DRAFT v.4

ANIMAL WELFARE MODULE (AW)

This module is applicable to all sites slaughtering cattle, sheep, goats and pigs

AIM: Livestock are treated and handled in a way that avoids unnecessary pain, distress or suffering at all times, in accordance with current legislation

STANDARDS	HOW YOU WILL BE MEASURED	
ANIMAL WELFARE POLICY, ANIMAL WELFARE OFFICERS AND TRAINING		
AIM: Animal welfare is managed by competent people in accordance with company policies		
AW.a (REVISED) **An animal welfare policy for the site must be documented and communicated**	▪ A documented policy outlines the site's objectives with regards to achieving and delivering standards of animal welfare and conforming to the scheme standard and relevant legislation ▪ Policy signed off by relevant senior management ▪ Policy communicated torelevant persons particularly all those associated with the live animal, transporters, lairage staff and slaughters e.g. through training, posters, work instructions, staff handbook ▪ The policy is reviewed annually (demonstrated with a signed and dated review) and kept up-to-date in line with legislation and best practice recommendations	▪ Policy
AW.a.1 (REVISED) **Animal Welfare Officer(s) (AWO) must be on-site during operational hours and hold overall responsibility for Animal Welfare on the site**	▪ A documented management structure identifies those fulfilling role ▪ A documented procedure details the responsibilities of the AWO ▪ AWO(s): – hold appropriate Certificates of Competence for the species and operations they are responsible for – have sufficient authority to make decisions and take actions to safeguard welfare *Definition to be included in guidance section. Suggest:* ***Operational hours are defined as the time from when the first animal of the day is stunned and killed until the site has ceased stunning and killing of the last animal on the same day.***	▪ Management structure/ organogram
AW.a.2 (REVISED) **There must be a sufficient number of trained and competent persons working within the lairage and slaughter areas during operational hours to care for and handle livestock**	▪ During operational hours competent persons oversee/ undertakes unloading, lairaging and slaughter ▪ Arrangements are in place to ensure sufficient people are present during holidays/ sick leave	
AW.a.2.1 (NEW) **Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) must be in place for each operation from animal intake to confirmation of death**	▪ Checks must be made that procedures are followed ▪ Updates are introduced when new or changes to processes or procedures are introduced ▪ Includes the maximum line speed at which animals can be put through to the stun point, humanely slaughtered and checks carried out	
AW.a.3 **All staff involved in the care and handling of livestock must be trained and assessed as competent**	▪ As required by legislation, persons that are responsible for or undertake the following roles, hold a Certificate of Competence relevant to the species: – the handling and care of animals before they are restrained – the restraint of animals for the purpose of stunning or killing – the stunning of animals – the assessment of effective stunning – the shackling or hoisting of animals – the bleeding of live animals and monitoring the absence of signs of life ▪ Staff have been trained to procedures relevant to their roles. Training may include Certificate of Competence training delivered in house by an official training provider or by external training providers	

AW.a.4 **The ongoing performance of staff who care for and handle livestock must be monitored and training updates or refresher training given as required**	▪ Training needs for each role are established ▪ Employee training needs are reviewed on a risk assessed frequency and where needed training and updates are given e.g. change in process, change in legislation	▪ Training record
AW.a.5 **Systems must be in place to ensure appropriate, competent persons are contactable out of operational hours when livestock are on-site**	▪ Person(s) contactable in the event of a problem/ emergency ▪ The point of contact is a AWO or a competent member of staff who can contact an AWO at any time	▪ Signs/ contact numbers
AW.a.6 **The AWO(s) must have access to a copy of the regulationsand best practice recommendations relating to protecting the welfare of animals at the time of killing**	▪ Up-to-date copies of industry codes of practice relevant to stunning and killing system held (such as those produced by Defra, trade associations orthe Humane Slaughter Association)	
AW.a.7 (NEW) **Welfare outcome scoring must be undertaken and recorded**	▪ Recorded for Red Tractor Assured cattle, sheep and pigs (as applicable) *Possible guidance to be included to aid those members who don't currently record Welfare Outcomes (although many do) - this standard is proposing that members simply record Welfare Outcomes and not, at this stage, to any defined Protocol.*	
AW.a.8 (NEW) (Recommendation) **Welfare outcome scoring is undertaken in accordance with the Red Tractor Protocol**	(Red Tractor Protocol will be detailed in an Appendix once it is developed)	

STANDARDS	HOW YOU WILL BE MEASURED
FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION	
AIM: Facilities are fit for purpose; well designed, constructed, maintained and operated to protect the welfare of animals	
AW.b (REVISED) **Suitably designed and constructed unloading facilities must be provided**	▪ Designed in accordance with legislation and with regard to the livestock species being unloaded ▪ Design of facilities to minimise risk of slipping, falling or injury (e.g. minimal ramp incline, ramp surfaces are non-slip) ▪ For pigs, internal and external ramp angles do not exceed 20 degrees ▪ Where necessary, species-specific bays are operated ▪ Solid and secure unloading points prevent the escape of livestock
AW.b.1 (REVISED) **Walkways and the lairage must be designed and constructed to allow animals to move freely and without distraction in the required direction**	▪ The area facilitates the movement of livestock and does not present obstructions to livestock
AW.b.2 **Walkways and the lairage must be suitably designed and constructed to provide a suitable and safe environment for livestock**	▪ The lairage provides a safe, hygienic and comfortable environment (i.e. no sharp edges, projections or hazardous electrical installations) ▪ The design of pens and gates allows inspection of livestock and reduces the risk of livestock becoming injured or escaping
AW.b.3 **Livestock areas have sufficient lighting to allow normal behaviours, effective handling and inspection**	▪ The loading areas, walkways and pens are appropriately lit, to allow inspection and effective handling ▪ If livestock are kept overnight, a period of low level lighting or darkness is provided to allow rest
AW.b.4 (REVISED) **Walkways, the lairage and any pens must be constructed and maintained in a manner that enables effective cleansing and disinfection**	▪ Sufficient drainage system to remove liquid debris
AW.b.5 **Walkways, the lairage and any pens used must be cleansed and disinfected regularly to minimise the risk of contamination**	▪ Dedicated facilities are available in the lairage area to permit cleaning ▪ Pens are thoroughly cleansed and disinfected at least weekly ▪ No evidence of dried- or built-up manure, old-bedding or feed

AW.b.6 (REVISED) **The lairage must be suitably designed and constructed to provide appropriate thermal conditions for livestock**	▪ The lairage is ventilated to minimise high humidity, the build-up of odours and to maintain an ambient temperature ▪ Ventilation may be natural or artificial ▪ The lairage shelters livestock from adverse weather conditions [see field lairage] ▪ The lairage has systems in place to cool animals to prevent overheating. ▪ Pig lairages have a system for misting pigs (or similar) but are not used if: - pigs show signs of cold stress (shivering) - the ambient temperature is below 5 degrees C ▪ Misting system (or similar) used to calm pigs if necessary, provided it allows pigs to rest as appropriate	
AW.c (REVISED) **Ventilation systems must protect against extreme temperature, harmful levels of humidity and harmful levels of ammonia, be maintained and alarmed with regular testing**	▪ Ventilation systems maintained and effective. ▪ Where ventilation is controlled mechanically, failure activates an alarm and emergency back-up systems are available ▪ Alarms are tested every seven days	
AW.c.1 (REVISED) **In the event of ventilation equipment failure, contingency plans and corrective actions must be implemented**	▪ When necessary, emergency back-up systems are implemented ▪ Records of routine maintenance, corrective actions and repairs are recorded	▪ Routine maintenance corrective actions and repair records
AW.d (REVISED) **Floors which livestock have access to must be designed, constructed and maintained in a manner that minimises the risk of slipping, falling or injury**	▪ Includes loading ramps, walkways, pens, stun pens ▪ Floor surfaces are sound and livestock can walk at ease ▪ Design of any slats, mesh or grating are suitable for the species and do not cause livestock to slip, fall or cause foot injuries ▪ Any drains that are accessible to livestock are well maintained, non-slip and are secured to prevent them being lifted by livestock	

STANDARDS	HOW YOU WILL BE MEASURED
AW.e (REVISED) **Livestock must not be subjected to avoidable, excessive or sudden noises**	▪ Efforts are made to minimise avoidable, excessive or sudden noises. ▪ A risk assessment is used to identify source of noise and ensure mitigating actions have been taken if required. ▪ Noises may be caused by people, equipment or ventilation systems and other animals ▪ Noises in the lairage environment do not cause livestock distress ▪ No presence of sustained animal vocalisation
AW.f **Prior to kill, a daily, visual check of the livestock facilities to confirm that processing can commence safely and hygienically for both animals and staff must be carried out by a competent member of staff**	▪ A visual check of the unloading, lairage, handling, restraining and stunningfacilities ▪ If the visual check identifies an issue, this is recorded and corrective actionis implemented – where there is a risk to animal welfare the issue is addressed immediately, recorded and reported to an AWO ▪ Where necessary production is halted until the problem is resolved or theaffected area is not used
WAITING PEN AND RESTRAINING FACILITY CONSTRUCTION	
AW.g (REVISED) **Where waiting pens are used, they must be of suitable design**	▪ The waiting or crowd pen has a well maintained non-slip floor, solid sides with no sharp edges and encourages the flow of livestock directly to the place where they will be stunned/ killed

AW.g.1 (REVISED) **The facilities used for holding livestock for stunning must be suitably designed to allow effective stunning**	▪ The equipment or facilities present no sharp edges ▪ The design or location facilitates movement of stunned animals to the stickingpoint to ensure the stun to stick time is minimised (and within the timescales prescribed in the relevant **Appendix**) ▪ The design allows the stunning process to be monitored ▪ Where restraining devices or individual stun pens are used: – entry to the pen encourages the flow of livestock into the pen – the equipment restricts livestock movement (forward, backwards or sideways), minimises livestock struggling and negates the need for animals to be carried or inverted – the equipment presents the animals head for effective stunning ▪ Where group stunning pens are used: – entry to the pen encourages the flow of livestock into the pen – the size of the pen is adjustable so as to provide appropriate working space to allow safe and effective stunning with minimal excitement of the animals *Guidance to include the FSA Best Practice Guidelines for Group Stunning Systems (available on HSA website):stunpen:stunpen.gxd.gxd (hsa.org.uk)*	
FIELD LAIRAGES *Guidance to include the definition of a field lairage as:* ***Field lairages are within the curtilage of the approved slaughterhouse and are therefore part of the approved slaughterhouse and share the same CPH number. Field lairages are the responsibility of the food business operator (FBO).***		
AIM: Where field lairages are used, they and the livestock within them are managed appropriately		
AW.h **Field lairages must be equipped with appropriate facilities to deliver welfare needs**	▪ Field lairages provide livestock with protection from adverse weather conditions i.e. hedges, trees or man-made walls, banks, provide shade tolivestock in hot weather and provide shelter in cold weather ▪ Field lairages have a perimeter fence that is complete and structurally sound.The fence: – prevents direct contact between abattoir livestock and other livestock – gives a 3 metre gap between abattoir and other livestock e.g. by doublefencing – reduces the likelihood of escape ▪ Fresh, clean drinking water is provided to livestock in water troughs. Troughsare cleaned out as needed to ensure water is of suitable cleanliness ▪ Hazards are inaccessible to livestock ▪ Fixed or portable lighting is available to enable livestock to be seen at any time	
AW.h.1 (REVISED) **Field lairages are effectively managed**	▪ Livestock are managed in batches and a control system ensures traceability is maintained for livestock lairaged ina field ▪ Weeds are managed and the field is given a period ofrest from livestock/ rotated as needed to enable grassto recover ▪ Stocking densities are managed to ensure the field doesnot become excessively poached ▪ The cleanliness of the animal does not deteriorate while in the field lairage	▪ Traceability records
LIVESTOCK INTAKE		
AIM: Upon arrival all livestock are checked and their welfare is appropriately managed		
AW.i (REVISED) **The site must operate a system that ensures that livestock vehicles are unloaded without delay**	▪ If livestock cannot be unloaded immediately upon arrival, a risk assessedunloading sequence is decided ▪ Risk assessment takes into consideration the species, journey times (longest are unloaded first), climatic conditions and signs of distress ▪ Where livestock are held on the vehicle, their welfare is regularly monitored by the AWO and official veterinarian (OV) working together to ensure appropriate action is taken (if required) to safeguard animal welfare – for pigs, welfare checks are undertaken every 30 minutes	

AW.i.1 (REVISED) **A record of the date and time of livestockarrival and unloading must be displayed and kept**	■ The information is recorded and kept in the lairage ■ A visible record is displayed until the animals are slaughtered (e.g. on a board in the lairage/ on the pen)	■ Pen record
AW.j (REVISED) **A system must be in place to check the health and welfare of all livestock that come onto site at unloading or shortly afterarrival**	■ All livestock are checked at unloading or shortly after penning by a competent member of staff with the appropriate Certificate of Competence (CoC) – in the case of out of hours deliveries, the transporter may sign that livestock were in a fit condition at delivery, provided checks are undertaken by the first competent person to arrive on-site (note, this does not override the need for transporters to check livestock upon unloading and report issues) ■ The checks made identify if livestock are showing signs of distress, pain or injury	
AW.j.1 **A system must be in place to check the health and welfare of all livestock regularlywhilst the livestock are on-site**	■ The checks made identify if livestock are showing signs of distress, pain or injury	
AW.j.2 (REVISED) **A system must be in place to check thehealth and welfare of livestock that arelairaged out of hours**	■ Livestock that are lairaged overnight, including weekends. are checked as a minimum every evening and every morning by a suitably trained and competent person ■ The checks made identify if livestock are showing signs of distress, pain or injury	
AW.j.3 **Prompt appropriate action must be undertaken in the event of an animal arriving in distress, pain or injury or becoming distressed, injured or in-painwhilst on-site**	■ The issue is reported to the AWO and the unfit animal procedures are implemented immediately – the procedure outlines the action/s to be taken (including out-of-hours if applicable) and when they should be taken – actions may include segregation (in a different pen or the one it is in), limiting access to it, emergency killing – livestock are only moved if movement (or separation) will cause no further pain or distress ■ Relevant staff understand the actions to be taken ■ A record of identified issues is kept	■ Unfit animal procedure; details of when the procedure has been implemented
AW.j.4 **Appropriate facilities must be availableon-site to segregate sick or injured livestock**	■ A pen is identified and can be made available for use immediately ■ There is a means to identify the pen e.g. signs/ marker boards ■ Water is available and bedding (when appropriate) provided to livestock in segregation facilities ■ Where possible the pen situation allows the sight and sound of other animals, unless there are disease implications	
AW.j.5 **Livestock that require emergency killing must be dealt with immediately by a competent person according to the site'sdocumented procedure**	■ Livestock requiring emergency killing include those experiencing pain or suffering and those too young to take solid feed ■ The procedure identifies: – the equipment to be used for emergency slaughter and its location – who the welfare issue is reported to (i.e. AWO, official veterinarian) – Who makes the decision to slaughter and who is responsible for the procedure being carried out correctly – who can slaughter the animal – including out of hours ■ Equipment for emergency slaughter is easily accessible ■ Where the lairage is in close proximity to the stunning and killing points, and stunning equipment can be moved to the affected animal, separate equipment is not necessary	■ Emergency killing procedure

STANDARDS	HOW YOU WILL BE MEASURED	
LIVESTOCK LAIRAGE		
AIM: Livestock are grouped and held in the lairage in such a way their welfare is maintained		
AW.k **System must be in place to ensure livestock are penned at appropriate stocking densities to ensure animals are not overcrowded**	■ In situations approved by the AWO and where livestock will be held on-site for short time periods, the minimum space allowances in the relevant **Appendix** are adhered to ■ In all other situations, there is sufficient space in the pens to allow all livestock to lie down simultaneously, rise without difficulty and turn around ■ Space allowances are adjusted as a result of humidity, temperature and length of stay	
AW.k.1 (REVISED) **Guidance must be provided to personnel who pen livestock, on the normal number of livestock each pen is capable of holding under normal conditions**	■ The guidance is visible (e.g. on a board in the lairage/ on the pen) to relevant personnel (e.g. staff, hauliers and farmers) ■ The number may be a range or multiple figures for short, medium and long term (overnight) stays and different weights of stock	■ Pen records
AW.k.2 **Livestock must be grouped appropriately to avoid bullying, injury or distress**	■ The following categories of livestock are not mixed: – different species – pigs of different origin – animals of significantly different sizes or ages unless they are from the same farm and have been managed together – horned and un-horned cattle, unless they have arrived in the same group – sexually mature males and females, unless they have arrived in the same group ■ In the following cases, livestock are penned individually: – mature, entire bulls and rams, unless raised in compatible groups – boars over 6 months ■ Livestock that become aggressive/ start bullying one another are separated	
AW.l **Livestock must be provided with access to fresh, clean drinking water at all times whilst in the lairage**	■ Fresh, clean drinking water is provided to livestock in water troughs or appropriate drinkers (e.g. nipple drinkers for pigs) ■ Water supply is sufficient to cover times of peak demand ■ There is sufficient trough space/ drinkers for the number of livestock ■ Troughs/ drinkers are positioned so that all classes of livestock have access to them, whilst minimising the risk of fouling ■ Troughs are cleaned out as needed to ensure water is of suitable cleanliness	
AW.l.1 **Suitable feed must be available and provided as necessary to meet welfare needs**	■ Suitable feed for the species is stored on-site or easily and quickly available(including out of hours) ■ Competent persons are responsible for identifying if feed needs to be provided to ensure welfare needs are met ■ Livestock to be lairaged overnight/ more than 12 hours are provided with feed on arrival and fed every 12 hours ■ Bought-in forages (e.g. hay, straw) sourced from merchants with a warranty declaration, or direct from farm with a record of supply details ■ Compound feeds (e.g. nuts) are sourced from assured suppliers or manufacturers (UFAS, FEMAS accredited or equivalent) ■ Where feed is stored on-site, it is stored in a way to avoid contamination	
AW.l.2 (REVISED) **Where feed must be provided, it must be provided in a way that enables all livestock to take sufficient feed, presents no risk of injury and minimises the risk of fouling**	■ Sufficient feed provided ■ Feed provided in a suitable manner (e.g. racks or troughs which are of sufficient size and so positioned to allow animals reasonable access	
AW.l.3 **Bought-in feed purchase records must be kept**	■ Detailing: – supplier name and for bagged, compound feed assurance details – date of delivery – feed type – volume ■ Warranty declarations kept ■ Records kept for 2 years	■ Feed records

STANDARDS	HOW YOU WILL BE MEASURED
AW.m **Livestock to be lairaged overnight/ for more than 12 hours are provided with a comfortable lying area that enables themto keep clean**	▪ Suitable bedding for the species stored on-site or easily and quickly available (including out of hours) ▪ The system used enables livestock to stay clean and rest and may include: – the provision of bedding materials that are safe, suitable, legal – the provision of rubber matting or slats (used without bedding material), provided faeces/ urine may drain from the lying area
AW.m.1 (NEW) **All pigs are provided with enrichment material whilst being held in lairage pens**	▪ Enrichment material is safe and hygienic (feed may be used as suitable enrichment material for pigs lairaged overnight) ▪ Enrichment is permanently available in lairage pens during the day whilst pigs are present ▪ Enrichment is not hazardous to pigs and root vegetables and other feed materials provided as enrichment are sourced in accordance with scheme feed standards ▪ Mushroom compost, peat and recycled manure solids (“green bedding”) are not permitted ▪ Enrichment is not heavily soiled
LIVESTOCK HANDLING	
AIM: Livestock are handled in a way that avoids pain, injury and distress	
AW.n (REVISED) **Livestock must be handled appropriatelyto their species behaviour**	▪ Livestock are handled in a quiet manner, without frightening, excitement, mistreatment or force ▪ Handlers do not: – cause any unnecessary pain or suffering to animals – strike or kick livestock – apply pressure to any sensitive parts of the animal’s body – lift or drag livestock never by the head, ears, horns, legs, tail or fleece – crush, twist or break the tail of any animal – use prods or other implements with pointed ends – overturn livestock – grasp the eyes of any animal – throw or drop animals – rush livestock at unloading or when moving livestock to point of stunning
AW.n.1 (REVISED) **Livestock movements around the site mustbe kept to a minimum**	▪ Livestock are not moved unnecessarily around the lairage ▪ Attempts to move livestock only made when there is a clear area for them to move into ▪ Livestock are moved to the point of stunning only when they can be killed without delay
AW.n.2 (REVISED) **Handling aids used on-site must besuitable for the species and used appropriately**	▪ Handling aids are not used in such a way it could cause pain, injuryor distress ▪ Handling aids used by any user on-site include: – paddles, rattles, flags – used as an extension of the arm to guide livestock – boards (pigs) – mechanised gates ▪ Electric goads are prohibited on all livestock except on adult cattle which refuse to move, but have room ahead of them to do so
AW.n.3 (REVISED) **Where electric goads are used, they must be used by competent persons in the correct manner**	▪ Aids which administer electric shocks are only used on adult cattle as a last resort by trained persons and are avoided where possible. Electric goads are: - kept in a specified location and only removed when required - only used on the muscles of the hindquarters. The shocks last no longer than 1 second and are adequately spaced ▪ Each electric goad use is recorded including the animal it was applied to and the reason for its use RECORD: Electric goad usage records
STUNNING AND KILLING	
AIM: Livestock are effectively stunned and killed in a manner that ensures livestock feel no pain or distress	
AW.o.1 **Livestock must be restrained appropriatelybefore stunning and killing**	▪ Held in facilities as required in AW.g and AW.g.1

AW.o.2 **Bleeding without prior stunning is prohibited**	▪ For livestock to retain their Red Tractor assurance status, they must be pre-stunned and then exsanguinated (bled) in accordance with current legislation, best practice guidelines and the site's standard operating procedures ▪ Stunning is effective in ensuring unconsciousness until death supervenes through exsanguination ▪ The site's procedures outline the different requirements for different species, categories of animals (e.g. calves, adult bulls) and slaughter lines ▪ The methods outlined in the **Appendix** are used ▪ For each method used, specific parameters outlined in the relevant **Appendix** are adhered to *Guidance to be included for abattoir members wishing to participate in the Halal Assurance Scheme (Demonstration of Life) programme can be found at: https://ahdb.org.uk/halal* *Guidance to include definition of stunning: Stunning means any intentionally induced process which causes loss of consciousness and sensibility without pain, including any process resulting ininstantaneous death*	▪ Standard operating procedures
AW.o.3 **Captive bolt stunning equipment used isdesigned to ensure an effective stun**	▪ The correct cartridge is used for the stunner, size and species of animal ▪ Animals are stunned, in the correct position ▪ Manufacturer's instructions are followed	

STANDARDS	HOW YOU WILL BE MEASURED	
AW.o.4 **Electrical stunning equipment is designed to ensure an effective stun**	▪ The voltage and current (under load) is visible to those operating or monitoring the process ▪ The equipment incorporates an audible or visible device indicating the length of application to an animal ▪ Where required by legislation, the system records voltages and currents. Records are kept for at least 1 year	▪ Electrical stunning/ killing records
AW.o.5 **Gas stunning equipment used for pigs is designed to maintain welfare and ensure an effective stun and kill**	▪ The equipment is designed to: – measure, display and record gas concentrations and the time of exposure – maintain gas concentration – allow pigs to be monitored in the stunner and accessed without delay – allow atmospheric air to be promptly flushed through the stunner – avoid compression of the chest of a pig – enable a pig to remain upright during consciousness – enable a pig to see other pigs as it is conveyed through the stunner – allow pigs to see their surroundings (through lighting) ▪ Systems are in place, visibly and audibly to alert an operator of drops in gas concentration and equipment failure ▪ Records are kept for at least one year ▪ Manufacturer's instructions are followed	Gas concentration and exposure records
AW.o.6 **Every animal is checked for signs of an effective stun/ kill with re-stuns carried out where the primary stun was ineffective**	▪ Signs of an effective stun monitored through till death ▪ Livestock are re-stunned without delay, where applicable using an alternative appropriate method *Guidance to be included on EUWelNet which provides guidance on the assessment of unconsciousness for commonly slaughtered species which can be used to form part of the SOP.Microsoft Word - D5 APPENDIX 29 FINAL.docx (euwelnet.eu)* *Also specifically on captive bolt stunning of bovines: fsa-tec-files-117---captive-bolt-stunning-and-signs-of-unconsciousness-in-adult-bovines.pdf (hsa.org.uk)*	
AW.o.7 (REVISED) **All re-stuns/ double stuns are recorded**	▪ Record details the date, operative and equipment used ▪ Records show the reason for the miss stun and actions taken if necessary RECORD: Double stun records	
AW.p **Livestock must be exsanguinated or bled without delay**	▪ Stun to stick times are as short as possible (but long enough to allow an assessment of stun effectiveness), and as a maximum do not exceed those defined within the site's documented procedures or the relevant **Appendix** ▪ As a minimum the two carotid arteries and the jugular veins (or the vessels from which they arise) are severed	▪ Documented procedures
AW.p.1 Recommendation ***It is recommended that livestock are bled with a chest (thoracic stick)***		
AW.p.2 **Livestock must be left to bleed and no further dressing procedures undertaken until the bleeding has ended and it has been verified that the animal has no signs of life**	▪ Dressing procedures include (but are not limited to) scalding or electrical simulation ▪ The following times elapse before any dressing procedures are undertaken: – cattle 30 seconds – sheep and goats 20 seconds – pigs 90 seconds ▪ Line speed allows for verification that an animal is showing no signs of life prior to dressing	
AIM: Back-up stunning equipment is available and used as needed, but where there is a system failure, immediate action is undertaken to ensure welfare is not compromised		
AW.q **A suitable alternative method of stunning is available and ready for immediate use should the primary stunning equipment fail**	▪ Available at the stun and bleed points ▪ The method is as outlined in the **Appendix** ▪ The method is ready for immediate use	

STANDARDS	HOW YOU WILL BE MEASURED	
AW.q.1 **Where there is a recurring need to use the stun back-up method, the line must be stopped immediately, the root cause established and corrective action undertaken**	▪ A record of when the back-up device is used, root cause and corrective action taken is kept	
AIM: Stunning and killing equipment is well maintained to facilitate rapid and effective stunning and killing		
AW.r **Equipment used to restrain, stun and kill must be maintained in good repair and effective working order**	▪ All equipment used (including back-up equipment) is maintained to be effective and parts replaced according to manufacturer's guidance and as necessary ▪ Equipment replaced as necessary if faults cannot be rectified, or recurring issues impacting on welfare occur ▪ Maintenance is undertaken in accordance with maintenance clauses in the Food Safety Module, and includes complete records of all maintenance ▪ Manufacturer instructions are held/ accessible to the responsible person and followed	▪ Maintenance records
AW.r.1 **Stunning equipment must be calibrated to ensure it works effectively**	▪ Equipment calibration is undertaken in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. For electrical equipment this involves calibrating the current and frequency; for gas this involves verifying gas levels and timings and calibrating sensors ▪ The site's documented procedure identifies frequencies of verification or calibration and critical limits that are required ▪ At least annually, equipment is verified/ calibrated by an independent party ▪ Records of verification/ calibration, including any corrective actions are kept	▪ Calibration records, documented procedures
CONTINGENCY PLANNING – SLAUGHTER LINE BREAKDOWN		
AIM: Livestock welfare is not compromised in the event of the slaughter line stopping		
AW.s **Plans must be in place and implemented as necessary for handling livestock in the event of slaughter line stoppage or breakdown**	▪ Plan details when the contingency plan should be implemented, e.g. when the breakdown is such that all livestock scheduled for slaughter that day, cannot be and action is necessary ▪ A plan is in place detailing the actions to be taken for dealing with livestock on-site: – livestock in the stunning pen/ moving to the stunning pen are removed and re-lairaged – livestock already stunned are humanely killed ▪ A plan is in place detailing the actions to be taken for dealing with livestock due on-site. – the situations that might result in lorries being diverted from the site, and where they would go – where an off-site lairage/ collection centre/ farm is used, the site is certified to the relevant assurance scheme – plan includes the process to be followed to stop the collection of livestock from farm ▪ The plan is documented and understood by relevant staff	▪ Slaughter line breakdown contingency plan
WELFARE INCIDENTS		
AIM: Welfare incidents that occur on-site are recorded and reviewed to prevent reoccurrence		

AW.t **The AWO must maintain a record of all serious welfare incidents that occur on-site**	▪ A serious incident is defined as: – where acute distress, injury or pain is caused to an animal (including if an animal arrives in that condition) e.g. where an animal escapes, becomes entrapped, or is killed in the lairage/ on a vehicle – a recurring welfare issue caused by a supplier or transporter – catastrophic or ongoing equipment failure which has an impact on animal welfare	▪ Welfare incidents

STANDARDS	HOW YOU WILL BE MEASURED
AW.t.0 (NEW) **You must contact Red Tractor and your Certification Body immediately if an emergency situation affects or threatens to affect the welfare of a significant number of livestock**	▪ An emergency situation includes, but is not limited to: - an incident which may have a reputational impact on Red Tractor through a serious breach of the scheme standards that could/has attracted media interest (e.g. undercover footage) - identification of a break in the Red Tractor Assured chain of custody where animals which are to be/have been slaughtered are destined to be packed with a Red Tractor claim - an event/s which has significantly impacted on the slaughtering efficiency/throughput of the slaughterhouse
AW.t.0.1 (NEW) **Welfare incidents/poor performance relating to a Red Tractor Assured farm and/or transport member is reported to Red Tractor**	▪ Poor performance includes: - poor handling of livestock by a Red Tractor Assured member - livestock received (recurring incident) which are: - dirty - lame - dead on arrival - late stages of pregnancy - emaciated - injured/open wounds (including tail bitten pigs) - unfit/unable to walk/stand ▪ Poor performance includes reporting of FSA Annex 4 reports within 2 working days of the report being issued by the OV ▪ Reporting of poor performance is via the Red Tractor Checkers and Services website at www.checkers.redtractor.org.uk/rtassurance/services.eb ▪ Further details can be found in the Appendix
AW.t.1 **Each welfare incident must be investigated and appropriate corrective action implemented**	▪ The root cause of each incident is determined ▪ Appropriate corrective action is implemented ▪ Where the cause of the incident is within the business's control (e.g. the cause is related to the site or staff) corrective action may include staff retraining, repairs ▪ Where the cause of the incident is outside of the business's control, corrective action may include reporting the incident to relevant interested parties, including (but not limited to): – the farmer, haulier or market – Red Tractor – Official Veterinarian – Local Authority – equipment manufacturer
AW.t.2 **A record of the investigation, findings and any corrective action undertaken must be recorded, held by the AWO and reported to relevant senior management**	▪ Record includes: – description of incident – who undertook the investigation – findings, including the root cause – details of any corrective action
INTERNAL AUDITING	
AIM: Checks are made to verify that animal welfare is being maintained and managed in accordance with site policies and procedures	

AW.u **Regular internal auditing must be undertaken across the site to establish whether all welfare procedures, from unloading through to bleeding, are effective and working**	■ A risk assessed schedule/ documented plan outlines the areas to be audited and frequency of auditing – over a period of a year all relevant procedures and areas are seen – the frequency of auditing is based on how regularly the facilities are used and previous audit results ■ The person undertaking the audit is suitably qualified, holding the appropriate Certificate of Competence and may be in-house or an external appointment	■ Internal auditing records
AW.u.1 **The results of monitoring and internal auditing must be kept and any issues acted upon promptly**	■ A record of internal audits (including who undertook the audit) is kept ■ Where the monitoring identifies an issue: – it is addressed immediately (i.e. livestock in the sample stunned effectively with back-up equipment immediately and if necessary the slaughter line halted until the problem has been resolved) – the root cause is identified – corrective action implemented ■ A record of the monitoring, result and any corrective action is recorded, held by the AWO and reported to relevant senior management	

STANDARDS	HOW YOU WILL BE MEASURED	
AW.u.2 Key **A CCTV system must be in operation which is used to review practices and behaviours around key welfare activities**	■ A CCTV system with a complete and clear view of all the following areas where there are live animals: – unloading – the lairage – movement of livestock from the lairage to the stunning system – handling – restraining – stunning – sticking and bleeding ■ CCTV operational and recording at all times when and where there are live animals in the abattoir ■ CCTV maintained and in good working order ■ CCTV capable of constant recording so that images can be produced for inspection without stopping the overall operation of the system ■ Documented procedures detail how the footage will be reviewed and used to review practices and behaviours around key welfare activities ■ CCTV footage is kept securely for a minimum of 90 days and is only accessible by nominated staff ■ CCTV system capable of storing, processing and transmitting (for example moving to removable storage devices or showing on a television monitor) images and information of the same quality as the original recording ■ CCTV images are available on request ■ Employees are informed that CCTV is in use and sign to say that they understand it is in use	■ Staff understanding that CCTV is in use; documented procedures
AW.u.3 **Staff must be assessed, supervised, checked or observed to ensure they use handling aids correctly**	■ Assessment by an AWO or approved trainer ■ Methods may include a visual assessment, a review of CCTV footage, measurement of the percentage of animals goaded/ struck, measurement of the number of times the aid was used, etc. ■ A record of the assessment (including who undertook the task and who was assessed, etc.), results and any corrective action (e.g. staff retraining) is kept	
AW.u.4 **The effectiveness of stunning and killing for each species and slaughter line must be regularly assessed, supervised, checked or observed**	■ Assessment in accordance with a documented schedule: – the frequency is based on the number of livestock slaughtered – the different personnel involved in the stunning and killing of livestock to ensure all are included – undertaken by a person with competency for the task they are assessing ■ Methods may include (but are not limited to) recording and reviewing re-stuns; watching and timing of stunning and slaughter; stun assurance monitor (or equivalent), review of CCTV footage	

VEHICLE WASHOUT FACILITIES (AW)

STANDARDS	HOW YOU WILL BE MEASURED	
AIM: Livestock vehicles are cleansed and disinfected and don't pose a biosecurity risk		
AW.v (REVISED) **Vehicles that unload livestock at the site must be cleansed and disinfected after use**	■ Vehicles that unload cattle, sheep and goats: ▪ are cleansed and disinfected on-site – Vehicles are spot checked against a risk assessed schedule to assess cleanliness. – A sample of lorries spot checked for visual cleanliness by a person other than the driver, before they leave the site – Records of cleanliness checks kept by the site for a minimum of 12 months	■ Declarations to clean off site/ site cleanliness check records

	▪ or farmer/ haulier completes a declaration confirming they will cleanse and disinfect elsewhere	

STANDARDS	HOW YOU WILL BE MEASURED	
AW.v.0.1 (REVISED) **Vehicles that unload pigs at the site must be cleansed and disinfected on-site**	▪ Declarations to clean offsite are not permitted under thisscheme for pig deliveries ▪ Vehicles used for pigs are spot checked against a risk assessed schedule to assess cleanliness. A sample of lorries are spot checked for visual cleanliness and using a wipe test with paper towelling by a person other than the driver, before they leave the site. Records of cleanliness checks kept by the site for a minimum of 12 months	*Site cleanliness check records*
AW.v.1 **A vehicle wash facility must be available and useable during all times of the year thesite is in operation**	▪ Available and useable during the times of year the site is operated (i.e. year- round operating sites are able to offer wash facilities during winter and normalfreezing conditions) ▪ Facility available for use at all times or at times pre-agreed with users	
AW.v.2 **The wash facility must be suitably managed and maintained**	▪ Responsible person contactable during the hours the facility is open ▪ Bays are left clean and tidy after use ▪ There are systems in place to investigate issues raised by users	
AW.v.3 (REVISED) **The wash facility must be of suitable design to allow effective cleaning of vehicles and cabs and avoids cross contamination**	▪ The location of the facility poses no risk of cross contamination to livestock or impact upon animal welfare at any point ▪ The area is: – on hard-standing (concrete, tarmac or similar) and capable of cleansingand disinfection – sufficient drainage systems for handling water and debris, with a suitable gradient that allows water to drain out and away from the vehicle (note: a bund between the tailboard and wheels or similar system that delivers the same outcome is acceptable).	
AW.v.3.1 **Sites that receive deliveries of pigs, systems are in place to prevent cross contamination between clean and dirtyvehicles**	▪ Where multiple wash bays are in use, systems are in place to avoid cross contamination between dirty and clean vehicles by direct water spray e.g. use of bays separated by time, space or physical barriers	
AW.v.4 (REVISED) **Suitable, functioning equipment must be available for use at the wash facility**	▪ Equipment: ▪ Is designed to operate effectively ▪ Is capable of effective cleaning and may include tools other than hose pipes – is dedicated to the wash facility – is useable in normal winter conditions – is suitable for the type of vehicles that come onto site (i.e. able to reach the top deck of a multi deck lorry as applicable) – is capable of providing sufficient volume or pressure of water as needed. – includes lighting that enables the interior, exterior and cab of the vehicle to be seen (if the facility is used in the dark)	
AW.v.5 (REVISED) **A supply of water must be available for use at the wash facility**	▪ Water is available at all the pre agreed times, When a site is used in winter months, its water supply is protected/ useable in normal winter frosts (with exceptions for extreme abnormal conditions)	

AW.v.6 **Approved disinfectants must be available foruse along with application equipment at the wash facility**	■ Disinfectants used are approved by Defra (or equivalent) ■ Disinfectants are used in line with the manufacturers instructions and are relevant to the species, disease risk and any movement license requirements ■ Disinfectants are diluted in accordance with manufacturer'sinstructions and where applicable at General Orders Rates ■ Chemical datasheets for disinfectants on-site are easily accessible to relevant staff or users	■ Chemical datasheets
AW.v.7 Recommendation ***It is recommended that sufficient washbays are provided (New)***	■ *Sufficient for the number of vehicles that come onto the site, so that all vehicles can cleanse and disinfect on-site* ■ *Sufficient to cope with peaks in demand*	
AW.v.8 **Wastes from the vehicle washing facility are stored and disposed of appropriately**	■ Dirty water is stored in a non-permeable store and disposedof via a waste contractor, or where appropriate disposed to mains systems ■ Bedding materials and manure are stored and disposed ofby a waste contractor	■ Waste disposal records

Appendix AW.k

APPENDIX SPACE ALLOWANCES

Outlined below are the absolute minimum space allowances, by species. These must only be used in **short stay scenarios**, as approved by the animal welfare officer.

Cattle

Approximate liveweight	Area in m^2 per animal
Up to 325kg	0.95
325-550kg	0.95-1.30
550-700kg	1.30-1.60
700kg+	>1.60

Sheep

Approximate liveweight	Area in m^2 per animal for shorn/ low-fleece sheep	Area in m^2 per animal for unshorn sheep
<55kg	0.30	0.40
>55kg	>0.30	>0.40

Pigs

Minimum space allowances for short stays = 235kg/ m^2

Appendix Animal Welfare

STUNNING AND KILLING METHODS

The manufacturer's recommendations must be adhered to for each method used

	Method	Parameter	Maximum stun to stick time
CATTLE	Penetrative captive bolt	Correct position and cartridge strength in accordance with manufacturer's instructions	ASAP, within 60 seconds
	Head to body electrical stun	Adult cattle only. Effective electrode placement. Minimum current of 1.51A delivered to each animal under load for ≥ 3seconds	
SHEEP and GOATS	Penetrative captive bolt	Correct position and cartridge strength in accordance with manufacturer's instructions	ASAP, within 15 seconds
	Head only electrical stun	Electrodes span the brain. Minimum current of 1A delivered to each animal under load	ASAP, within 15 seconds
	Head to body electrical stun kill	Electrodes span the brain and heart. Minimum current of ≥1 A delivered to each animal under load	
PIGS	Penetrative captive bolt	Correct position and cartridge strength in accordance with manufacturer's instructions	ASAP, within 15 seconds
	Head only electrical stun	Electrodes span the brain. Minimum current of 1.3A delivered to each animal under load	ASAP, within 15 seconds
	Gas – Carbon Dioxide at minimum of 80%	The pig must reach the point of maximum concentration of the gas mixture within 30 seconds and held in the gas for long enough for it to be killed	ASAP, within 75 seconds
	Head to body electrical stun	Electrodes span the brain and heart. Minimum current of 1.3A delivered to each animal under load	

Note: Free bullet may be suitable as a back-up or emergency slaughter method where site health and safety allows

END