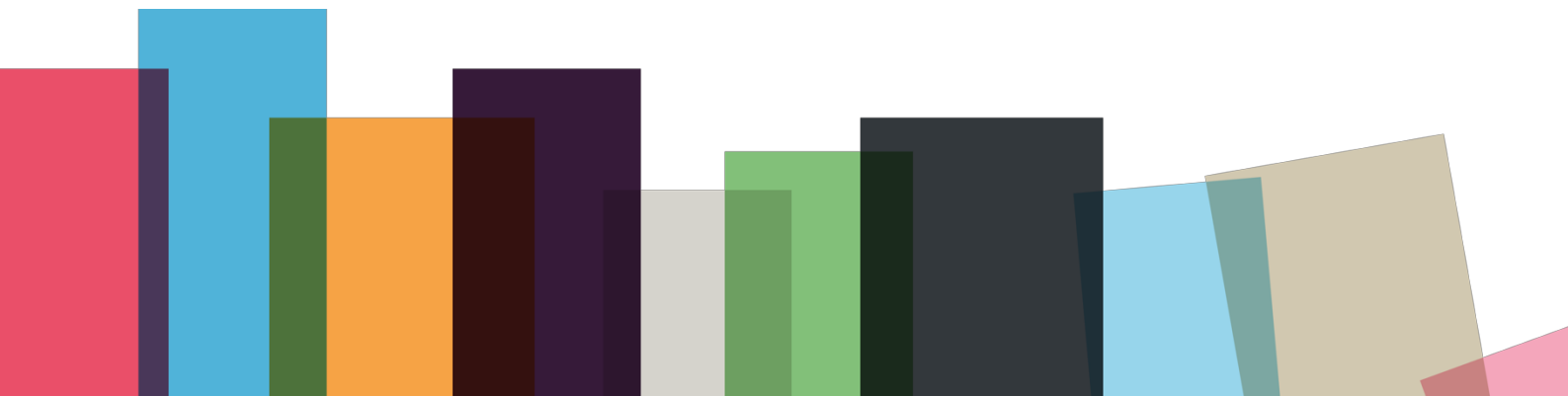


Sustainable Sourcing Policy

Hachette UK

March 2023



Hachette UK is one of the world's largest book publishing groups. Our mission is to make it easy for everyone, everywhere, to unlock new worlds of ideas, learning, entertainment and opportunity. We publish and produce millions of books every year and we have a responsibility to do that in a way that is mindful of our impact on the environment and on society.

The environmental impact of publishing extends from the forest sources that go into the books we make, to the suppliers that deliver our printing and logistics services, and the data centres that hold our digital content. The social impact relates to the people who work in that supply chain, turning our content into our publications.

This Sustainable Sourcing Policy governs how we manage our impact within our extended production supply chain. We want to communicate our expectations clearly to our supplier partners so that, together, we can produce our content in the best possible way for both the planet and the people involved.

This policy sets out our commitment to source sustainably and our expectations for how we want to work with our supplier partners. It covers four key topic areas:

1. Environmental standards
2. Paper purchasing and forest sources

We are one of the publishers involved in the [Book Chain Project](#), which collects and analyses data from across the publishing supply chain, from forest sourcing, to chemicals and materials, to labour and environment. We use that information to help inform our decisions at Hachette UK and measure progress towards our commitments.

1. Environmental standards

Hachette UK is committed to reducing the environmental impact from our supply chain as far as possible and innovating to move from a linear production model to a circular one.

That means finding ways to reduce waste and environmental impact at production,



sourcing sustainable materials and bringing those materials back into production at the end of life.

In 2021, we undertook a full greenhouse gas (Ghg) emission inventory for all Hachette UK operations, including those in our overseas territories, and covering our supply chain impact. Following this assessment, we signed up to the global [Science Based Targets initiative](#), committing to reach net zero carbon emissions by as close to 2030 as possible, and by 2050 at the latest.

Our Supplier Code of Conduct sets out our expectations for good environmental management within our supply chain, covering both management systems and reporting and performance across waste, water, energy and emissions.

Through the Book Chain Project environmental questionnaire, we gather and assess environmental data from printers. The Book Chain Project Mill Assessment Framework

includes assessments by the project staff of mill site environmental systems and performance.

As part of our Ghg emissions reduction programme, we expect to exceed our minimum commitment of a 25% reduction in emissions across our supply chain (Scope 3) by 2030, from a 2019 base.

Our aim is to source all our key raw materials sustainably and the next section provides details on what this means for our largest raw material by spend, paper.

For our other key raw materials - including plastic packaging, inks and varnishes - we are working with other publishers within the Book Chain Project chemicals and materials workstream to identify more sustainable material choices, and to manage chemical inputs throughout the production process.



We are committed to removing as much plastic from the supply chain as possible. In terms of packaging, our move to one, new, state-of-the-art warehouse in the UK, the Hely Hutchinson Centre, has already resulted in a 60% reduction of plastic packaging.

2. Paper purchasing and forest sources

Hachette UK has invested heavily in technology to support our digital publishing, but books printed on paper remain the major part of our business today, so paper has, for many years, been a strong focus for our sustainable raw materials work.

Our use of paper materials should not destroy or degrade ancient forest habitats that are home to people, animals, birds and plants and we positively reject irresponsible logging. We are committed to using timber in our paper supply chain from legal, sustainable and well-managed sources, and we support initiatives and forestry management schemes that promote this.

We support the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®), the leading international forest management certification association. The FSC® has undertaken work to establish 'chain of custody' from forest to pulp to paper, so that publishers can reliably establish the true source of their paper.

In 2018, 92% of the paper being used in Hachette UK's publications was FSC® certified and our aim is to grow this to 98% by 2022. Although FSC® is our preferred scheme, we also recognise the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) forest certification scheme to provide some level of assurance of the forest sources. We purchase paper through our approved suppliers and printers, all of which should have a valid FSC or PEFC (or both) Chain of Custody (COC) certificate in place.

We use the Book Chain Project forest sourcing database to identify papers and their forest sources. Our aim is that all paper or board used to make our publications must be certified by FSC or PEFC. In certain cases, we will accept uncertified forest sources, but these must



meet the Book Chain Project Grade 3 as a minimum, which means they are from known countries that are classified as low risk in the Book Chain Project forest sourcing risk tool.

All suppliers must have the papers they're using in our publications pre-approved by us before any printing takes place. To guide printer partners, we've developed the following set of principles for paper purchasing:

Paper Purchasing Principles

- Unless specified otherwise by Hachette UK, all paper or board must be certified FSC[®], PEFC or SFI, or classified PREPS 3 as a minimum
- All fibre must be certified either FSC[®], PEFC or SFI (or another internationally recognized forest certification system) or post-consumer recycled
- No fibre is accepted that:
 - o Has been illegally harvested
 - o Has been logged in protected areas or areas currently undergoing official processes of designation for protection, unless the logging is clearly in line with national conservation regulations
 - o Originates from Brazil, Malaysia or China and is not FSC[®] certified
 - o Originates from Indonesia or Ukraine
 - o Has been harvested in violation of native rights or civil rights
- No fibre is accepted for which you, as a supplier, are unable to provide the following information:
 - o Country of harvest and/or sub-national region where the timber was harvested (including consideration of the prevalence of armed conflict)
 - o Trade name and type of product, as well as the common name of tree species and, where applicable, its full scientific name
 - o All suppliers within the supply chain
 - o The forest management unit of the supply origin

Documents or any other reliable information indicating compliance of those timber and



timber products with activities referred to by the term ‘controversial sources’

This Sustainable Sourcing Policy was last updated in November 2021 and is reviewed and updated annually.

This document forms part of a range of policies that can be viewed on our website at www.hachette.co.uk and governs how we operate as a business.

