

How do I know the timber is local?

So, if you are planning to buy local timber perhaps the first question to ask is whether the wood is from a responsibly-managed source. Of course it all depends what you mean by this. For some it simply means ensuring another tree is planted - for others it is much more complex and involves the profit from trees being re-invested back into the community and protecting wildlife.

Certification Schemes

Currently, there are five certification schemes whose programmes are accepted by CPET (the UK Government's Central Point of Expertise on Timber Procurement) as proof of legality and/or sustainability but none of these certify the timber as local to the South East of England. A majority of the timber certified in the UK is through Forestry Stewardship Certification (FSC).

JUST ASK!... where does the timber comes from because although certification schemes, such as FSC, do show the timber is sustainably managed they do not show that it is sourced locally. However, for you wanting to buy local timber, the source of the timber can be tracked through the chain of custody so you can be sure it is locally sourced ... but always ask.