking at gender pay is an important part of this.

Without doubt, the energy sector as a whole must do more to attract, engage and progress women. I am going to take the lead and change the way we do things at Drax Group

This report is for Opus Energy, a retail energy company supplying electricity and gas to largely small businesses. Opus Energy also has partnerships with over 2,300 independent UK renewable energy generators, providing a market for excess power from energy sources such as wind, solar, hydro and anaerobic digestion.

We have over 900 employees in offices across Northampton, Cardiff and Oxford, providing service to 315,000 business site customers. Opus Energy has a good record of welcoming and supporting diversity, including gender. Our mean and median gender pay gap is 11.9% and 3.6% respectively – below the national average. We are far from being complacent and recognise we have more to do, with more men than women in senior and higher paying roles.

to ensure we are an employer of choice for women, and all people, who see their future in energy. That is why I am making it our aim to have, by the end of 2020, 40% of roles in our senior leadership across Drax Group held by women.

I welcome the UK government's new legislation requiring businesses with more than 250 employees to publish their gender pay gap year on year, supporting our commitment to a Drax Group culture that is transparent and supportive of all.

Will Gardiner
Chief Executive Officer
Drax Group

We know that diverse businesses are more successful, and that it is essential we continue to welcome people from a diverse range of backgrounds to our business. We will continue to work with companies in our sector, local schools and universities and within Opus Energy, to ensure that we are providing the inspiration, encouragement, training and development, and support to attract, engage and progress women and people from diverse backgrounds throughout all levels of our business.

Jonathan Kini
Chief Executive
Drax Retail



We confirm that the information provided is accurate and in line with mandatory requirements.

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Will Gardiner'.

Will Gardiner
Chief Executive Officer
Drax Group

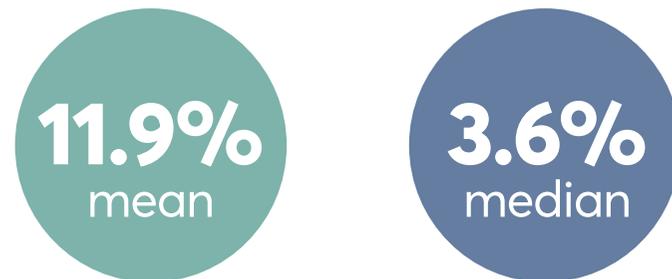
A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Kini'.

Jonathan Kini
Chief Executive
Drax Retail

The figures at a glance

The figures below show Opus Energy overall median and mean gender pay data based on hourly rates of pay as at the snapshot date of 5 April 2017. On the following pages, we also show median and mean bonus pay data for bonuses paid in the year up to 5 April, plus some additional detail to explain our pay data and how we are addressing it.

What is the difference in average hourly pay for men versus women at Opus Energy?



How does this compare with the national picture?

The Office for National Statistics* has calculated an overall UK Gender Pay Gap of



What is the gender pay gap?

The gender pay gap is the difference between the average earnings of men and women across an organisation. The gender pay gap is not the same as equal pay. Equal pay relates to men and women being paid equally for equal work.

What is the difference between mean and median?

The mean and median are two ways of calculating the average hourly pay and average bonus of men and women at Opus Energy.

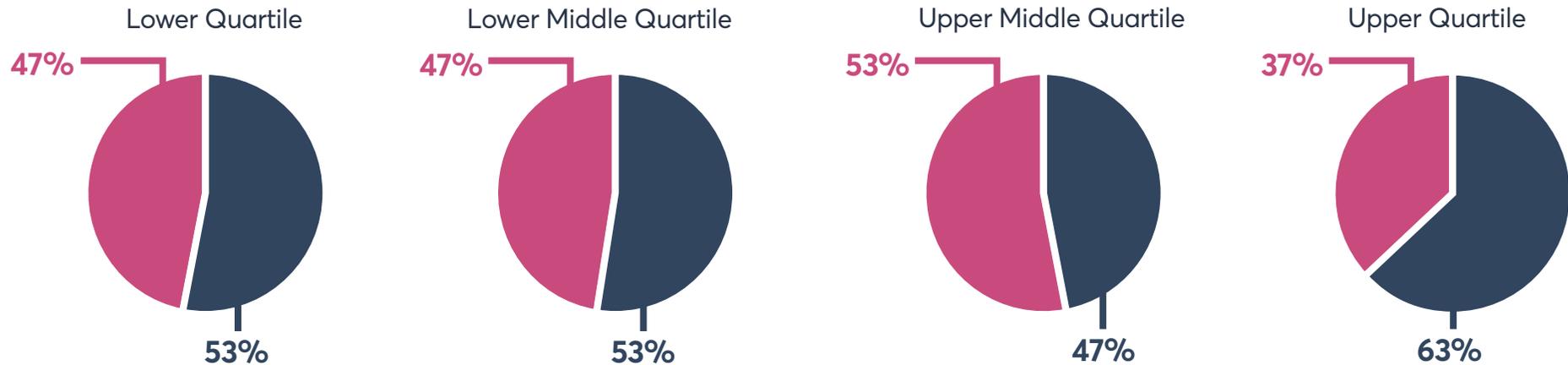
If we created two lines, one with all the women in Opus Energy and the other of all the men,

- the median is at exactly the half way point on each of the lines
- the mean is adding up all the data separately for the women and the men and dividing by the number of people in the line.

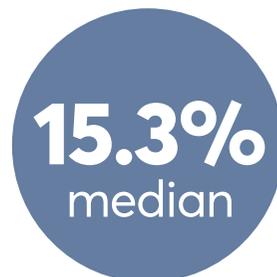
*ONS Guide to the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) gender pay gap tables, published October 2017

The figures at a glance

The proportion of women and men in each pay quartile



Gender bonus pay gap at Opus Energy



What proportion of colleagues received bonus pay?



● Female ● Male

Understanding Opus Energy's gender pay data

Our analysis has given us a greater understanding of the factors affecting the gender pay gap at Opus Energy. By gaining this understanding we can put in place a plan to address the gap.

Our data for Opus Energy shows that there is a difference of 11.9% in the mean (average) hourly pay of men and women and 3.6% of the median. This is the difference in the average pay of all men and women, regardless of the nature of their work, across all of those employed by Opus Energy.

The mean and median bonus payment difference between men and women were 11.3% and 15.3% respectively.

What are the reasons for this?

Fewer women working in technology and analytical roles

At Opus Energy we specialise in supporting our SME customers with the latest industry advancements, rolling out smart meter infrastructure and a full digital programme using information technology and data analytics. Across the UK there are fewer girls and women pursuing roles requiring science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM subjects). Opus Energy is competing with other companies for talented women to fill these roles.

Women hold fewer senior positions or higher paid roles

The single biggest contributing factor to the gender pay gap at Opus Energy is that we have fewer women in senior positions and higher paid roles.

We see this as a talent gap at senior levels, and in some of our specialist technical roles, and something we can work positively to address.

Why is the bonus gender pay gap different?

The lower bonus pay for women is because there are fewer women in senior and higher paid roles which attract higher bonus payments.

Taking action: steps to improve gender diversity at Opus Energy

We are committed to building a more diverse and inclusive environment.

We have set ourselves a clear target to increase our female representation in senior leadership across the Drax Group and plan to build a truly diverse and inclusive business both within Opus Energy and across the Group.

By the end of 2020:

We aim to have 40% of roles in our senior leadership (Executive Committee and levels 1-3) across the Drax Group held by women.

We will track and monitor progress on a six monthly basis. Currently, 28% of these roles are held by women.

To achieve this we will focus on the following areas and actions:

Engage

Policies and procedures.

Continue to ensure that the decision-making processes relating to performance reviews, pay reviews and bonus payments are fair and have no unintended or unconscious bias. We will also review our family policies to ensure they are market competitive.

Promote a flexible working culture that encourages diverse participation.

Mentoring and coaching.

Developing more formally our mentoring and coaching, to foster diverse talent, supporting progression and promotion.

Tackling bias. We will educate all our managers to recognise and understand unconscious bias.

Internal networks and forums. Involve colleagues in developing and implementing our action plans – helping us identify what will work best.

Progress

Career development.

Develop our career pathways and investment in managers' skills, enabling them to have robust, honest and meaningful career conversations focussed on both personal and professional development.

Personal development.

Building on the work we have started, ensuring that all colleagues have access to the relevant skills and personal development to have an equal opportunity to progress.

Talent management.

Producing a pipeline of talent with the diversity of perspectives necessary to deal with the complex challenges our business is facing now and in the future.

Taking action: steps to improve gender diversity at Opus Energy

Attract

Inspiring and supporting diversity in our business and industry

by encouraging the study of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) and digital disciplines in under-represented groups at schools and universities, and championing the pursuit of careers in engineering, digital and mathematical subjects that are key to our business.

Apprentices and graduates. Promote the recruitment of a diverse intake of apprentices and graduates.

External groups, networks and events.

Be an active member of groups promoting diversity and inclusion, including POWERful Women, and expand our membership of other relevant groups such as Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) and Women, in Technology. Actively support events such as International Women's Day and Women in Engineering.

2018 Actions

'Count me in' diversity and inclusion forums involving colleagues in identifying the best ways to encourage more diversity and greater inclusion.

Unconscious bias training for all managers to understand the role unconscious bias has on their own behaviours and the impact it has on our ability to create an open, fair and inclusive workplace culture for all. All colleagues will have access to learning to improve awareness of unconscious bias and its detrimental impact.

Talent review. A fair and objective ongoing talent review process ensuring that talented colleagues are fairly identified across the business and continue to build a more diverse talent pipeline.

Our aim:



of roles in our senior leadership across Drax Group to be held by women by the end of 2020