



THE RANDOM HOUSE GROUP

The Random House Group Formalises Its Paper Procurement Policy in the UK

The Random House Group has reviewed and formalised its paper procurement policy with the publication of a policy document.

The preference is now for Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified paper, but the Group acknowledges that there will be a slow transition from existing papers as, at present, there are a limited number of commercially viable FSC options available to consumer book publishers. We will be working with existing paper suppliers to increase the volume of viable FSC grades and will be joining the WWF-UK Forest and Trade Network.

In addition, we recognise the environmental value of using recycled paper as this becomes practically and commercially viable in the UK consumer book market.

Stephen Esson, Group Production Director, said: “The selection of the right paper is of vital importance from an environmental as well as a commercial perspective and we know that it is a major concern for many of our authors. I look forward to working with our suppliers to increase the availability of FSC certified paper. Of course, any development of recycled grades more appropriate to the practical and commercial requirements of the book market would also be welcomed.”

WWF and Greenpeace have welcomed the Random House Group’s commitment to sourcing FSC paper for its books.

Belinda Fletcher, Greenpeace Forest Campaigner said: “Greenpeace welcomes this great commitment by Random House to introduce a pro FSC and recycled procurement policy that will help lessen the pressure on the world’s ancient forests. This commitment is the most comprehensive commitment developed by a UK publisher to date and sets a good example for other publishing houses to follow.”

Rachel Hembery, Manager WWF-UK, Forest and Trade Network said: “We believe that the first step for responsible companies wishing to address the issue of purchasing wood products is to have a credible procurement policy. The Random House policy is a good example of such a policy and we very much look forward to having another major UK publisher as a member of the WWF-UK Forest and Trade Network.”

The Paper Procurement Policy forms part of the Random House Group overall Corporate Social Responsibility Policy covering policies for staff, customers and suppliers.

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