

## Delivering our sustainable timber commitment

100% of timber procured by Network Rail will be responsibly sourced

### Network Rail's timber commitment

Network Rail (NR) is committed to running an ethically and environmentally responsible business, promoting responsible forest management and eradicating illegal wood products from our supply chains. As outlined in Network Rail's 2015 Environment Policy, NR has committed to buying and using natural resources in a responsible and sustainable manner and has a target to procure 100% responsibly sourced timber in accordance with standards set by the WWF GFTN-UK (World Wildlife Fund Global Forest and Trade Network).

In January 2014 NR published its first Responsible Timber Sourcing Policy to reinforce its commitments. As a business NR has promoted sustainable procurement throughout its procurement teams and by working more effectively with its supply chain to achieve greater assurance around the sustainability of materials and products used across our business. In July 2015 NR was awarded '2 trees' under the WWF timber scorecard alongside companies such as IKEA and John Lewis.



*"NR has made a start on the journey to sustainable timber and timber products and in some cases they have made good progress. NR has made commitments to sourcing FSC, PEFC or recycled products and has established control mechanisms over their use of timber and timber products. They are likely to be sourcing 20-60% material from a mix of certified and recycled sources, and will have begun to report on quantities, and the source of their timber products".*

The primary certification of timber is FSC or PEFC (Forest Stewardship Council, Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certification). These criteria protect the trees, habitats, biodiversity and the local people from corruptive dealership and landownership.

The NR Thameslink Programme (TLP) is proud to report that 100% of our timber has been responsibly sourced supporting NR's timber commitment. This case study summarises how we have achieved this success across our programme and supply chain.

### Why responsibly sourced timber

Every two seconds an area of forest the size of a football pitch is destroyed and demand for wood is set to triple by 2050. Yet here in the UK you can still buy products (for example furniture, books, cards) made from illegally or unsustainably sourced wood. Wood from illegally logged trees from some of the world's most precious forests, including the Amazon and the Russian Far East, are finding their way into shops in the UK. For NR this means that there is a potential that illegal sourced wood can also end up in our supply chains.

**"Forests are home to more than 50% of land dwelling animals, plants and insects, they create livelihoods for a billion people and play an important role in regulating the global climate through absorbing and cycling huge amounts of carbon and water and providing 75% of the world's usable fresh water" (WWF)**

'Legally logged' timber simply means the government has allowed its trees to be cut down. But that doesn't mean the long-term future of the forest has been considered. So businesses such as NR have a responsibility not only to comply with the law, but to ensure their wood-based products come from well-managed forests.

## A sustainable Thameslink Programme

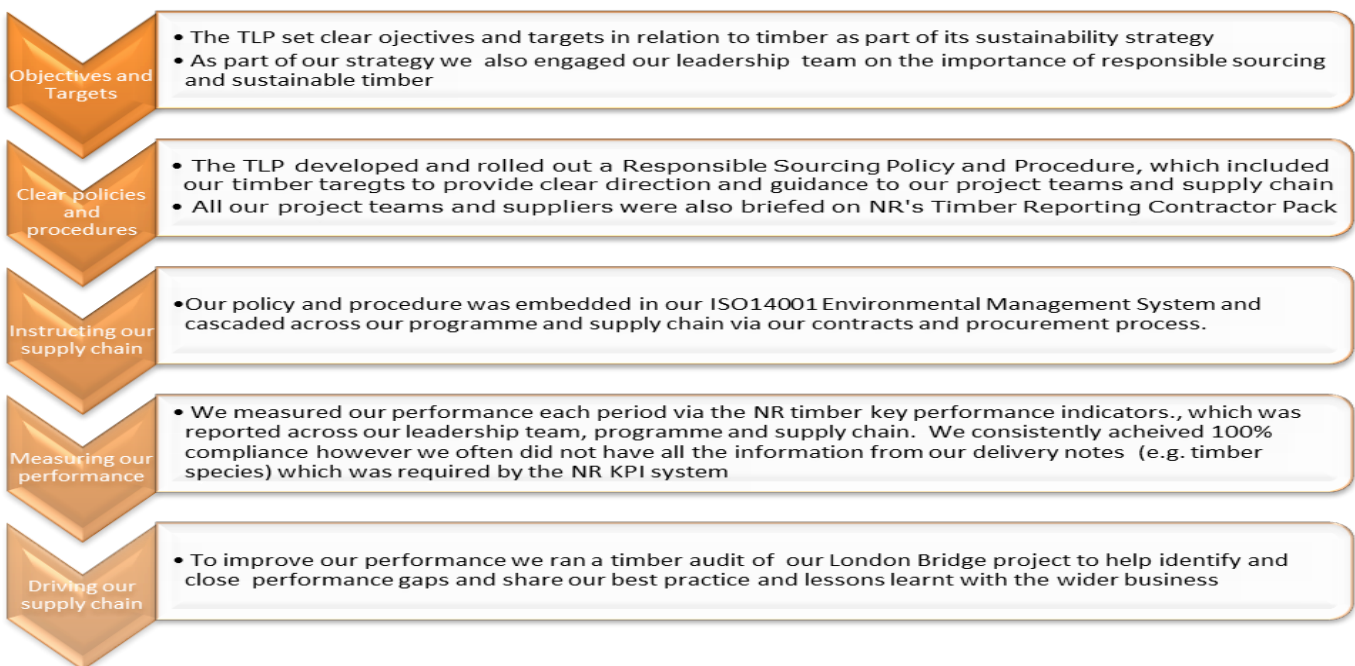
The Network Rail (NR) Thameslink Programme (TLP) will transform travel north to south through London. When Thameslink completes in 2018 journeys and connections will be improved giving customers better travel options to more destinations than ever before and modern track and trains will make journeys more reliable.

Sustainability is right at the heart of the TLP and our vision is to **'deliver transport benefits to budget that represents value for money and creates an overall positive impact on the community and the environment'**. To do this we're working to ensure that not only do we achieve the highest standards in sustainability, but we uphold these principles on all fronts.

As part of our sustainability strategy the TLP committed to **"increase the life of materials and reduce the consumption of virgin and unsustainable sources of materials"** through **"procuring 100% certified timber and hold full chain of custody in line with NR timber policy"**

Our commitment also supports the Network Rail Infrastructure Projects Control Period 5 business plan objectives and Sustainability Charter to *"procure 100% responsibly sourced timber in all our projects"*.

### How the TLP has supported NR's timber commitment



### Thameslink Best Practice – London Bridge

Our London Bridge NR TLP project team and supplier Costain have developed site specific Sustainable Procurement Plans explicitly stating that timber bought has to be labelled, certified and compliant with EU regulations. The plan clearly outlines the checks to be undertaken before the timber can be brought onto the site ensuring suppliers are certified with a full Chain of Custody and are fully FSC/PEFC certified.

Upon arrival on to site, delivery notes are checked and maintained by the on-site Timber Champion to ensure that they are compliant with the Sustainable Procurement Plan and project commitments. Once the appropriate information has been identified the delivery is allowed onto site. By having these processes in place the team can report confidently each period on our timber consumption and meet our contractual requirements with ease.

The London Bridge team has also visited and audited their timber supplier, South London Timber. This visit allowed the team to assess the internal processes of their supply chain and deepen their understanding into timber certification, sourcing and the types of wood procured for site.



## A timber and social enterprise partnership – Community Wood Recycling

Our Brighton NR TLP project team and supplier Carillion recognised that the project would create wood waste towards the end of the site works. Rather than sending the wood to a traditional waste transfer station it was decided to investigate alternatives for increasing the life of the material and diverting waste from landfill.

Following a visit to the Community Wood Recycling Project, a local not-for-profit social enterprise, which provides employment and training to long-term employed and socially disadvantaged people, it was decided to send wood waste for reuse/recycle to this organisation and help deliver TLP's environment (sustainable materials, diversion of waste) and social sustainability objectives (social legacy).

- **80% of all shuttering was sourced and reused from the Thameslink project**
- **All new wood for shuttering was PEFC or FSC certified**
- **Typical shuttering was reused on the project 4 times**
- **All wood waste segregated and placed in a fenced secure area for collection**
- **4.8 tonnes of wood waste diverted from landfill by Community Wood Recycling Project**
- **4.0 tonnes was reused and the remaining 0.8 tonnes recycled as chipboard**
- **£165 saved when compared with traditional skip which typically contains 10% void space**
- **99.7% waste diversion rate through reusing/recycling wood waste**

Carillion now use the Community Wood Recycling project for other TLP sites and the TLP has also procured the Community Wood Recycling Project to make our TLP Sustainability Awards which our supply chain receives for the best TLP sustainability case studies.



**Examples of waste wood**

**TLP Sustainability Award**



## Benefits of sustainable timber sourcing

- Compliance with NR's Timber Policy and WWF commitment
- Deliver TLP's sustainability commitment
- Supporting responsible forest management
- Security and traceability of timber supply
- Building a good reputation with our community
- Enhancing our business reputation

## With thanks

The TLP would like to thank the NR TLP London Bridge, Track & Signalling, Outer Areas and Bermondsey Dive Under project teams and suppliers;



## Further information

For further information on the Thameslink programme and sustainable timber please see below;

Thameslink Programme <http://www.thameslinkprogramme.co.uk/>

Thameslink Sustainable Development Policy <http://www.thameslinkprogramme.co.uk/approach>

WWF GTFN <http://gftn.panda.org/>

FSC <http://www.fsc-uk.org/en-uk> PEFC <http://www.pefc.co.uk/>