

1. What is the BSL tonnage fee?

- It is a fee that is charged on sales of BSL authorised fuels. The fee is nine pence per tonne of wood fuel sold.
- This guidance outlines how this fee is calculated (see question 4) and provides the conversion used for cubic metres (see question 6).

2. Do I have to pay a tonnage fee?

- If you are registered on the BSL and you sell woodfuel under any of your BSL authorised fuels, you are required to pay a tonnage fee.
- If you are a Self-Supplier or a Producer-Trader consuming your own wood fuel then you will not be charged a tonnage fee. If you are a Producer-Trader consuming your own wood fuel, you will be required to submit quarterly reports and should submit “0” sold.

3. When and how do I pay my fee?

- If you have an approved fuel registered on the BSL as a Producer, Producer-Trader or Trader you are required to submit how much wood fuel you have sold every three months, or every quarter. These are your “quarterly reports”.
- The timings of the quarters, and when you submit your data, are provided in the table below.

Quarter	Reporting quarter	Submission period
Quarter 1	1 st January – 31 st March	1 st April – 15 th May
Quarter 2	1 st April – 30 th June	1 st July – 14 th August
Quarter 3	1 st July – 30 th September	1 st October – 14 th November
Quarter 4	1 st October – 31 st December	1 st January – 14 th February

- To submit your quarterly reports, you will need to login to your account on the BSL website. After submitting, you will be shown how much you owe in tonnage fees and taken to a page on the website to pay your fees. See question 4 for more details on how exactly your tonnage fee is calculated.
- You will receive a reminder email on the first day of the submission period and every two weeks after that until you have paid.

4. How is my tonnage fee calculated?

- You will need to input the amount sold during the previous quarter for each BSL approved fuel. You can input this in tonnes or cubic metres.
- You will also need to input a 'Processing Country', the 'Product Moisture Content' and, if you sell firewood, you will need to state whether your fuel is sold stacked or loose. This information will be used to calculate a tonnage fee for each fuel. Questions 5 and 6 show examples of calculations for different fuel types.
- If you have Trader fuels and/or any fuels derived from 100% waste materials, you will not have the option to select a processing country as you may not know this and/or there may be more than one processing country. In this instance, the UK density values are used.
- To make the charge fair for fuel types with different moisture contents, the nine pence per tonne charge assumes a 10% moisture content. This means that fuels sold at a higher (or lower) moisture content will be adjusted to the 10% moisture content baseline. The fee has been designed like this to avoid higher charges for woodchip and firewood due to higher moisture content in these fuels. As a registered supplier on the BSL, you should know what the moisture content of your fuel is.

5. How is my fee calculated if I submit my data in tonnes?

- If you submit your quarterly reports in tonnes, your fee will be calculated using the following equation:

$$\text{Tonnes} \times (100 - MC) / 90, \text{ where } MC \text{ is product moisture content}$$

- This gives the adjusted tonnage amount which would then be multiplied by the tonnage fee (nine pence).

Examples:

Pellets

Supplier A submits **100 tonnes** for a pellet fuel with a **moisture content of 10%**. The conversion would be as follows:

$$(100 \times ((100 - 10) / 90)) \times \text{£}0.09 = \text{£}9.00 \text{ tonnage fee}$$

Firewood

Supplier B submits **100 tonnes** for a firewood fuel with a **moisture content of 30%**. The conversion would be as follows:

$$(100 \times (100 - 30) / 90) \times \text{£}0.09 = \text{£}7.00 \text{ tonnage fee}$$

Woodchip fuel

Supplier C submits **100 tonnes** for a woodchip fuel with a **moisture content of 35%**. The conversion would be as follows:

$$(100 \times ((100 - 35) / 90)) \times \text{£}0.09 = \text{£}6.50 \text{ tonnage fee}$$

6. How is my fee calculated if I submit my sales data in cubic metres?

- If you submit your quarterly reporting sales data in cubic metres (m³), this volume will be multiplied by a density lookup value (see table below) to give the amount in tonnes using the following calculation:

$$m^3 \times \text{Density Value (based on Processing Zone)}$$

- This density lookup value already takes into account the 10% moisture content baseline and is based on where the product is processed.
- Each 'Processing Country' has been categorised into a 'Processing Zone' and each fuel type has a corresponding density value. A full list of countries and corresponding Processing Zone is available on request.
- If you sell firewood and you submit your quarterly reports in cubic metres, the calculation will vary depending on whether you sell your fuel stacked or loose;

- If your firewood is sold as stacked, the calculation will be:

$$m^3 \times \text{Density Value}$$

- If your firewood is sold as loose, the calculation will be:

$$m^3 \times ((\text{Density Value}/0.7) \times 0.4)$$

where 0.7 is the relative solid volume for loose firewood and 0.4 is the relative solid volumes for stacked firewood.

Processing Zone	Density Values			
	Chip	Firewood	Pellet	Briquette
UK	0.180048	0.306045	0.644444	0.697667
Northern Temperate	0.179200	0.313601	0.644444	0.697667
Southern Temperate	0.184000	0.322000	0.644444	0.697667
Tropics	0.210028	0.367549	0.644444	0.697667

Examples are provided below.

Examples:

Woodchip

Supplier A submits 500 m³ for a woodchip fuel derived from 100% waste materials. The conversion would be as follows:

$$500 \times 0.180048 \times \text{£}0.09 = \text{£}8.10 \text{ tonnage fee}$$

Briquettes

Supplier B submits 500 m³ for a briquette fuel with a processing country of Russia (Northern Temperate). The conversion would be as follows:

$$500 \times 0.697667 \times \text{£}0.09 = \text{£}31.40 \text{ tonnage fee}$$

Firewood

Supplier C submits 100 m³ for a firewood fuel with a processing country as UK (UK) and sold as 'Loose'. The conversion would be as follows:

$$100 \times ((0.306045/0.7) \times 0.4) \times \text{£}0.09 = \text{£}1.57 \text{ tonnage fee}$$

Further questions?

If you have any more questions about the tonnage fee or the conversions used, you can email the BSL helpdesk at bslhelpdesk@gemserv.com or call (+44) 020 7090 7769.

The BSL helpdesk telephone line is open weekdays from 10am to 2pm, excluding public holidays.