

Home Retail Group

Conflict Diamonds policy

Background

Conflict diamonds have been defined by the United Nations as 'those diamonds that originate from areas controlled by forces or factions opposed to legitimate and internationally recognised governments, and are used to fund military action in opposition to those governments, or in contravention of decisions of the United Nations Security Council.'

Principally, those countries currently affected are Angola, Congo, Sierra Leone and Liberia.

We want to be able to reassure our customers and employees that we do not sell diamonds from such sources.

In the past Argos has required its suppliers to confirm that to the best of their knowledge, they do not source diamonds from conflict regions as indicated above. Argos has also asked suppliers to ensure that an audit trail is in place and that the origin of the diamonds is established.

This document sets out below the policy on conflict diamonds. It will be the responsibility of the HOME RETAIL GROUP CR Manager to ensure this policy is adhered to.

Home Retail Group will not knowingly source diamonds from conflict regions of Angola, Congo, Sierra Leone and Liberia, and will make a statement to this effect in its catalogues.

In particular Home Retail Group will

1. Seek written assurances from each diamond supplier

***that diamonds are sourced from non-conflict regions**

***that an audit trail is in place which fully supports this statement**

***that the country of origin of the diamonds is confirmed**

2. Cease trading with suppliers who are unable to provide the assurances above

3. Alert store staff to the conflict diamonds policy via training manuals etc