

# Cocoa



*We expect all our suppliers to adhere to our [Ethical Trade Requirements](#). Over and above this we have a number of commitments which we are working collaboratively with our suppliers to achieve. This statement outlines our commitment concerning cocoa.*

## Target

By 2025 all cocoa and cocoa-based ingredients used across our business and in the products we sell will come from globally recognised more sustainable sources\*

## Deadline

2025

## What is cocoa/cacao?

For the purpose of this statement we will use the term cocoa. Cocoa beans are a globally traded commodity used in chocolate production.

## What's the issue with cocoa?

According to [WWF](#), most of the cocoa sold in the world is grown in Western Africa (70%), (primarily Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire), a region that faces significant social and ecological challenges in the forms of poverty, large-scale deforestation and human rights abuses including forced and child labour.

It is estimated that 70% of West Africa's illegal deforestation is related to cocoa farming. Furthermore according to WWF, during the 2013–14 growing season, an estimated 2 million children were engaged in hazardous labour throughout Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire.

The European Union is the largest consumer of cocoa, responsible for [60%](#) of global imports and [half](#) of the UK's imports are estimated to originate in Ivory Coast (Côte d'Ivoire).

## What is Selfridges' position on cocoa?

We work with our partners and suppliers to promote responsible sourcing practices, including sustainable forest management and upholding human rights.

In the lead-up to our target deadline of 2025 when the following criteria will become mandatory, we encourage our partners and suppliers to:

- Engage with and adhere to globally recognised standards and certification programmes, such as [Rainforest Alliance/UTZ](#), [Fairtrade](#), [Organic](#) and/or:
- Establish single-origin, traceable-to-plantation 'bean to bar' supply chains by working directly with farmers to help mitigate the risks of deforestation, address human rights abuses and ensure fair trade principles are applied.

\*In exceptional circumstances we will review and consider other third-party certification programmes and/or internal supplier global traceability programmes which are third-party audited and meet the same standards as our criteria or higher.

# Cotton



*We expect all our suppliers to adhere to our [Ethical Trade Requirements](#). Over and above this we have a number of commitments which we are working collaboratively with our suppliers to achieve. This statement outlines our commitment concerning cotton.*

## Target

By 2025 all cotton used across our business and in the products we sell will come from recycled sources or from certified more sustainable sources

## Deadline

2025

## What is cotton?

Cotton, the most widely produced natural fibre on the planet, is the fluffy down that surrounds the seed pods of the cotton plant. It is globally cultivated and harvested to be spun and then woven or knitted into textiles.

## What's the problem with cotton?

According to [WWF](#), cotton is the most widespread and profitable non-food crop in the world. Its production provides income for more than 250 million people globally and employs almost 7% of all labour in developing countries. However, conventional methods of cotton cultivation and production are known to have significant environmental impacts. According to Pesticide Action Network, globally, cotton grows on just 2% of the world's cultivated land but uses 6% of the world's pesticides (and 16% of insecticides), more than any other single major crop. Many of these chemicals are known to have significant adverse effects on both human and environmental health. Furthermore, a staggering 20,000 litres of water are needed to produce a single T-shirt and pair of jeans.

Systemic human rights abuses associated with cotton production also persist in a number of countries. A Fairtrade cotton briefing (2015) highlights that, "forced and child labour are major concerns in Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Tajikistan where tens of thousands of children, students and adults are forced out of school, college or workplaces for several weeks a year and mobilised to pick cotton to meet government-imposed production quotas". However, it's important to recognise that human rights issues in the cotton supply chain aren't isolated to these countries. The same report notes that in India over 400,000 child workers have been reported as working in the cotton seed industry. Most recently the [UN](#) identified human rights risk in the Xinjiang province of China where significant quantities of cotton are grown and produced.

## What is Selfridges' position on cotton?

Cotton is an important global commodity providing an income to millions of smallholder farmers in the developing world. As a multi-brand retailer we are committed to working with our partners and suppliers to encourage transparency and a transition to more sustainable agricultural and production practices.

In the lead-up to our target deadline of 2025 when the following criteria will become mandatory, we encourage our partners and suppliers to:

- Replace virgin cotton with recycled content.
- Avoid sourcing from countries or regions with a high risk of forced labour and in particular Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan as defined by the [Responsible Sourcing Network's Cotton Pledge](#). From 2025 Selfridges will not permit cotton sourced from Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Syria or the Xinjiang province of China (subject to ongoing review).
- Engage with and commit to globally recognised certification programmes as defined by the [CottonUP Guide](#).

# Feathers



*We expect all our suppliers to adhere to our [Ethical Trade Requirements](#). Over and above this we have a number of commitments which we are working collaboratively with our suppliers to achieve. This statement outlines our commitment concerning feathers.*

## Target

By 2025 all feathers used across our business and in the products we sell will come from the byproduct of poultry production: geese, duck, turkey and chicken only and from certified sources\*

## Deadline

2025

## What are feathers?

Feathers are used in everything from eyelash extensions to pens. Down is a specific type of highly insulating feather taken from the undercoat of waterfowl and is primarily used in winter coats and duvets.

## What's the problem with feathers?

Animal welfare abuses present a significant risk in the harvesting of bird feathers. While feathers and down are often described as a byproduct of the meat industry, live plucking is an inhumane and painful practice that is known to routinely take place on farms.

Exotic feathers are also widely used in fashion and jewellery design and ostrich feathers are particularly popular. While parts of ostriches can be eaten, the skin and feathers would not generally be considered a byproduct.

## What is Selfridges' position on feathers?

We are committed to playing our part in keeping wild animals in the wild. We were one of the first retailers to prohibit the sale of fur in 2005 and more recently the sale of exotic skins in February 2020.

We have set an early milestone: from 2022 we will only sell feathers from the by-product of poultry production: geese, duck, turkey and chicken.

In the lead-up to our target deadline of 2025 when the following additional criteria will become mandatory, we encourage our partners and suppliers to:

- Replace virgin feathers with recycled content and/or:
- Engage with and commit to globally recognised certification programmes which address the animal welfare risks in the feather and down supply chains such as the [Responsible Down Standard](#), [Downpass standard](#), [Global Traceable Down Standard](#).

We additionally encourage suppliers to explore the use of sustainable animal-free alternatives to down and feathers.

In the meantime, all suppliers must adhere to our [Ethical Trade Requirements](#) which includes stipulations surrounding animal welfare and transportation. We continue to work with suppliers to obtain more transparency and address risk.

\*In exceptional circumstances we will review and consider other third-party certification programmes and/or internal supplier global traceability programmes which are third-party audited and meet the same standards as our criteria or higher.

# Forest -derived fibres



We expect all our suppliers to adhere to our [Ethical Trade Requirements](#). Over and above this we have a number of commitments which we are working collaboratively with our suppliers to achieve. This statement outlines our commitment concerning forest-derived (man-made cellulose) fibres.

## Target

By 2025 all forest-derived (man-made cellulose) fibres used across our business and in the products we sell will come from recycled sources or from certified non-Ancient and Endangered<sup>1</sup> responsibly managed forests

## Deadline

2025

## What are forest-derived fibres?

According to the Canadian NGO [Canopy](#), more than 150 million trees a year are logged to harvest cellulose for conversion into forest fibres, most commonly known as viscose, rayon, modal or lyocell. The chances are that almost everyone has garments in their wardrobe that started life as a tree.

## What's the problem with using forest-derived fibres?

Illegal logging for timber, pulp and cellulose continues to be a major driver of global deforestation; one of the most significant factors in both biodiversity loss and climate change. The market for forest fibres is expected to grow significantly over the next 10 years, due to a rising demand for biodegradable materials and concerns over microplastic pollution from synthetics. It is essential that ancient and endangered forest ecosystems are protected and preserved, while sustainable forest management and rigorous certification is demanded within supply chains.

## What is Selfridges' position on forest-derived fibres?

We will work with our partners and suppliers to promote conservation of the world's ancient and endangered forests. We are committed to the responsible purchasing of all products that contain raw materials sourced from forests or known to be a significant driver of deforestation.

We will lead by example, from 2021 any wood/paper purchased as not for resale will be certified under the [Forest Stewardship Council](#)<sup>®</sup> (FSC<sup>®</sup>) or from recycled content.

In the lead-up to our target deadline of 2025 when the following criteria will become mandatory, we encourage our partners, including the brands we sell, and suppliers to:

- Replace virgin fibres with recycled content.
- Put in place with [Canopy](#) a robust time-bound public commitment to avoid sourcing forest fibres derived from ancient and endangered forests<sup>1</sup>.
- Source forest fibres derived from sustainably managed forests certified under the [Forest Stewardship Council](#)<sup>®</sup> (FSC<sup>®</sup>) system, including any plantation fibre.

These criteria are within the [CanopyStyle](#) policy requirements. In support of CanopyStyle we encourage our partners, including the brands we sell, and suppliers to additionally:

- Implement existing commitments to avoid sourcing from ancient and endangered forests, illegal logging and endangered species habitat by 2020 or if developing a brand new policy to align with the CanopyStyle initiative on implementation timelines of 2022.
- Collaborate with Canopy, as well as innovative companies and suppliers to encourage conservation solutions as well as the development of fibre sources that reduce environmental and social impacts, with a focus on agricultural residues and recycled fabrics.
- Preference for product lines made from innovative and/or recycled fibres and develop a 2025 procurement target for these closed-loop solutions.\*
- Recognise, respect and uphold human rights and the rights of communities and acknowledge indigenous and rural communities' legal, customary or user rights to their territories, land, and resources.

\* Such [innovative](#) fabrics may be considered within Selfridges 2025 target criteria.

<sup>1</sup>Ancient and endangered forests are defined as intact forest landscape mosaics, naturally rare forest types, forest types that have been made rare due to human activity, and/or other forests that are ecologically critical for the protection of biological diversity. Ecological components of endangered forests are: Intact forest landscapes; Remnant forests and restoration cores; Landscape connectivity; Rare forest types; Forests of high species richness; Forests containing high concentrations of rare and endangered species; Forests of high endemism; Core habitat for focal species; Forests exhibiting rare ecological and evolutionary phenomena. As a starting point to geographically locate ancient and endangered forests, maps of High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF), as defined by the Forest Stewardship Council<sup>®</sup> (FSC<sup>®</sup>) and of intact forest landscapes (IFL), can be used and paired with maps of other key ecological values like the habitat range of key endangered species and forests containing high concentrations of terrestrial carbon and High Carbon Stocks (HCS). (The Wye River Coalition's Endangered Forests: High Conservation Value Forests Protection – Guidance for Corporate Commitments. This has been reviewed by conservation groups, corporations and scientists). Key endangered forests globally are the Canadian and Russian Boreal Forests; Coastal Temperate Rainforests of British Columbia, Alaska and Chile; Tropical forests and peat lands of Indonesia, the Amazon and West Africa.

# Leather



*We expect all our suppliers to adhere to our [Ethical Trade Requirements](#). Over and above this we have a number of commitments which we are working collaboratively with our suppliers to achieve. This statement outlines our commitment concerning leather.*

## Target

By 2025 all leather used across our business and in the products we sell will come from recycled sources or from Leather Working Group bronze, silver or gold-rated tanneries and suppliers must provide evidence of working towards a leather supply chain traceable to slaughterhouse\*

## Deadline

2025

## What is leather?

Leather is the hide or skin of an animal that has been treated in order to avoid decomposition – this process is referred to as tanning. The hair or wool of the animal may, or may not, have been removed and the skin may have been split into layers before or after tanning. For the purposes of this statement, when we refer to leather, we are referring to skins derived from domestic livestock, primarily but not exclusively cattle.

## What's the problem with leather?

The production of meat and leather contributes significantly to global deforestation. According to [WWF](#), cattle ranching and soybean farming are driving approximately two-thirds of deforestation in the tropical forests of South America.

Furthermore, leather tanneries are a major cause of environmental pollution particularly in the developing world. Poor tannery management and the use of hazardous chemicals in the tanning process is widely recognised as posing a significant risk to human and ecological health.

## What is Selfridges' position on leather?

We are committed to addressing the impact of commodities that are known to be a significant driver of global deforestation and working with our partners and suppliers to encourage transparency and a transition to more sustainable agricultural and production practices.

In the lead-up to our target deadline of 2025 when the following criteria will become mandatory, we encourage our partners and suppliers to:

- Replace virgin leather with recycled content.
- Have a publicly available, clear and communicable strategy for achieving transparency to slaughterhouse and addressing key deforestation risks.
- Source from Leather Working Group audited tanneries which have been gold, silver or bronze rated.
- Collaborate with the multi-stakeholder working groups and certifications that address traceability within leather supply chains, including:
  - [The Leather Working Group - traceability protocol](#)
  - [ICEC - traceability certification](#)
  - [Textile Exchange - Responsible Leather Initiative](#)
  - [The Brazilian Leather project](#)

\*In exceptional circumstances we will review and consider other third-party certification programmes and/or internal supplier global traceability programmes which are third-party audited and meet the same standards as our criteria or higher.

# Meat



*We expect all our suppliers to adhere to our [Ethical Trade Requirements](#). Over and above this we have a number of commitments which we are working collaboratively with our suppliers to achieve. This statement outlines our commitment concerning meat.*

## Target

By 2025 all meat and meat ingredients used across our business and in the products we sell will be from certified organic farms\*

## Deadline

2025

## What is meat?

This document focuses on meat derived from agricultural livestock across all offerings and includes when included as an ingredient of processed products.

## What's the problem with meat?

Livestock farming contributes [18%](#) of greenhouse gas emissions worldwide. According to [WWF](#), beef production is expected to increase by around a further 13% by 2028, when already the world's land footprint for just beef and leather covers an area estimated to be nearly four times the size of Western Europe.

The production of meat and leather contributes significantly to global deforestation. According to [WWF](#), cattle ranching and soybean farming are driving approximately two-thirds of deforestation in the tropical forests of South America. According to a recent [WWF](#) report, a third of the current UK beef and leather land footprint was located in high-risk countries such as Brazil where beef production is one of the main drivers of deforestation and conversion, especially in the Amazon.

[75%](#) of all soy produced globally becomes feed for domestic livestock. Soy production in Brazil has historically been a major contributor to deforestation of the Amazon rainforest and it now threatens its neighbouring biodiverse savannah landscape, the [Cerrado](#). This is occurring both through forest clearance to make way for industrial-scale soy farming and from the development of infrastructure (roads and ports) to support soy expansion. This infrastructure attracts other developers, causing further forest clearance and perpetuating a cycle of mass deforestation.

## What is Selfridges' position on meat?

We are committed to addressing the impact of commodities that are known to be a significant driver of global deforestation and working with our partners and suppliers to encourage transparency and a transition to more sustainable agricultural and production practices.

In the lead-up to our target deadline of 2025 when the following criteria will become mandatory, we encourage our partners and suppliers to:

- Source meat from the EU, preference UK or Irish.
- Source meat certified to [Organic \(EU standard\)](#) or Organic (EU standard) plus further regenerative agricultural practices in line with both:
  - [The Regeneration International's definition](#)
  - [The requirements of the Regenerative Organic Certified standard](#)
- While there are feed stipulations within the [Organic EU standard](#) (from p.103), 100% pasture fed as defined by [The Pasture-Fed Livestock Association](#) (preference to be certified to the Pasture for Life standard) which meets the Organic EU standard stipulations is preferred.

We will lead by example in 2020 by transitioning our meat counter to exclusively certified organic meat.

We believe in "less meat, better meat", therefore we will provide more meat-free and plant-based options on our restaurant menus.

\*In exceptional circumstances we will review non-organic certified supplier environmental practices which meet the same standards as our criteria or higher. This is expected to be for wild/game meat only.

# Wood and paper



We expect all our suppliers to adhere to our [Ethical Trade Requirements](#). Over and above this we have a number of commitments which we are working collaboratively with our suppliers to achieve. This statement outlines our commitment concerning wood/paper.

## Target

By 2025 all wood and paper used across our business and in the products we sell will come from recycled sources if possible and where not possible it will be certified under the [Forest Stewardship Council](#)® (FSC®) system.

## Deadline

2025

## What are wood and paper?

Wood (timber): a hard substance that forms the branches and trunks of trees and can be used as a building material, for making things etc.

Paper: thin, flat material made from crushed wood (wood pulp).

## What's the problem with using wood and paper?

Illegal logging for timber and pulp continues to drive global deforestation, in some cases despite certification. Cleared land is often converted to monocrop plantations or grazing land rather than left to rejuvenate, destroying invaluable ecosystems and contributing significantly to climate change.

According to [WWF](#), global production of pulp and paper is expected to grow over the course of the next decade fuelled by an increase in demand for both industrial and consumer packaging as well as tissue products.

## What is Selfridges' position on wood and paper?

We will work with our partners and suppliers to promote conservation of the world's ancient and endangered forests. We are committed to the responsible purchasing of all products that contain raw materials sourced from forests or known to be a significant driver of deforestation.

We will lead by example, from 2021 any wood/paper purchased as not for resale will be from recycled content or from sustainably managed forests certified under the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) system.

For all other products, in the lead-up to our target deadline of 2025 when the following criteria will become mandatory, we encourage our partners and suppliers to:

- Replace virgin wood/paper with recycled content.
- Make a robust public commitment to avoid sourcing wood/paper derived from ancient and endangered forests<sup>1</sup>.
- Make a timebound public commitment to ensure zero deforestation in the supply chain following globally recognised assurance and reporting frameworks.
- Source wood/paper derived from sustainably managed forests certified under the [Forest Stewardship Council](#)® (FSC®) system.
- Recognise, respect and uphold human rights and the rights of communities and acknowledge indigenous and rural communities' legal, customary or user rights to their territories, land, and resources.

<sup>1</sup>Ancient and endangered forests are defined as intact forest landscape mosaics, naturally rare forest types, forest types that have been made rare due to human activity, and/or other forests that are ecologically critical for the protection of biological diversity. Ecological components of endangered forests are: Intact forest landscapes; Remnant forests and restoration cores; Landscape connectivity; Rare forest types; Forests of high species richness; Forests containing high concentrations of rare and endangered species; Forests of high endemism; Core habitat for focal species; Forests exhibiting rare ecological and evolutionary phenomena. As a starting point to geographically locate ancient and endangered forests, maps of High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF), as defined by the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) and of intact forest landscapes (IFL), can be used and paired with maps of other key ecological values like the habitat range of key endangered species and forests containing high concentrations of terrestrial carbon and High Carbon Stocks (HCS). (The Wye River Coalition's Endangered Forests: High Conservation Value Forests Protection – Guidance for Corporate Commitments. This has been reviewed by conservation groups, corporations and scientists). Key endangered forests globally are the Canadian and Russian Boreal Forests; Coastal Temperate Rainforests of British Columbia, Alaska and Chile; Tropical forests and peat lands of Indonesia, the Amazon and West Africa.

# Palm oil



*We expect all our suppliers to adhere to our [Ethical Trade Requirements](#). Over and above this we have a number of commitments which we are working collaboratively with our suppliers to achieve. This statement outlines our commitment concerning palm oil.*

## Target

By 2025 all palm oil and palm-based ingredients (derivatives) used across our business and in the products we sell will be certified to the 'Identity Preserved' or 'Segregated' standards set by the [Roundtable on Responsible Palm Oil](#) (RSPO)\*.

## Deadline

2025

## What is palm oil?

Palm fruit and palm kernel oil are the most widely used vegetable oils in the world.

Palm oil and derivatives are estimated to be included in over [50%](#) of all consumer goods, from ice cream to lipstick and global consumption is expected to [double by 2050](#).

## What's the problem with palm oil?

Tropical forests primarily in South-East Asia have been and continue to be cleared to make way for palm plantations. These forests are some of the richest in biodiversity on the planet, providing habitat for countless species.

Rainforest often grows on carbon-rich peat soils, which are routinely drained and burned ready for palm to be planted; this process releases huge quantities of carbon into the atmosphere, contributing significantly to climate change.

The impacts of palm oil production have been well documented, and a number of initiatives and certifications have emerged to address the sustainability of the industry, the most notable being the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), which certifies around [19%](#) of global production. However, Greenpeace, [Imperial College London](#) and a number of other NGOs and academics have highlighted that palm oil certification does not always guarantee deforestation-free supply chains.

## What is Selfridges' position on palm oil?

In 2019 we came to the decision that until certified sustainable palm oil guaranteed zero deforestation, our customers should be given the option to buy palm oil free products. Therefore products specified under Selfridges' brand name were reformulated to be palm oil free. Since we took that decision an extensive review of RSPO standards has been undertaken and improvements made and we recognise that many of our brand partners have committed time and investment to achieving greater transparency and sustainability through palm oil certification and we respect this approach.

In the lead-up to our target deadline of 2025 when the following criteria will become mandatory, we encourage our partners and suppliers to:

- Make a time-bound public commitment to ensure zero deforestation in the supply chain following globally recognised assurance and reporting frameworks.
- Source certified palm oil to 'Identity Preserved' or 'Segregated' standards set by [the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil](#) (RSPO).
- Collaborate with innovative companies and suppliers to encourage the development of sustainable alternatives to palm oil.

\*In exceptional circumstances we will consider palm oil certified to the 'Mass Balance' or 'Book & Claim' standards set by the Roundtable on Responsible Palm Oil (RSPO).



# Plastic



We expect all our suppliers to adhere to our [Ethical Trade Requirements](#). Over and above this we have a number of commitments which we are working collaboratively with our suppliers to achieve. This statement outlines our commitment concerning plastic.

## Target

Goods Not For Resale (GNFR) packaging:

- Take action to eliminate problematic or unnecessary plastic packaging.
- Take action to move from single-use plastic towards reuse models where possible.
- Ensure 100% of Selfridges purchased plastic packaging is reusable, recyclable or compostable (home).
- 30% of post-consumer recycled content on average (by weight) across all Selfridges purchased plastic packaging.

## Deadline

2025

## What is plastic?

Natural materials processed by polymerisation or polycondensation known as polymers, that include thermoplastics, polyurethanes, thermosets, elastomers, adhesives, coatings and sealants and PP fibres.

[We align with the EU directive 2019/904 definition of plastic](#)

## What's the problem with plastic?

Plastic is a popular material due to its resilient yet lightweight properties. Its creation can involve the use of fossil fuels and doesn't break down in a natural environment once it has reached the end of its life, often ending up in the sea or on land.

### Single-use

The properties of plastic have driven a disposable culture where we consume products only once before throwing away the plastic they come packaged in. Many plastics are recyclable, however, others are not. Either way, a staggering 8 million tonnes of plastic enters the ocean every year.

### Microplastics

According to the European Chemicals Agency ([ECHA](#)):

- Microplastics are very small (typically smaller than 5mm) solid particles composed of mixtures of polymers (the primary components of plastics) and functional additives.
- Once in the environment, microplastics accumulate in animals, including fish and shellfish, and are consequently consumed as food, including by humans.
- They can be unintentionally formed through the wear and tear of larger pieces of plastic, including synthetic textiles.
- They can also be deliberately manufactured and intentionally added to products for a specific purpose, for example, glitter.

## What is Selfridges' position on plastic?

Launched in 2011, Project Ocean is our long-term partnership with the Zoological Society of London to help protect our oceans from overfishing and plastic pollution. From never selling or serving endangered fish in our stores to banning single-use plastic water and carbonated drinks bottles (part of the #OneLess pledge). Each year we launch a new initiative to drive positive change. Read more about our Project Ocean Legacy by searching 'Project Ocean' at [selfridges.com](#).

In 2018 we signed up to the [Ellen MacArthur Foundation – New Plastics Economy Global Commitment](#) and since then we have been working towards our goods not for resale packaging targets which we report progress against publicly through the foundation. We endeavour to widen the scope to all packaging in due course.

We will set a recycled content target for synthetic (plastic-based) fibres in 2021.

We encourage our partners and suppliers to:

- Eliminate all microplastics from products/materials.
- Take action to eliminate problematic or unnecessary plastic and plastic based materials across all operations.
- Take action to move from single-use plastic and plastic based materials towards reuse models across all operations.
- Where it can't be avoided ensure plastic and plastic based materials are reusable and/or recyclable\*.
- Where it can't be avoided ensure plastic and plastic based materials (e.g. synthetic fibres) contain at least 30% post-consumer recycled content.

\*We will also consider home compostable on an informed basis.