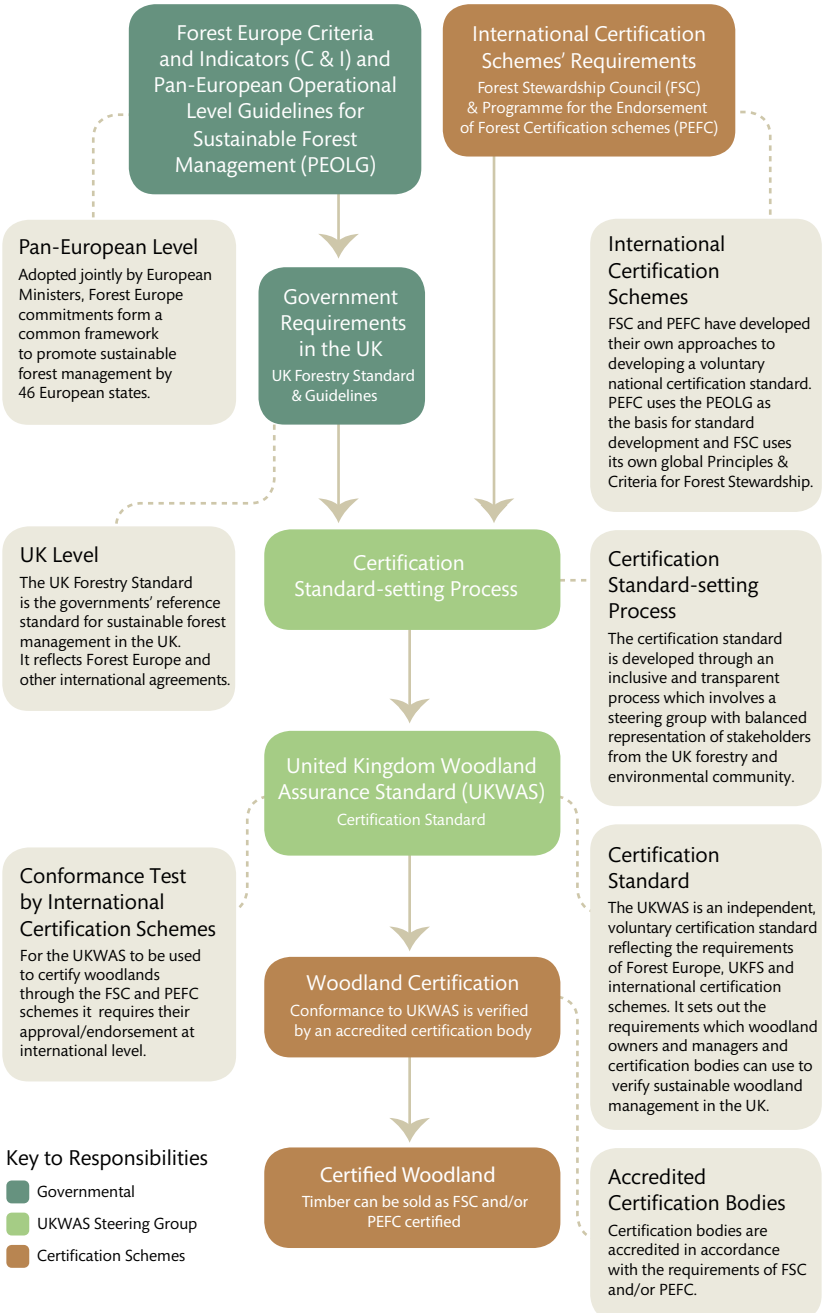
Forest Europe Criteria and Indicators (C & I) and Pan-European Operational Level Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management (PEOLG)
International Certification Schemes' Requirements
Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) & Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes (PEFC)
Pan-European Level
Adopted jointly by European Ministers, Forest Europe commitments form a common framework to promote sustainable forest management by 46 European states.
Government Requirements in the UK
UK Forestry Standard & Guidelines
International Certification Schemes
FSC and PEFC have developed their own approaches to developing a voluntary national certification standard. PEFC uses the PEOLG as the basis for standard development and FSC uses its own global Principles & Criteria for Forest Stewardship.
UK Level
The UK Forestry Standard is the governments' reference standard for sustainable forest management in the UK. It reflects Forest Europe and other international agreements.
Certification Standard-setting Process
Certification Standard-setting Process
The certification standard is developed through an inclusive and transparent process which involves a steering group with balanced representation of stakeholders from the UK forestry and environmental community.
United Kingdom Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS)
Certification Standard
Conformance Test by International Certification Schemes
For the UKWAS to be used to certify woodlands through the FSC and PEFC schemes it requires their approval/endorsement at international level.
Certification Standard
The UKWAS is an independent, voluntary certification standard reflecting the requirements of Forest Europe, UKFS and international certification schemes. It sets out the requirements which woodland owners and managers and certification bodies can use to verify sustainable woodland management in the UK.
Woodland Certification
Conformance to UKWAS is verified by an accredited certification body
Key to Responsibilities
Governmental
UKWAS Steering Group
Certification Schemes
Certified Woodland
Timber can be sold as FSC and/or PEFC certified
Accredited Certification Bodies
Certification bodies are accredited in accordance with the requirements of FSC and/or PEFC.