

Procurements and Contracts Division PCD
Area 4C
Nobel House,
17 Smith Square
London SW1P3JR

Dear Consultee

Consultation on the inclusion of social criteria in the application of the UK Government's Timber Procurement Policy.

1. We are writing to seek your views and comments on the inclusion of social criteria in the application of the UK Government's Timber Procurement Policy in general, and on the social criteria which have been proposed more specifically.
2. The UK Government is now considering incorporating specific criteria relating to social requirements into its sustainability definition for use in its purchase of timber and wood products.
3. The following documents may be found on the Defra website <http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/timber-procurement/> and the CPET website <http://www.proforest.net/cpet/review-comments-1/current-reviews-and-consultations/> from 29/07/09:
 - Letter to consultees
 - List of consultees
 - Proposed inclusion of social criteria in the application of the UK Government's Timber Procurement Policy
4. We welcome your comments and views within a 12 week consultation period.

Responses

5. Please send responses to Defra.SustainableProcurement@defra.gov.gsi.gov.uk
6. Responses should be received no later than **21 October 2009**.

Consultation Criteria

7. This consultation is in line with the Code of practice on Consultations. This can be found at www.berr.gov.uk/bre/

8. When this consultation ends, we intend to put a copy of the responses in the Defra library at Ergon House, London. This is so that the public can see them. Also, members of the public may ask for a copy of responses under freedom of information legislation.
9. If you do not want your response - including your name, contact details and any other personal information – to be publicly available, please say so clearly in writing when you send your response to the consultation. Please note, if your computer automatically includes a confidentiality disclaimer, that won't count as a confidentiality request.
10. Please explain why you need to keep details confidential. We will take your reasons into account if someone asks for this information under freedom of information legislation. But, because of the law, we cannot promise that we will always be able to keep those details confidential.
11. We will summarise all responses and place this summary on our website at www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/default.asp . This summary will include a list of names of organisations that responded but not people's personal names, addresses or other contact details.
12. To see consultation responses and summaries, please contact the library at:

Defra
Information Resource Centre
Lower Ground Floor
Ergon House
17 Smith Square
London
SW1P 3JR

Telephone: 020-7238-6575

Email: defra.library@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Please give the library 24 hours' notice. There is a charge for photocopying and postage.

13. If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please address them to Marjorie Addo, Defra's Consultation Co-ordinator, Area 7C Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London SW1P 3JR, or email consultation.coordinator@defra.gsi.gov.uk.

Yours Faithfully

Greg Moffat