



Grown in Britain Frequently Asked Questions For Woodland Social Enterprises

How do I apply?

To apply for the GiB licensing scheme you need to firstly read our guidance note for a forest licence. You then need to complete our application form and send it into us. Once we have received the application form, we will complete a desktop audit on your application ensuring it meets our standard. Once we have confirmed you met the required standards, you will then be sent your certificate which contains your unique Grown in Britain licence number.

What evidence do I need?

To gain a Grown in Britain forest licence you will need to be able to prove your woodland management plan complies with UK Forestry Standard. To demonstrate the woodland complies with UKFS there are several ways:

- Forestry Commission England or Scotland, Natural Resources Wales, Forestry Society Northern Ireland
- Grown in Britain approved body* such as Woodland Star Rating (rating silver or above)
- If you have a valid PEFC, FSC or UKWAS certificate for your woodland then these are sufficient

***Grown in Britain approved bodies** include: Forestry Commission England, Forestry Commission Scotland, Forest Services Northern Ireland, FSC, Natural Resources Wales, PEFC and UKWAS.

For woodlands that **DO NOT** have a management plan, you can use MyForest to develop a management plan. Once you have your first draft use the Woodland Star Rating to assess your plan. If your rating is silver or above you can apply to Grown in Britain, if not the Woodland Star Rating will give you advice on how to improve your plan. Complete some of these actions and rescore your new plan.

Does it apply only to certain species?

The licensing scheme applies to all UK timber species.

Does it apply to non-forest products?

The Grown in Britain licensing scheme applies to all UK **timber** products from sustainably managed forests and woodlands. Non-timber forest products such as venison or birch wine are not included in the Grown in Britain scheme at present.

What annual information do I need to fill out?

At your renewal we encourage all licence holders to inform us how much Grown in Britain timber, in tonnes or cubic meters, they have felled, sold or turned into wood fuel or other woody products. This is so we can track how much Grown in Britain timber is available and to assess the impact of our licensing scheme in relation to overall production and imports.

Can a GiB licence help with the Renewable Heat Incentive and the Biomass Suppliers List?



The GiB standard is aligned to the UK Forestry standard and the licence ensures that woodlands are managed in accordance with this standard. This is the same standard to which UKWAS (FSC and PEFC) is aligned. The Grown in Britain woodfuel standard is aligned the requirements of the UK Timber Standard for Heat and Electricity. Each year the woodland/forest licence is reviewed and the extraction and forest product figures are submitted to Grown in Britain. In addition, any changes to the management plan is reviewed.

GiB licence is recognised by the BSL as evidence of sustainable timber and is referenced in this document <https://www.biomass-suppliers-list.service.gov.uk/Content/Documents/BSL%20Evidence%20for%20Land%20Criteria%20v1.1.pdf> table 3 page 10.

Which is better PEFC, FSC or GiB?

FSC and PEFC are organisations that offer chain of custody and forest licensing, promoting sustainable management. Grown in Britain offers this for woodland owners and associated timber industries in the UK and acts as a mark of recognition of UK timber from well managed UK forests for your forest and timber products.

Do I need an audit?

Forest licences do not need an onsite audit but are subject to a desktop audit.

How much paperwork is involved prior to application?

You are required to complete an application form to join the Grown in Britain licensing scheme. If you are applying for a forest licence using MyForest you will need to complete a Woodland Star Rating review and in addition send us a copy of your management plan.

How much paperwork is involved after my licence awarded?

Hardly any! At your renewal we ask you to complete a form confirming such information as company details, amount of timber extracted/felled and that your management plan is still in place.

Can I licence my firewood?

Yes! Grown in Britain is a licensing scheme for all UK forest, woods and timber products including firewood.

How can I use the logo?

Once you have achieved your licence you will be able to use the GiB logo on products, paper work, social media, websites etc.

How can I use GiBs social media network to promote my products?

We currently have several different channels which we use to promote Grown in Britain licence holders and their products. We have a dedicate section on our website which lists all our licence holders by product category, also we have a map showing the location of our licence holders. There is a page entirely for our licence holder's company logos with links directly to the company's website. We are also very active on social media such as Twitter and Facebook, with regular posts encouraging the use of British timber and promoting our licence holders. Additionally there is our annual Grown in Britain week, celebrated in October. The week is a celebration of great British wood and we actively encourage all our licence holders to get involved. We will promote any events, discounts or meetings on our website and via social media in the run up to GiB week and during the week.