



# Our Policy on Forest Products

Globally, forests constitute the largest and most significant ecosystems and are a key resource for local communities. Yet, despite their importance, there continues to be an alarming depletion of forests year on year, as a result of illegal deforestation, poor forestry management and land conversion for agriculture. The demand for forest products is anticipated to increase, emphasising the need for sustainable management of these vital resources for future generations.

Across our combined business, timber materials and non-timber forest products comprise a wide range of products, from toilet roll and paper to homewares, furniture, and garden accessories. Additionally, within our general merchandise product offer, timber is one of our most important raw materials.





## Our Position

At Sainsbury's our core values are integral to how we do business and they enable us to drive lasting, positive change in communities across the UK and overseas. Our value, Sourcing with Integrity, means we seek to build resilient supply chains by sourcing products ethically and sustainably.

Through our Net Zero commitments and work with the Consumer Goods Forum, we are committed to sourcing deforestation-free commodities, which includes timber.

This sustainable sourcing policy should be read alongside our Supplier Policy for Ethical Trade, and our sustainable sourcing procedure on forest products. The policy statements outlined in this document are in addition to all applicable UK and EU legislation. Sainsbury's suppliers must ensure they meet all requirements laid down in law at the point of manufacture and where the products are finally sold to the customer. Whilst this policy is intended to help suppliers provide products suitable for Sainsbury's Brand, they do not absolve suppliers of their responsibility to understand and comply with all the quality, legal and safety requirements for your products.

## Our Commitment

In line with our wider commitment to Sourcing with Integrity, we have instituted a robust and progressive sustainable timber strategy across our business; 100% of our own-brand timber and paper products will be derived from sustainable sources.

## Our Scope

- Own-brand and branded timber and paper-based products within scope of EUTR and UKTR.
- Own-brand timber and paper-based products out of scope of EUTR and UKTR.
- Own-brand and branded timber and paper-based products within scope of FLEGT.
- Own-brand non-timber forest products.

## Our Approach

### Timber and paper-based products

We work with our suppliers and a third party to conduct a risk assessment of timber sourcing to ensure that the following requirements\* are met:

1. Timber must not be harvested illegally in contravention of legislation in the country of harvest.
2. There must be no deforestation of High Conservation Value (HCV) forests.
3. Prior to any activity that may affect indigenous peoples' and local communities' rights, land, resources, territories, livelihoods, and food security, their free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) must be secured.
4. Only plantation material grown on land converted prior to 2020 will be accepted, unless preceded by existing standards or legislation.
5. Species listed on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Appendix II & III must not be sourced. Species categorised on International Union of Conservation of Nature (IUCN) red list as 'vulnerable', 'endangered', or 'critically endangered' must not be sourced.
6. We will use the below sustainable product quality hierarchy to accept timber and paper-based products:
  - a. **Our primary proof of sustainable product quality**
    - Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)
    - UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)
    - Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) "A Grade"
    - Recycled material
  - b. **Our secondary proof of sustainable product quality**
    - Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) "B Grade"
    - Approved 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Schemes

In addition, an independent laboratory will carry out ad-hoc testing of our timber products throughout the year to verify wood species and origin.

### Non-timber forest products

Materials include charcoal, cork, rattan, bamboo, and rubber, with additional materials to be reviewed on a case-by-case basis as necessary.

We will increase our supply chain transparency and review our supply chain to engage with suppliers who can demonstrate proof of sustainable product quality for non-timber forest products.

\* Based on definitions agreed by the Accountability Framework Initiative (AFI).

## Our Document Details

Document Reference	Sainsbury's Group Document Specialist	Amendment History	Date
PL001-V1	Laura Falk	New document replacing P007 Timber Policy Statement and HP040 technical Policy for Sustainable Sourcing of Materials from the Wild for Non Food	December 2020

The requirements outlined in this document are supported by other Sainsbury's documents, where reference to this subject matter may be made. For example, any specific labelling requirements will be outlined in Our Reference Guide to Labelling.

The policy statements outlined in this document are in addition to all applicable UK and EU legislation.

Sainsbury's suppliers must ensure they meet all requirements laid down in law at the point of manufacture and where the products are finally sold to the customer.

Whilst this Policy is intended to help you supply products suitable for Sainsbury's Brand, they do not absolve you of your responsibility to understand and comply with all the quality, legal and safety requirements for your products.

For the purposes of this document Sainsbury's Group means Sainsbury's Supermarkets Limited, Argos Limited and Habitat Retail Limited only.

Sainsbury's Argos is the trading name of both:

- 1) Argos Limited, Registered office: 489-499 Avebury Boulevard, Milton Keynes, United Kingdom, MK9 2NW, registered number: 01081551 (England and Wales); and
- 2) Sainsbury's Supermarkets Limited, Registered office: 33 Holborn, London, EC1N 2HT, registered number: 03261722 (England and Wales).