

Animal Welfare Policy

Cranswick plc recognise that welfare management of farm animals is both essential and integral to our business and stakeholders. As a leading supplier of animal protein to our customers, we recognise that we have a moral and ethical responsibility to those animals throughout our supply chain. We therefore have a strong commitment to embed and maintain industry leading standards of farm animal health and welfare across our operations and throughout our UK and global supply chains. With this in mind, we have drawn up our own Cranswick Pig Standard which is issued to all pig suppliers into our business and is reviewed annually to ensure it covers the latest welfare guidance. Cranswick Welfare assessments are carried out on farm against the standard in line with our risk-based matrix.

Our producers and suppliers will have the same commitment to farm animal welfare, the development of welfare management systems, and a clear focus on welfare outcome measures.

Cranswick plc is committed to a policy of achieving and maintaining the highest possible standards of animal welfare from birth/hatching, rearing, transportation, through to slaughter, and throughout our supply chains. Whilst we and our producers have previously endorsed the 'Five Freedoms' (which emphasise the prevention of suffering), as promoted by the Farm Animal Welfare Council (FAWC), we acknowledge that farm animals are sentient beings and recognise that good animal welfare encompasses not only good health and physical condition but also the mental wellbeing and the ability for the animal to be able to express species-specific behaviour.

We therefore support the concept that farm animals should have the "Freedom to undergo positive emotional (affective) experiences". As such, we have evolved our welfare ethos and encourage all producers and suppliers to embrace the 'Five Domains Model' These are;

1. Good nutrition
2. Good environment
3. Good health
4. Appropriate behaviour
5. Positive mental experiences

The first four domains can be assessed through animal welfare indicators and will be managed in order to ensure that they have a positive effect on the fifth domain.

Our key commitments are that all supplying farms and processing sites will ensure:

1. Compliance with legislative standards and, where possible, source from producers that are accredited to recognised welfare schemes such as RSPCA Assured, Red Tractor or equivalence as a minimum.
2. The avoidance of confinement for all species.
3. Non-castration of pigs and the avoidance of routine activities such as tail docking, teeth clipping/grinding, beak trimming on poultry and tail docking on cows.
4. Provision and maintenance of living conditions and environmental enrichment suitable for specific species.

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5. That no animals throughout the Cranswick supply base are subject to any genetic modification or are derived from cloned stock.
6. That all livestock journey times are kept to a minimum and do not exceed eight hours.
7. That all animals are adequately pre-stunned prior to process.
8. That artificial or hormonal growth promoting substances are not used when rearing animals.
9. That antibiotics, when required, are used responsibly without compromising animal welfare – a concept known as “as little as possible but as much as necessary”.

We will ensure that at all stages of our supply chain best practice will be employed wherever animals, people and equipment interact. All staff involved in animal stockmanship and handling will have the appropriate training, qualifications and supervision to ensure that they are compliant with our high standards of animal health and welfare. Under no circumstance will any degree of animal abuse be tolerated. We will support the animal welfare policies promoted by our customers and we aspire to be industry leaders.

We will regularly review this policy to ensure that it remains concurrent with developments in farmed animal welfare research, ethics, scientific facts, legislation, codes of practice, and the future needs of our customers and stakeholders.

For Cranswick plc:

Business Unit Director:



Adam Couch
Chief Executive
March 2024

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History of Change:

Date of Issue	Version	Author	Reason
March 2023	008	Kasia Bolibok	Annual Review, removed reference to BBFAW, added History of Change.
March 2024	009	Matt Brown	Annual Review

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