


Environmental and Ethical Policy

At DHH Panel Products, sustainability is at the core of everything we do. We are committed to protecting the environment, promoting ethical business practices and fostering positive social impacts through responsible sourcing and community engagement. Our environmental and ethical policies are based on the principles of responsible forestry, sustainable production and waste reduction.

Environmental Sustainability

DHH recognises the profound impact that construction materials can have on the environment. With wood being one of the most eco-friendly building materials available, we champion its use when sourced responsibly. Our commitment to sustainability is reflected in the following practices:

1. **Sustainable Wood Sourcing:** Wood, when used responsibly, has a lighter carbon footprint than steel and concrete, and it continues to absorb and store CO₂ even after being harvested. We prioritise sustainable wood production and ensure that all our products are sourced from responsibly managed forests. As members of Timber Development UK (TDUK), we subscribe to the Responsible Purchasing Policy (RPP). This policy helps us identify and avoid suppliers engaging in illegal or unsustainable forestry practices. We actively seek suppliers who share our sustainability and ethical operations values.
2. **UK Timber Regulations (UKTR):** We adhere to the UK Timber Regulations (UKTR), ensuring that all timber and timber products we source are legally harvested in compliance with UK and international laws. This further strengthens our commitment to responsible forestry practices, reducing the risk of illegal logging and promoting sustainability across our supply chain.
3. **Forest Certification:** We hold chain-of-custody certifications with two leading forest sustainability organisations. This certification ensures that the products we sell are traceable, allowing us to guarantee their origin and sustainability confidently.
 - a. **FSC (Forest Stewardship Council):** Over 80% of our product portfolio is FSC certified, guaranteeing that the wood in our products comes from responsibly sourced FSC-approved forests.
 - b. **PEFC (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification):** We also hold PEFC certification, offering products from sustainably managed forests with full traceability from source to final product.
4. **Minimising environmental impact:** Our company embraces renewable materials like wood to reduce reliance on non-renewable resources lowering overall carbon emissions. By promoting wood as a biodegradable and renewable alternative, we help reduce waste and landfill contributions. Additionally, we are actively working towards reducing our carbon footprint by improving the efficiency of our operations, reducing energy use and optimising transportation within our supply chain.

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5. Reducing Waste: We are committed to reducing waste throughout our entire operations by adopting sustainable practices that minimise our environmental impact. In collaboration with organisations such as New Life Wood, a charity dedicated to repurposing timber that would otherwise end up in landfills, we actively support their community wood recycling initiative. This partnership allows us to contribute to the circular economy, ensuring that valuable resources like timber are reused rather than wasted. By diverting materials from the waste stream and giving them a second life, we help reduce the demand for new raw materials, lower carbon emissions, and promote a more sustainable approach to resource management. Additionally, we continually evaluate our processes to identify new opportunities for waste reduction, from reducing packaging and promoting reusable materials to adopting energy-efficient practices. Through these efforts, we strive to create a lasting positive impact on our local community and the planet.

Ethical Practises and Community Engagement

At DHH, ethical responsibility extends beyond environmental sustainability to ensuring social equity, ethical business operations, and support for local communities. We take pride in our commitment to fostering social and environmental justice.

Community Engagement

- a. Grassroots Sports Sponsorship: We proudly support local sports clubs such as Rayleigh Cricket Club and Westcliff Rugby Club through sponsorship. These clubs help maintain vital green spaces within the community, allowing people to connect with nature and promote a healthy lifestyle.
- b. Supporting local employment: We proudly back New Life Wood, a charity that helps local individuals through timber recycling. This partnership enables us to support jobs in Essex while contributing to sustainable practices.

Commitment to Continuous Improvement

We believe in continuously reviewing and improving our sustainability and ethical practices. As part of our ongoing commitment, we will:

- Regularly visit, assess and improve our supply chain to ensure ethical practices are upheld at every level
- Engage in initiatives that reduce our environmental footprint and actively pursue opportunities for innovation.
- Continue providing staff training to ensure they are updating their practices to be more sustainable and aligned with our policy.



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Ben Francis, Managing Director, DHH Panel Products