

# Important update on Wood Waste handling regulations

The Environment Agency (EA) has confirmed the withdrawal of the 'Regulatory Position Statement (RPS) 250' effective from 1st September 2023. This decision will lead to changes in waste wood handling regulations from the construction and demolition (C&D) industry.

## What's changing?

'RPS 250' currently allows potentially hazardous waste wood items from the C&D industry to be moved and processed as non-hazardous. However, after extensive testing by the Wood Recyclers Association (WRA) to determine hazardous waste content in wood items, the EA has decided to withdraw 'RPS 250' starting from 1st September 2023.

This means that certain waste wood categories which would previously be sent to wood recyclers will now be automatically classified as hazardous waste and will need to be disposed of accordingly at a suitably permitted facility.

Post the WRA testing there are ten additional waste wood categories that have been designated as hazardous, accounting for less than 1% of UK total wood waste.

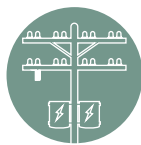
Note, the WRA anticipates adding further categories as hazardous items after ongoing testing persists.

## Which wood items are hazardous?

The categories that will be classified as hazardous from 1st September 2023 (typically from pre-2007 buildings), unless analysed to prove their non-hazardous nature, are

### Hazardous wood List

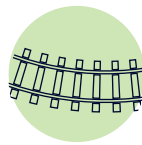
(Grade D)



Telegraph poles



CCA treated wood  
Creosote treated wood



Railway sleepers



Waste wood from hydraulic



Engineering (e.g. Docks)



Wood from boats or ships



Trailer beds

### Potentially Hazardous Wood List

(from pre-2007 structures):



Tiling, cladding and battens



Barge boards, fascias & soffits



External joinery



Timber frames and joists



External doors

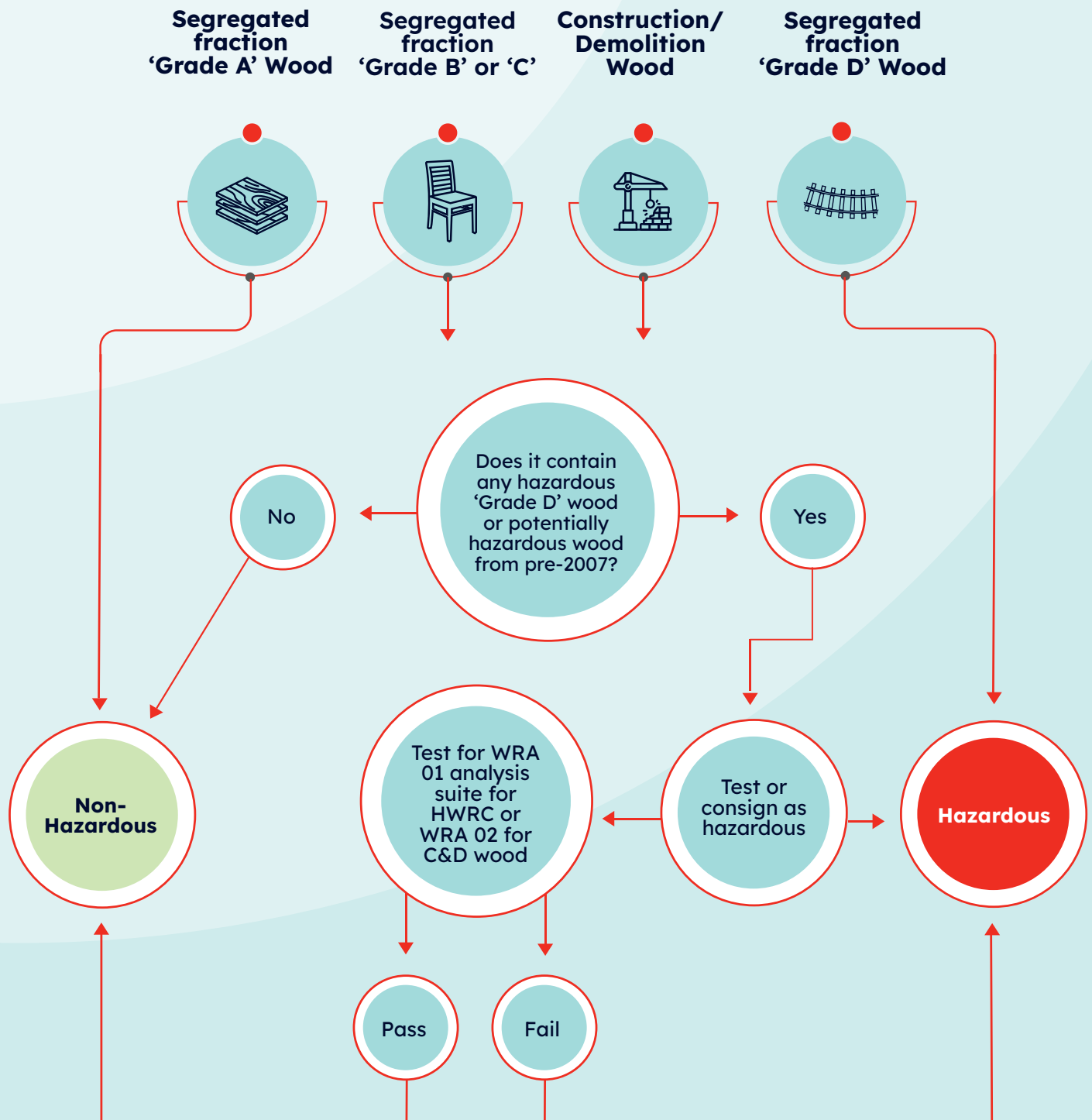


Roof timbers

These items will not be able to be sent to wood recyclers unless they are sent for a test to demonstrate that they are not hazardous.

Hazardous and potentially hazardous waste wood items from pre-2007 structures or waste classed as Grade D wood waste will need to be segregated and marked as hazardous waste.

# Flow chart for categorisation of Wood Waste



You can find more information and toolkit by visiting the WRA website: <https://woodrecyclers.org/>