

Animal Welfare Policy

Cranswick plc recognise that welfare management of farm animals is both essential and integral to our business and stakeholders. We have a strong commitment to embed and maintain high standards of farm animal welfare across our operations and throughout our UK and global supply chains

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, where we and our producers shall endorse the “five freedoms” concept promoted by the Farm Animal Welfare Council (FAWC):

1. Freedom from hunger and thirst
2. Freedom from discomfort
3. Freedom from pain, injury or disease
4. Freedom to express normal behaviour
5. Freedom from fear and distress

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 experiences”

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 Red Tractor or RSPCA Assured.
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.
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.

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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 support the animal welfare policies promoted by our customers and recognise the Business Benchmark Farm Animal Welfare annual review as a well-respected independent assessment of our business commitment to farm welfare standards where we aspire to remain in Tier 1 recognition.

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:



Adam Couch
Chief Executive
February 2021

Business Unit Director:

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