



Office for Product  
Safety & Standards

# UK Competent Authority

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# Introduction

## Framework of Timber Regulations

- Application in GB (with practical examples)
- Application in NI (with practical examples)

## Exemptions to UKTR

- FLEGT
- CITES & Recycled Material

## UK CA approach to enforcement

- Identifying a new area of investigation
- Engagement with business
- Assessment of DDS

# Framework of Timber Regulations

Prevent illegally harvested timber/timber products being placed on GB market

Products within scope listed by commodity code

FLEGT

Distinguishes between operators and traders

Sets out due diligence requirements for operators

CITES

Recycled material

# Obligations under Timber Regulations

## Operators

- Exercise due diligence when placing timber or timber products on the market for the first time
- Maintain and regularly evaluate the due diligence system it uses

## Traders

- Identify the operators or the traders who have supplied the timber or timber products; and
- Where applicable, identify the traders to whom they have supplied timber or timber products.

# Due Diligence Systems



## Access to Information

- Description of product
- Species of timber
- Country of harvest
- Quantity
- Supplier or trader details
- Relevant compliance documentation



## Risk Assessment

- Third party verification and certification
- Prevalence of illegal harvesting of specific tree species (e.g. REDD List, CITES)
- Prevalence of illegal harvesting in country of harvest
- Complexity of supply chain of timber and timber products
- Sanctions imposed by UN / EU



## Risk Mitigation

- Set of measures and procedures to reduce risk to negligible or do not import



# Regulatory Framework

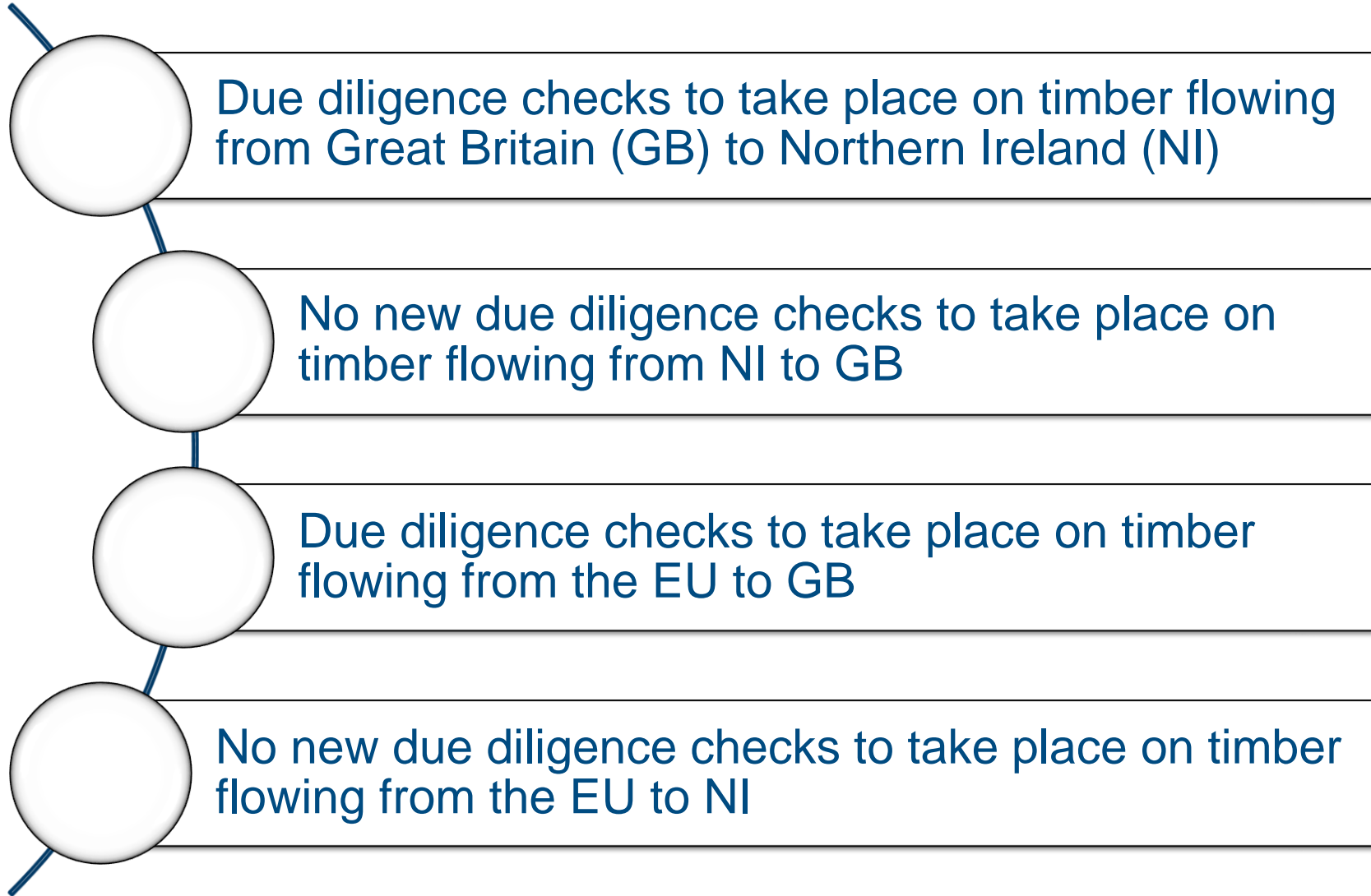
## REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

- Northern Ireland is covered by Northern Ireland Protocol & European Timber Regulations

## ENFORCEMENT OF REGULATIONS

- OPSS responsible for enforcement in both Great Britain and Northern Ireland

# Timber Regulations in the UK



# Practical Effects of UKTR

No change in relation to suppliers from outside EU



Due diligence required on products EU → GB



Responsibility with GB operator

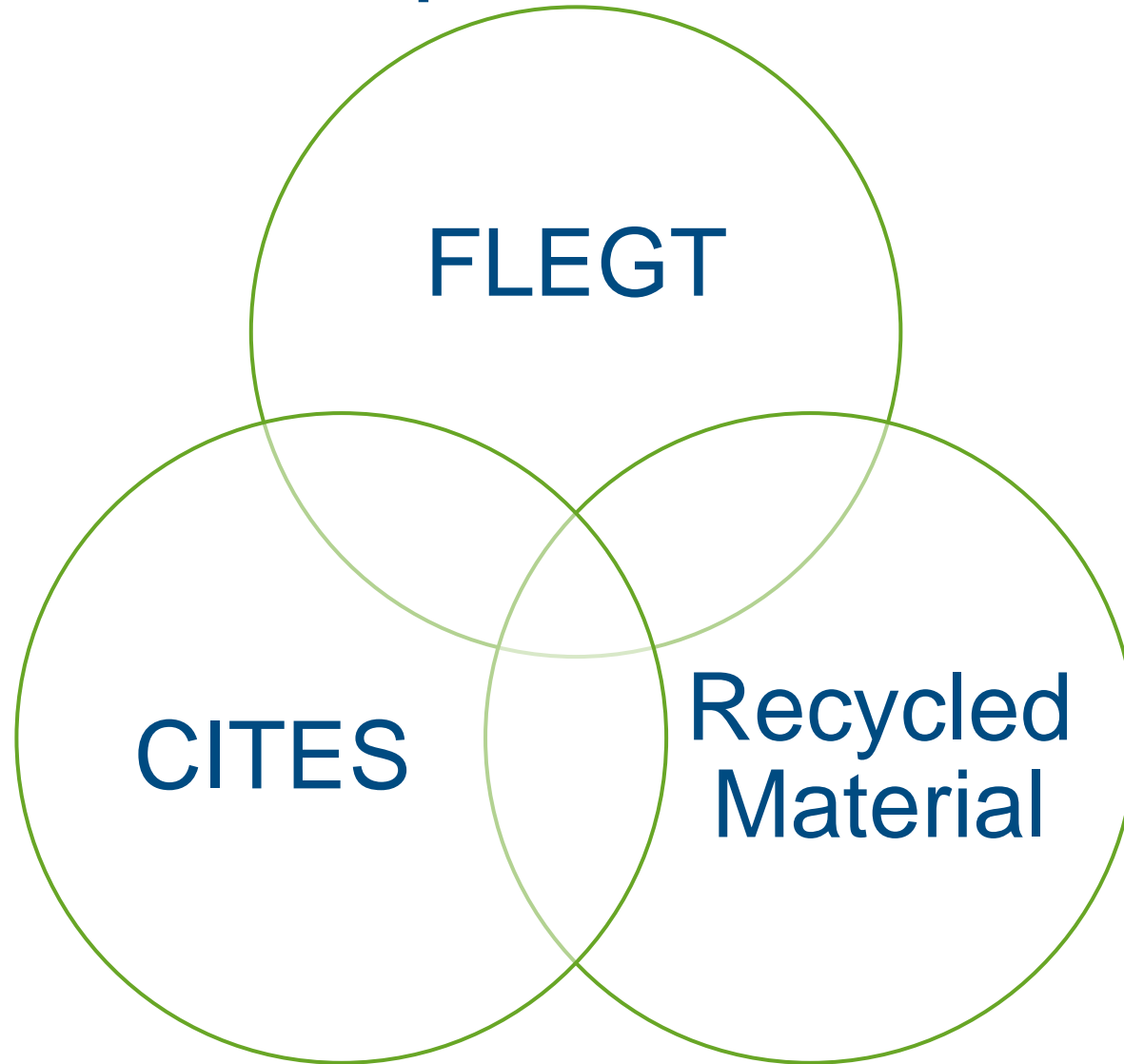


Risk within EU varies





# Exemptions to UKTR



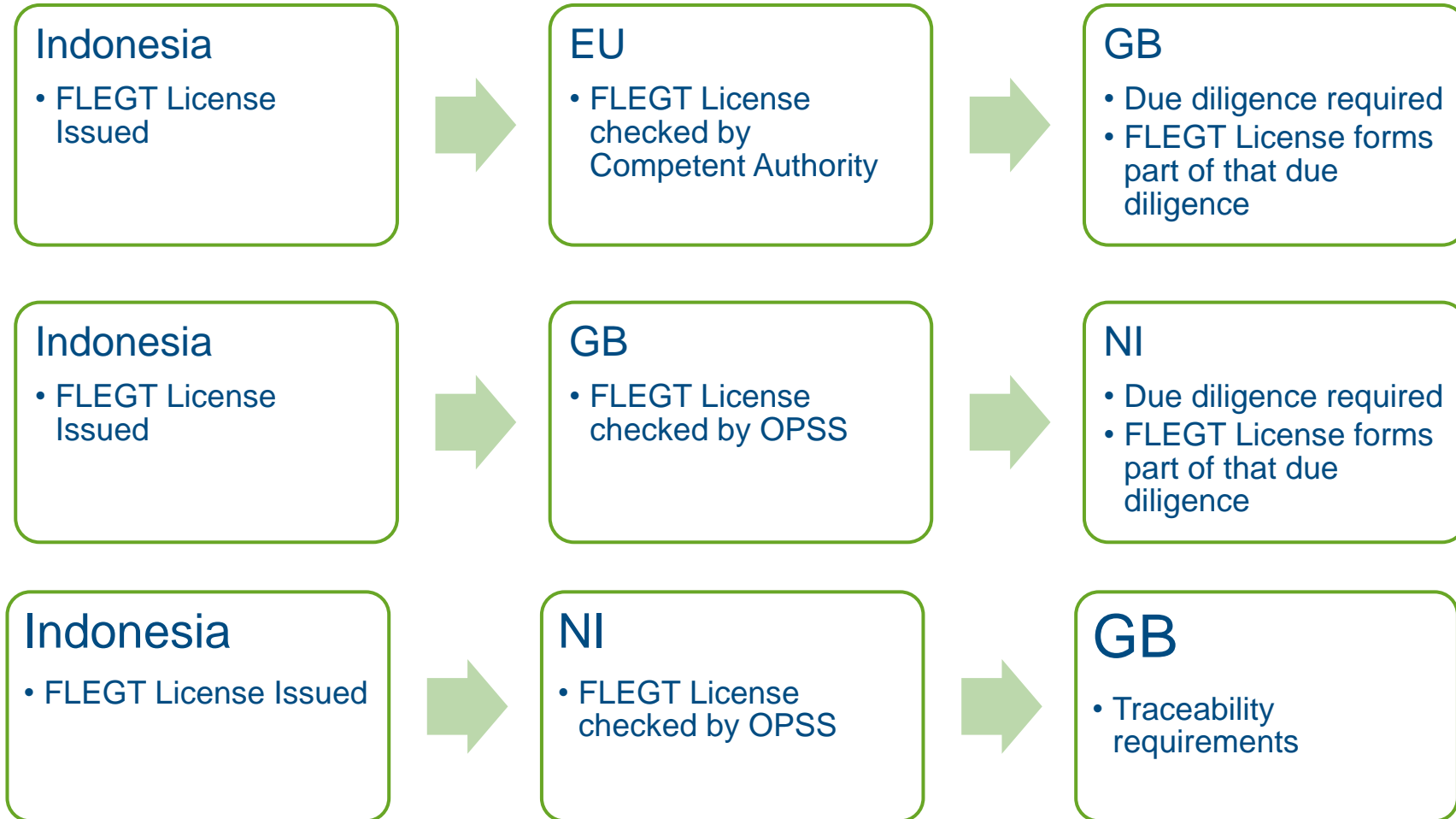
# FLEGT Licenses

VPA agreement in place

FLEGT Licensing system set up

Exemption from Due Diligence Requirement

# FLEGT Licenses – scenarios



# CITES

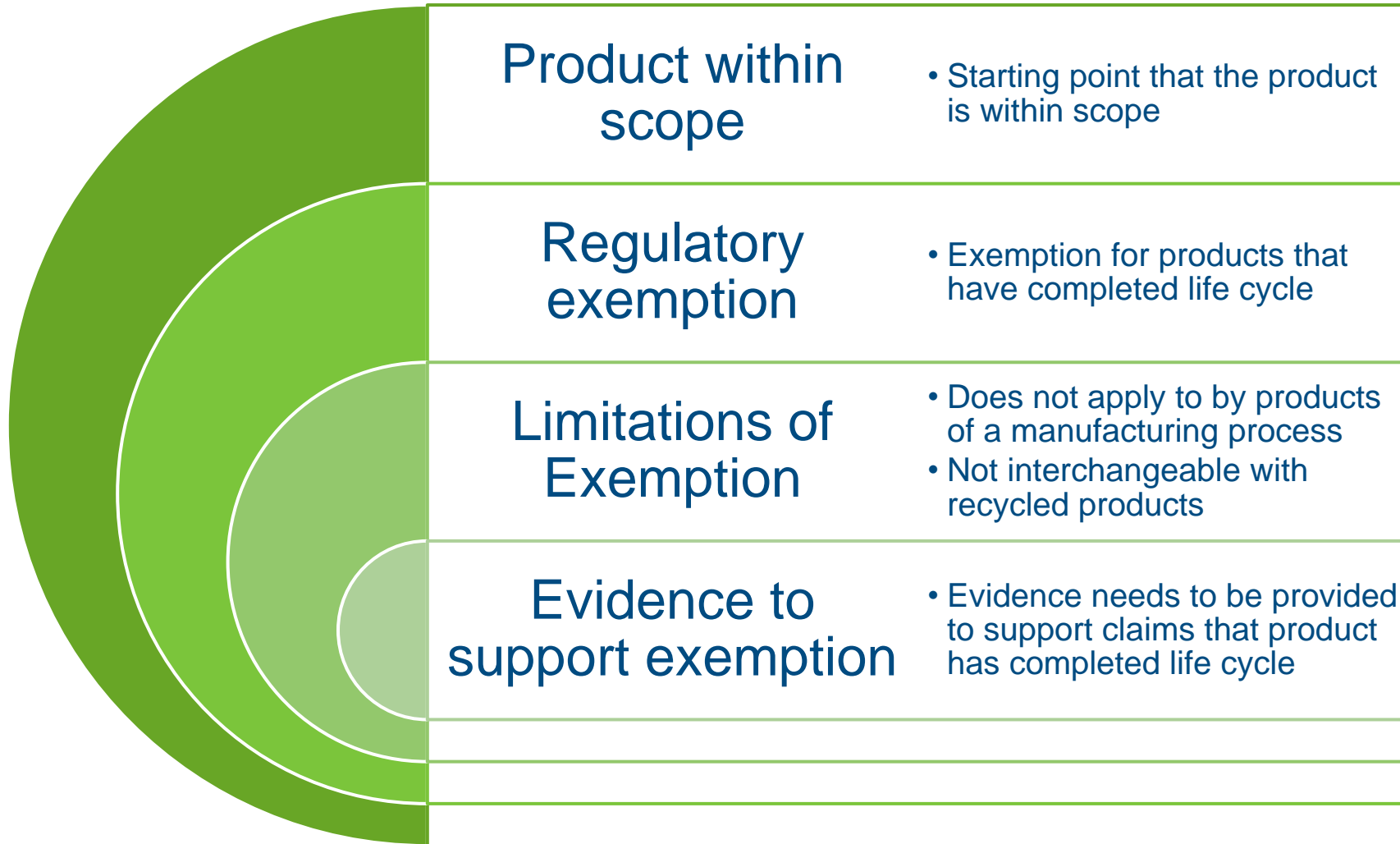
## CITES Exemption

- UK signatory to CITES
- UKTR gives effect to CITES
- Permit taken as compliance with UKTR

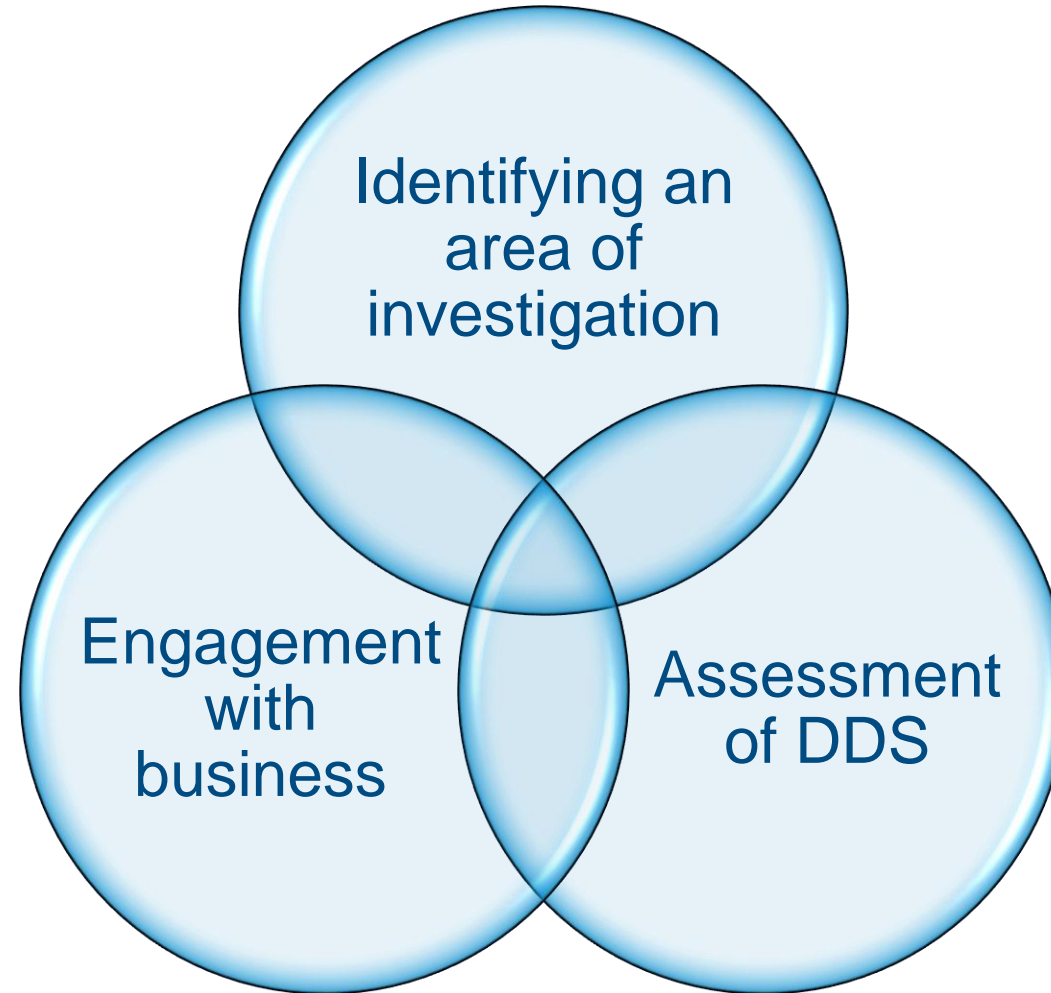
## For more information

- [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) guidance on CITES
- [www.cites.org](http://www.cites.org)
- Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA)

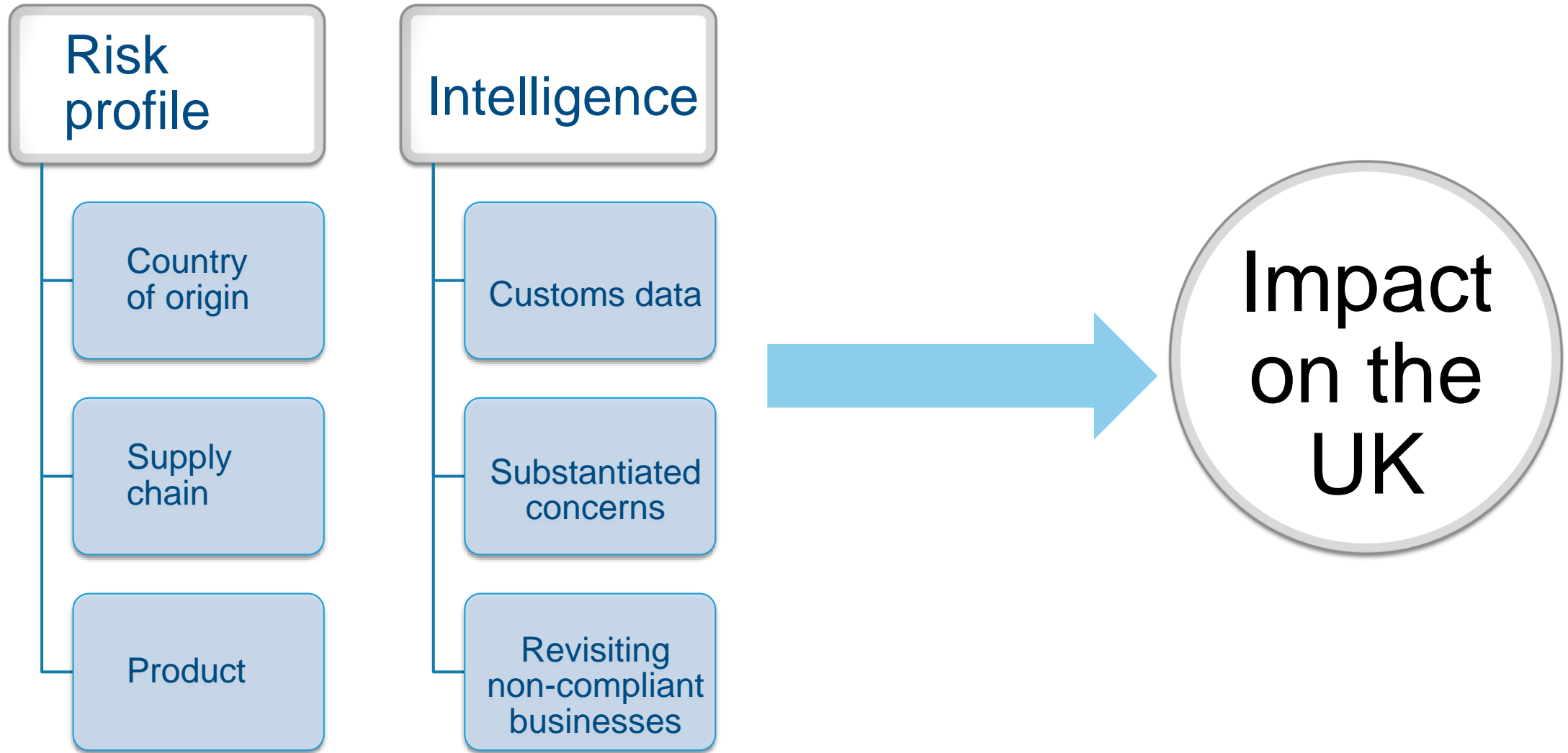
# Recycled Material



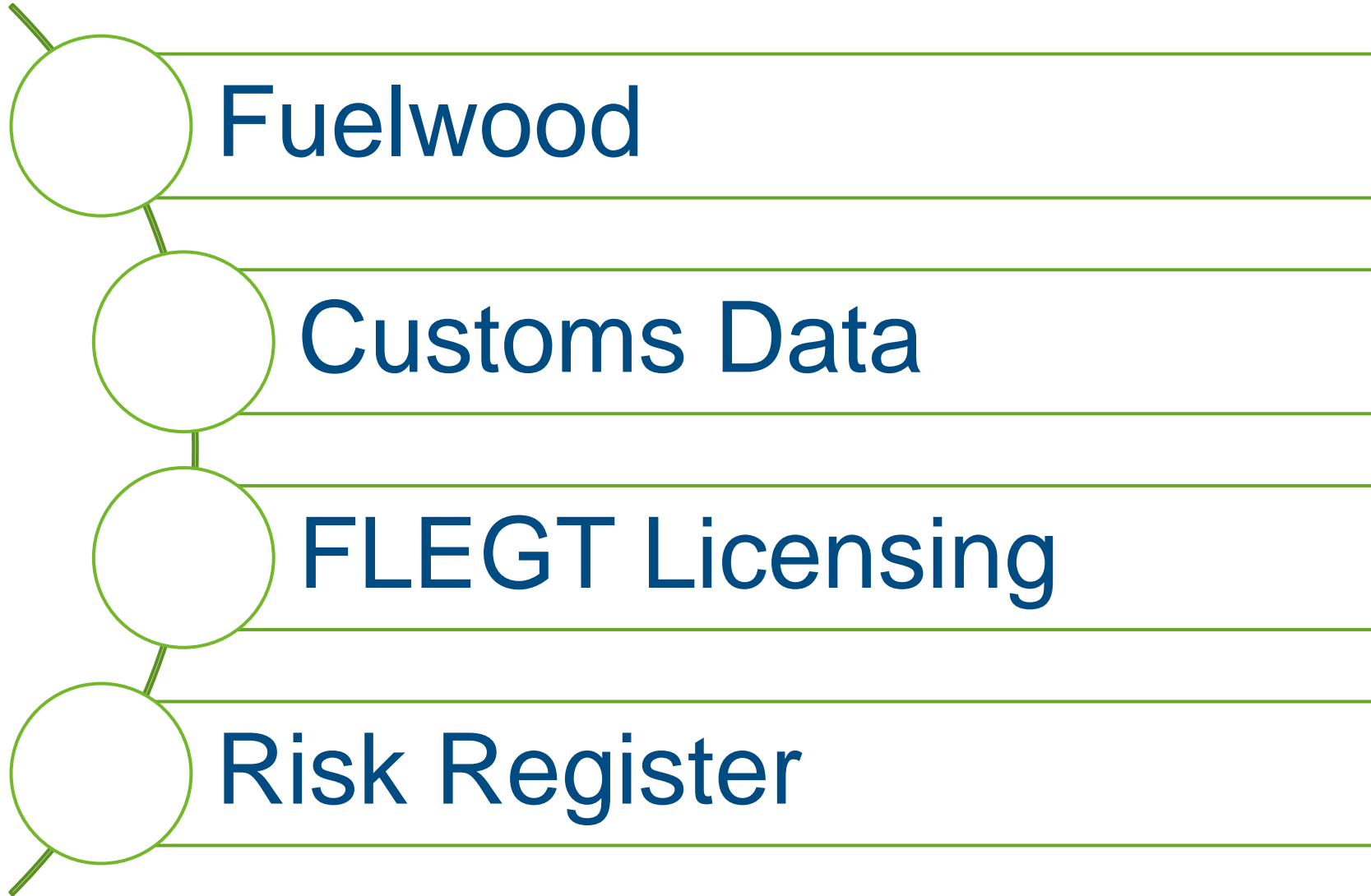
# UK CA Approach to Enforcement



# Identifying an area of investigation



## Recent Enforcement Activity





# Engagement with Business

## Awareness Raising

- Workshops
- Social media
- Website

## Enforcement Visits

- Request DDS for specific import
- If DDS not compliant, support business to comply
- Purchase sample for testing
- Sanction non-compliance

# Documentation

## Document Verification

- Online resources which gather documentation
- Official government websites
- Checking the names of issuing officers
- Scope and validity of certification
- Obvious mistakes of documents

## Product testing



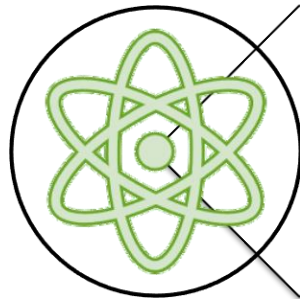
### Anatomical

- Genus of timber



### Genetic

- Uses DNA for species



### Isotopic

- Location of timber

# Sanctioning Non-Compliance

## Advisory Letter

- Business was non-compliant but has since taken appropriate measures
- Seriousness of offence commensurate with advisory letter

## Notice of Remedial Action

- Issued where there has been an offence (failure to have or maintain due diligence system)
- Specifies measures to be taken to ensure compliance
- Requires measures to be taken within period specified in the notice

## Prosecution

- Sustained refusal to implement due diligence systems / breach of notice of remedial action
- Seriousness of offence is sufficiently grave to warrant prosecution
- Unlimited fine or up to two years' imprisonment



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