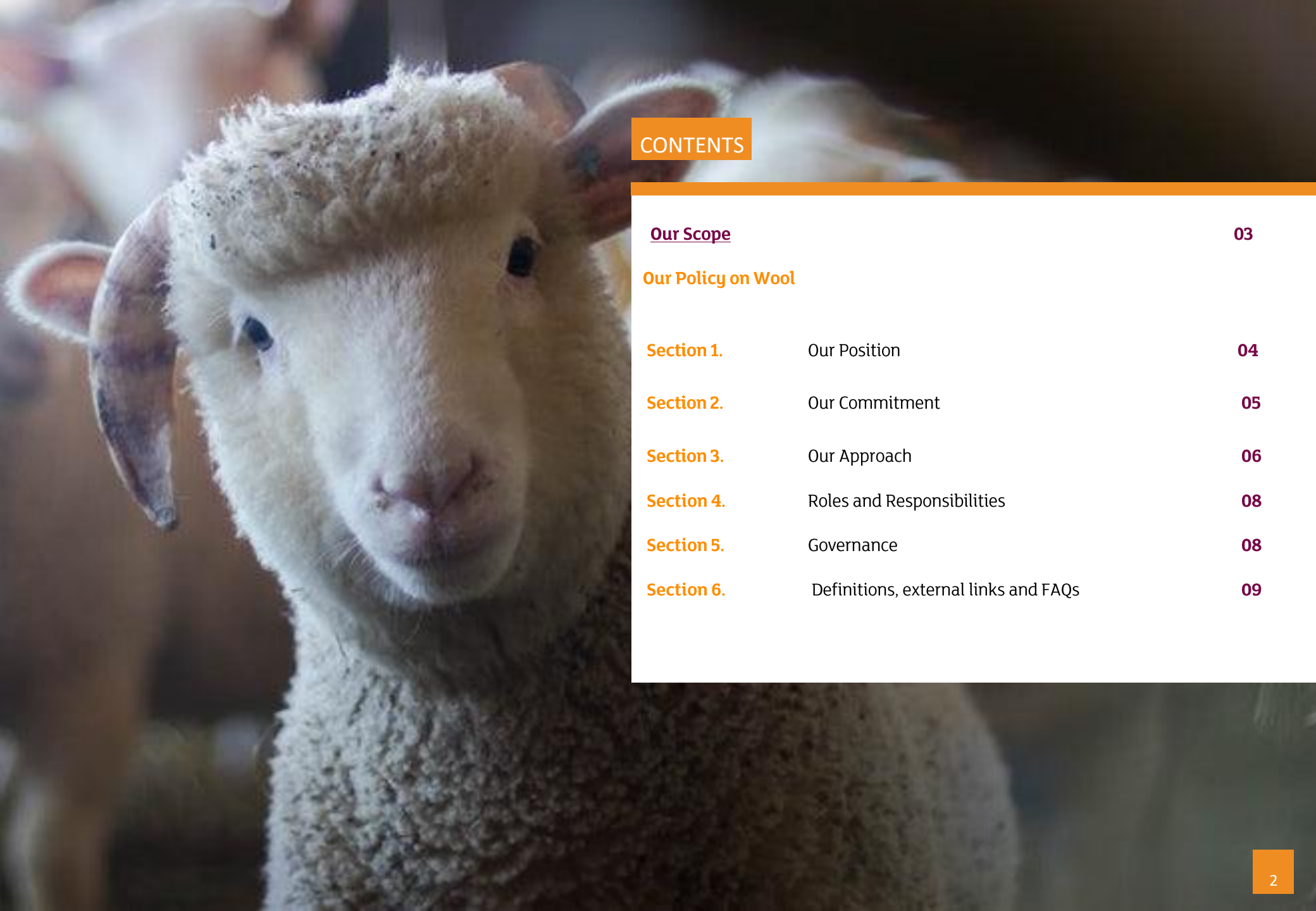


**Sainsbury's**

# Wool Policy





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# Our Scope

This applies to all types of wool used in any Sainsbury's Group Own Brand or Owned Brand product including:

- All Sainsbury's own brand products
- All Argos own brand products
- All Habitat own brand products
- All Tu own brand products
- All Sainsbury's Group-owned brand and licensed products
- This excludes Branded product

The following components are out of scope of this document:

- Certified recycled natural fibre which includes a small volume of wool (where wool is 3% or below of the total component fibre composition).
- Products that fall out of the scope of the Textile Products (Labelling and Fibre Composition) 2011 and all subsequent updates. (Products where wool is 3% or below of the total component fibre composition).

This policy should be read alongside our [Supplier Handbook](#). Depending on where in the business the products are sold, the General Merchandise Sustainability Guidelines, the Clothing Sustainability Guidelines or the Responsible Sourcing Manual should be consulted. The policy statements outlined in this document are in addition to all applicable UK and EU legislation. Sainsbury's suppliers must ensure they meet all requirements laid down in law at the point of manufacture and where the products are finally sold to the customer.

Whilst this policy is intended to help suppliers provide products suitable for Sainsbury's own brand, they do not absolve suppliers of their responsibility to understand and comply with all the quality, legal and safety requirements for their products.

### Our Position

Wool is used in Sainsbury's Group Non-Food products, both as a major component of the material (e.g. 70% Wool Rug) and as a minor component within the material (e.g. 14% Wool within the outer fabric of a coat) and is classified as one of our Key Raw Materials.

The most widely used wool source is sheep however other sources of wool can be found within this policy.

Where wool is used within Non-Food products, Sainsbury's and its' suppliers will ensure it is sourced from independently certified sources which are free from harmful practices.

All suppliers will ensure the health and welfare of animals are met in line with the five freedom principles as outlined in the Animal Welfare Act 2006. This includes:

- Freedom from hunger and thirst;
- Freedom from discomfort;
- Freedom from pain, injury and disease;
- Freedom to express normal behaviour;
- Freedom from fear and distress.





## Our Commitment

### Statements of intent

Sainsbury's had made the following animal health & welfare commitment as part of the Plan for Better Sustainability strategy

***“We will source animal-derived ingredients for our brand products from suppliers that demonstrate continuous improvement of Animal health & welfare, and practice responsible antibiotic stewardship.”***

This commitment covers all our food & Non-Food brand products, and the sourcing of wool means:

- Sainsbury's will source 100% of our wool products to an independent certification by 2030.
- Sainsbury's will source 100% of our wool products will be traceable to origin by 2030
- Sainsbury's will engage with relevant industry initiatives and suppliers to drive standards and adopt more sustainable practices.
- Sainsbury's will engage with suppliers who can demonstrate the use of verified standards or certifications as outlined below.

The wool used must not be from wild, exotic, endangered, or domesticated species that are not conventionally farmed. Acceptable source species for each material are specified within this policy.

All wool is sourced from farms which ensures animals do not experience any physical harm or pain due to the shearing/combing process.



## Our Approach

Sainsbury's has a long history of ensuring high animal health and welfare standards within our food supply chains, and we want to ensure consistency in our approach to sourcing where possible.

### General requirements

#### Traceability requirements

- Suppliers shall make all reasonable efforts to declare to Sainsbury's Group on an ongoing basis, the origin and route of materials through the supply chain, and details of the full supply chain from farm to finished product. Sainsbury's may decide to perform its own visits to the farms used to verify that the relevant standards are being met.

#### Measures:

- Fibre composition certificate on the material to confirm the species (breed) of wool. E.g. wool, cashmere, alpaca etc.
- Evidence material meets Sainsbury's Group requirements laid out in this policy.
- Wool sourced from farms that are not assured in line with this policy should not enter Sainsbury's supply chain.
- Fibre from non-accredited sources should be segregated throughout the supply chain.

#### Recognised independent audit schemes

- All wool must come from animals that have been farmed to good husbandry practices and must be certified by a recognised independently audited farm assurance scheme. Acceptable schemes for each material are specified below

#### Wool (Sheep) :

- Responsible Wool Standard (RWS) <https://textileexchange.org/standards/responsible-wool/>.
- British Wool Licensing Scheme <https://britishwool.org.uk>
- Red Tractor certified or equivalent.

#### Alpaca:

- Responsible Alpaca Standard (RAS) <https://textileexchange.org/standards/development-hub/responsible-alpaca-standard/>

#### Goat Derived Fibre (Mohair and Cashmere):

- Responsible Mohair Standard <https://textileexchange.org/standards/responsible-mohair/>
- The Good Cashmere Standard <https://thegoodcashmerestandard.org/>

Mulesing	
3.	<p>All wool is sourced from farms which do not perform the practice of mulesing.</p> <p><b>Measures</b></p> <p>Evidence that wool has been sourced from farms which do not practice mulesing.  All wool originating from Australia must be from farms declared as ‘non-mulesed’ (NM) or ‘ceased-mulesed’ in a National Wool Declaration (NWD) certificate <a href="http://www.awex.com.au/publication/national-wool-declaration-nwd/">http://www.awex.com.au/publication/national-wool-declaration-nwd/</a>.</p>
Alternative & recycled raw material	
4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If Recycled or Organic wool is used, the supplier must provide the appropriate chain of custody documentation beyond Purchase Orders, and GRS or GOTS certification as appropriate.</li> </ul>



## SECTION FOUR

### Roles and responsibilities

#### Suppliers:

To source wool in line with policy requirements. All required information must be accurately recorded in the relevant systems.

#### Sainsbury's:

To source wool in line with policy requirements. All required information must be accurately recorded in the relevant systems.

## SECTION FIVE

### Governance

This policy has been agreed by the GM Steering Committee and will be reviewed annually by the Head of Environment. All changes will be communicated to the suppliers.





## Definitions

- **Origin of wool:** By this we mean which animal the wool has come from.
- **Mulesing:** The removal of strips of wool-bearing skin from around the breach of a sheep to prevent parasitic infection by flystrike.
- **Recycled materials:** Animal derived fibers proven to be from a preferred post-consumer waste stream.
- **Segregation:** a chain of custody model that requires the certified produce from a certified site to be kept separately from non-certified sources.

## External links

- Responsible Wool Standard (RWS) <https://textileexchange.org/standards/responsible-wool/>.
- British Wool Licensing Scheme <https://britishwool.org.uk>
- Responsible Alpaca Standard (RAS) <https://textileexchange.org/standards/development-hub/responsible-alpaca-standard/>
- Responsible Mohair Standard <https://textileexchange.org/standards/responsible-mohair/>
- The Good Cashmere Standard <https://thegoodcashmerestandard.org/>

## FAQs

### **Q. What should I do if the supplier cannot meet our sustainability target by the date required?**

A. We cannot take any product from a supplier if they are not able to meet the requirements.

### **Q. Can I use recycled wool in my product?**

A. Yes, Whilst recycled wool isn't traceable back to source, its use does mean that 'virgin' wool wouldn't be needed instead. The supplier must supply evidence however that the wool used in the product is from a recycled source.

### **Q. Should the logo be added to the product, packaging or online of the certification?**

A. No, we do not hold the licence for GRS, RWS, RAS, or RMS, Please check the license requirements for British wool and Red tractor to use their logo as the product and the company must both be certified to use.

### **Q. Where should I save the certifications?**

A. All certifications should be saved against each sku/cat code in the product technical file on **Evolve** or on the style sheet in the other documents section on the **SGS portal**. These will be required to be produced during an audit so must be readily available.

# Sainsbury's

## Our Policy on Wool

The information in this document may be supported by other Sainsbury's Documents.  
The information outlined in this document is in addition to all applicable UK and EU legislation.

Sainsbury's suppliers must ensure they meet all legal and regulatory requirements both at the point of manufacture and where the products are sold to the consumer. Whilst this document is intended to help you supply products suitable for the Sainsbury's brand (i.e., all brands owned by Sainsbury's), they do not absolve you of your responsibility to understand and comply with all the quality, legal, and safety requirements for your products or the products you supply.

For the purpose of this document, Sainsbury's means Sainsbury's Supermarkets Limited and Argos Limited only. Sainsbury's Argos is the trading name of both:

- 1) Argos Limited, Registered office: 33 Charterhouse Street, London, EC1M 6HA, UK. Registered number: 01081551
- 2) Sainsbury's Supermarket Limited, Registered office : 33 Charterhouse Street, London, EC1M 6HA, UK Registered number: 03261722

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