Sustainable Timber Policy

Transport for London (TfL) is committed to procuring legal, sustainable timber accredited to a recognised sustainable forestry standard. All timber procured by TfL, either directly or through contractors or sub-contractors, will be obtained from recycled or reclaimed sources, or be accredited to meet a sustainable forestry standard (see below). In support of this policy TfL will endeavour to specify such standards (or equivalents) in relevant contracts.

Sustainably sourced timber means timber sourced from organisational, production and process methods that minimise harm to ecosystems, sustain forest productivity and ensures forest biodiversity is maintained. In order to meet this definition, timber must be accredited to meet the FSC or equivalent standards. TfL will accept timber accredited to, or meeting standards approved by the Central Point of Expertise on Timber (CPET), which may include the following schemes:

(a) Forestry Stewardship Council (FSC)
(b) Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC);
(c) Canadian Standards Association (CSA); or
(d) Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI);

or such other source as the contractor may demonstrate to TfL’s satisfaction is equivalent.

Where the above requirements cannot be met, good reason must be provided and stated in writing prior to supply or use. TfL will seek to work with organisations which ensure that wherever possible waste and redundant timber products can be reused or recycled in accordance with the waste hierarchy.

TfL’s sustainable timber policy is part of a wider commitment to responsible procurement outlined in the GLA Group Responsible Procurement Policy.