



Red Tractor Tiered Welfare Standards Consultation 2025

Red Tractor has been asked by the pig industry to consider introducing tiered welfare standards and labelling, similar to that introduced for Red Tractor’s poultry scheme in 2020. Red Tractor’s Pigs Board is proposing to introduce new standards and dedicated product logos for the following:

- Enhanced Welfare: For pork from outdoor-bred or outdoor-reared pigs finished indoors with more space and a solid, bedded lying area.
- Free Range: For pork from pigs with continuous outdoor access.

Subject to consultation feedback, we aim to launch the Enhanced Welfare and Free-Range tiers by the end of this year.

We’re also exploring a potential new tier: Certified Standards Plus. This would apply to indoor farms using flexible farrowing systems (temporary confinement at farrowing) and potentially meeting additional welfare criteria. This tier remains under consideration and development. While it won’t launch this year, and may not go ahead at all, we’re seeking your early input to inform future discussions.

Participation in these tiers will be voluntary, unless required by customers.

We welcome your views and feedback through this consultation, which will remain open until **Friday 6th June**.

It is not possible to part-complete the consultation and return to finish it later. However, **you can submit your response and then edit your responses afterwards**. So if you can’t complete it in one sitting, submit your progress and then return to edit your response when you’re ready to complete it. We will not view or analyse responses until after the consultation closes.

About You

This information will help give Red Tractor and the Red Tractor Pigs Board insights into the types of respondents to the consultation, the context against which your comments are made and will also help us to understand the industry better including the types of systems and practices employed. This in turn will help inform further discussions about future standards and tier development. You are welcome to respond anonymously. Any information shared will be treated confidentially and will only be analysed as part of the aggregated responses. We will not be using individual responses in isolation or in connection with your assurance and certification.

1

Name (leave blank if you wish to remain anonymous)

2

Business (leave blank if you wish)

3

Respondent type *

- ☐ Pig producer
- ☐ Integrator/Processor
- ☐ Abattoir (with no integrated supply)
- ☐ Retailer / Foodservice
- ☐ Vet
- ☐ Industry Organisation
- ☐ Assessor
- ☐ Other

About You continued...

16

Type of pig producer

- ☐ Single farm (or home breeding unit and small number of associated rearing units)
- ☐ Multi-farm business

17

Do farms within your business currently participate in the RSPCA Assured Pigs Scheme? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

18

Do you have breeding pigs within your business? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

19

What type of farrowing system do you currently use? (tick all that apply)

- ☐ Conventional farrowing crates
- ☐ Flexible farrowing (temporary confinement around farrowing only, followed by loose lactation)
- ☐ Free farrowing (indoor)
- ☐ Outdoor farrowing
- ☐ Other

20

How many breeding pigs are within your business? (please indicate numbers/proportion for each farrowing system if multiple systems used)

21

What system are your dry sows housed in? (select all that apply or skip to next question if not applicable)

- ☐ Fully slatted (no bedding)
- ☐ Part solid / part slatted (no bedding)
- ☐ Part solid / part slatted with bedding
- ☐ Solid floor deep bedded straw
- ☐ Outdoor
- ☐ Other

22

If you selected more than one system in the question above, please indicate approximate number of sows / percentage of production within each system

23

Are you involved with rearing pigs (post-weaning) within your business? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

24

In what system are your growing pigs reared? (select all that apply)

- ☐ Indoor fully slatted (no bedding)
- ☐ Indoor part solid / part slatted (no bedding)
- ☐ Indoor part solid / part slatted (with bedding)
- ☐ Indoor solid floor deep bedded straw
- ☐ Outdoor-reared (to 30/40kg)
- ☐ Free range
- ☐ Other

25

How many rearing pigs are within your business? (please indicate approximate numbers for each system if multiple systems used)

26

Do you do any of your own transport of pigs? (select all that apply)

- ☐ Yes - vehicle/trailer audited as part of my Pig farm audit
- ☐ Yes - vehicles are assured under Livestock Transport Scheme
- ☐ No - we only use commercial / third party haulier(s)

Red Tractor's proposed Tiered Welfare Labelling

We are seeking your insights into Red Tractor Pigs Board's proposed tiered welfare standards and labelling approach. We believe that introducing Red Tractor's Enhanced Welfare and Free Range standards, and the new logos, could bring real benefits across the board. Outdoor-bred pig producers often have to join multiple assurance schemes, leading to extra audits and added costs. By offering a single Red Tractor assurance option producers could streamline their certification, cut down on duplicate audits and reduce complexity and cost. This proposal supports Red Tractor's commitment—following the Farm Assurance Review—to make on-farm audits simpler and more efficient.

Similarly, processors using multiple assurance logos currently pay two licence fees—and deal with more admin. Switching to Red Tractor's Enhanced Welfare tier could lower licensing costs and simplify packaging and supply chain processes.

Currently, shoppers and diners are faced with too many logos and claims on packs and menus. It's confusing and often unclear what each one means. Red Tractor's proposed labelling would simplify the shopping experience, offer a clear, trusted guide to how pork was produced and provide reassurance that pork products, regardless of tier, meet high standards for animal welfare, safety, traceability, and the environment. And with Red Tractor being the UK's most recognised and trusted farm assurance scheme, shoppers can feel confident in what they're buying.

None of the questions are mandatory. If a question is not relevant to you or you do not have a view, please skip it and move to the next question.

27

Would you like to answer some general questions about the tiered welfare labelling approach?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

28

Do you support the general principle of Red Tractor developing tiered standards and labelling for the pig sector?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not Sure

29

Are you supportive of Red Tractor launching a voluntary tier with standards for outdoor breeding/rearing and straw-based finishing (currently proposed to be labelled as Red Tractor Enhanced Welfare)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

30

Are you supportive of Red Tractor launching a voluntary tier with standards for free range finishing (which could carry Red Tractor's Free Range logo)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

31

If you have further comments to expand on your responses to the above questions please do so here

32

Do you agree that the proposed Enhanced Welfare tier should include indoor free farrowing (zero confinement) and indoor dry sows on straw?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No - should be outdoor breeding only

33

If you have further comments to expand on your response to the above question please do so here

34

Do you think Red Tractor should continue to explore and develop the Certified Standards Plus tier for indoor pig production with flexible farrowing as it's key hallmark? (Please note, it would not be launched without further consultation)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not Sure

35

If you have further comments to expand on your response to the question above please do so here

36

Do you agree with the proposed labelling of the tiers? i.e. Certified Standards Plus for an "indoor plus" tier, Enhanced Welfare for an outdoor-bred/ straw-based finishing tier, Free Range for pigs finished free range? For more detail about the research behind the proposed labelling, head to the consultation page on the Red Tractor website: <https://redtractorassurance.org.uk/pigs-standards-and-labeling-proposals-consultation/>

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

37

If you have further comments to expand on your response to the above question please do so here

Amendments to Red Tractor Pigs Scheme core standards

As part of the development of the standards, the Red Tractor Pig Scheme standards were benchmarked against the requirements of the main alternative assurance scheme for outdoor-bred pork. In order for the Red Tractor Enhanced Welfare standards to be considered equivalent with other assurance scheme requirements, which is necessary to ensure greater chance of uptake by supply chain customers, some new requirements and amendments are needed to the Red Tractor Pigs Scheme core standards. These are requirements that the Red Tractor Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) agreed should be required for **all** Red Tractor scheme members, not just those participating in the Enhanced Welfare / Free Range tiers, as they represent best practice. They are also aimed at ensuring the additional tiers are established on a strong foundation of core standards.

For each proposal, we ask you to indicate whether you agree with the TAC that it should be adopted and should apply to all producers via the Core standards, or whether you believe it should only be required of producers participating in the Enhanced Welfare/Free Range tiers.

Red text indicates new/amended wording. Text with strikethrough indicates removed wording

The fourth column - "Enterprises" - indicates which tier the requirements apply to: CS = Certified Standards (core Pigs Scheme), EW = Enhanced Welfare, FR = Free Range

None of the questions are mandatory. If a question or proposed standard is not relevant to you or you do not have a view, please skip it and move to the next question.

38

Would you like to review and provide feedback on the proposed changes to Red Tractor's core Pigs Scheme standards?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

39

DP.1.1.b - do you support the inclusion of this new audit point? This is proposed to ensure equivalence with other existing assurance scheme requirements. The TAC agreed this detail would aid auditing of stocking density and act as a useful resource for stockpeople to ensure pigs are stocked to correct capacity

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	En
DP.1.1 A farm map must be <u>present</u> and areas of specific risk are identified	DP.1.1.a Farm map shows where applicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none">all buildingsall fields, including area (hectares/acres)watercourses including ditches and pondsboreholes, springs and wells, including any on <u>neighbouring</u> land within 50m of the boundaryany areas of high pollution risk	Farm map	CS
	DP.1.1.b Farm map or other plans include <ul style="list-style-type: none">total usable area/space provision within pens and accommodationnumber of pigs held within each by age and weight (to not exceed maximum stocking rates or feeder and drinker ratios)		
GUIDANCE: <i>One or more maps may be used and this may be held as a hard copy or as an electronic document</i>			

- ☐ Yes - as part of Core
- ☐ Yes - for EW/FR tiers only
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

40

DP.1.1.b - is this something you are already doing/have in place?

- ☐ Already doing
- ☐ Not doing yet

41

DP.1.1.b - if you have feedback to add please do so here

42

DP.6 - do you support the inclusion of this new standard? This is proposed to ensure equivalence with other existing assurance scheme requirements and so that Red Tractor is aware and can discuss with members where standards may be compromised, e.g. due to trial work.

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enter
DP.6 Where there is potential for adherence with Scheme standards to be compromised through trial work or other circumstances, Red Tractor is notified at the earliest possible time			CS, E

- ☐ Yes - as part of Core
- ☐ Yes - for EW/FR tiers only
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

43

DP.6 - is this something you are already doing/have in place?

- ☐ Already doing
- ☐ Not doing currently
- ☐ Not applicable

44

DP.6 - if you have feedback to add please do so here

45

TL1.e - do you support the inclusion of this new audit point? This is proposed to ensure equivalence with other existing assurance scheme requirements. The aim is to keep slapmarking, a practice that potentially causes pain and stress, to a minimum

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enter
TL1 Key Pigs must be identified appropriately	<div>TL1.a Pigs of any age moving off a holding to a market, a slaughterhouse, a show, for breeding purposes* or for export are identified with at least one of the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">legible slapmark(s)*metal and/or plastic heat- and tamper-resistant eartag, printed or stamped with the herdmark and prefixed with the letters "UK"tattoo of the herdmark on one ear</div> <div>TL1.b Means of identification includes a unique identification number for the individual pig if moving<ul style="list-style-type: none">to a showfor breeding purposes*for export</div> <div>TL1.c Means of identification includes "UK-GB" when exporting pigs from a holding in GB; "UK" for export from a holding in Northern Ireland</div> <div>TL1.d Pigs imported from outside the EU are identified with the destination farm's herdmark and relevant statutory letters (UK and F), within 30 days of arrival</div> <div>TL1.e Slapmarking other than for identification with the herdmark is prohibited. A suffix may be used to denote trial pigs</div>		CS, E

- ☐ Yes - as part of Core
- ☐ Yes - for EW/FR tiers only
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

46

TL1.e - is this something you are already doing/have in place?

- ☐ Already doing
- ☐ Not doing currently

47

TL1.e - if you have feedback to add please do so here

48

VC.6 - do you support the inclusion of this new standard? Proposed for inclusion because flies can present a disease and food safety risk and a nuisance to pigs and stockpeople

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enter
VC.6 Actions must be taken to minimise fly infestations	VC.6.a Ongoing efforts to control fly infestations, where present, are evident		CS

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

49

VC.6 - is this something you are already doing/have in place?

- ☐ Already doing
- ☐ Not doing currently
- ☐ Not applicable

50

VC.6 - if you have feedback to add please do so here

51

HF.11.c - do you support the inclusion of this new audit point? Aimed at ensuring existing scheme requirements around stocking density are met in lairage/collection areas used for pigs awaiting transport, including weaned piglets and finishers

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enter
HF.11 (was OP.11) Where pigs are held in a collection area prior to transport it is managed appropriately	HF.11.a (was OP.11.a) Pigs have access to water		CS, EV
	HF.11.b (OP.11.b) Cleaned and rested between batches		
	HF.11.c Scheme maximum stocking densities are adhered to where pigs are held for more than 2 hours		

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

52

HF.11.c - is this something you are already doing/have in place?

- ☐ Already doing
- ☐ Not doing currently
- ☐ Not applicable

53

HF.11.c - if you have feedback to add please do so here

54

AH.2.b - do you support the amendment of this existing audit point? This is proposed to ensure equivalence with other existing assurance scheme requirements.

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enterprise:
AH.2 Records of the health and performance of livestock must be maintained	AH.2.a Records of breeding and/or rearing herd performance are kept	Performance records	CS, EW, FR
	AH.2.b Incidents of injurious behaviour (tail/ear/flank/vulva) biting, possible causes and interventions taken are recorded	Injurious behaviour records	
	AH.2.c Incidents of facial scarring/udder damage are recorded	Facial scarring/udder damage records	
	AH.2.d Mortality records for breeding and post-weaning growing stock	Mortality records	

- ☐ Yes - as part of Core
- ☐ Yes - for EW/FR tiers only
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

55

AH.2.b - is this something you are already doing/have in place?

- ☐ Already doing
- ☐ Not doing currently

56

AH.2.b - if you have feedback to add please do so here

57

AH.8.1.d - do you support the inclusion of this new audit point? This is proposed to ensure equivalence with other existing assurance scheme requirements.

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enterprise:
AH.8.1 Appropriate facilities must be provided for the segregation or isolation of sick or injured livestock	AH.8.1.a Facilities are managed and maintained in accordance with the Scheme standards for housing and facilities, feed and water		CS,
	AH.8.1.b Unless passageways are adapted to become a non-thoroughfare and to meet Scheme standards, they may only ever be used as a short-term isolation facility for up to 1 hour		
	AH.8.1.c Lame pigs that have been segregated from the main pen and pigs with a traumatic injury have bedding or some other form of cushioning to prevent slipping and pressure sores		
	AH.8.1.d Cleaned and disinfected between occupancies		

- ☐ Yes - as part of Core
- ☐ Yes - for EW/FR tiers only
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

58

AH.8.1.d - is this something you are already doing/have in place?

- ☐ Already doing
- ☐ Not doing currently

59

AH.8.1.d - if you have feedback to add please do so here

60

AH.9.4.a - do you support the inclusion of this new audit point? This is proposed to ensure equivalence with other existing assurance scheme requirements.

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Ente
AH.9.4 Steps must be taken to carry out euthanasia of pigs in a location that avoids unnecessary suffering of the animal and distress to potential onlookers	AH.9.4.a Non-ambulatory pigs, which are unable to stand or rise unaided, are authorised without being moved, unless they can be moved with full body support and without causing further suffering		CS, I

- ☐ Yes - as part of Core
- ☐ Yes - for EW/FR tiers only
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

61

AH.9.4.a - is this something you are already doing/have in place?

- ☐ Already doing
- ☐ Not doing currently

62

AH.9.4.a - if you have feedback to add please do so here

63

AH.9.5 - do you support the amendment of this existing standard? This is proposed to ensure equivalence with other existing assurance scheme requirements.

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Ente
AH.9.5 Checks must be made to ensure method of stunning/euthanasia is effective and if deemed ineffective a back-up method is applied	AH.9.5.a Checks are carried out immediately after stunning/euthanasia to ensure no signs of life		CS, I

- ☐ Yes - as part of Core
- ☐ Yes - for EW/FR tiers only
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

64

AH.9.5 - is this something you are already doing/have in place?

- ☐ Already doing
- ☐ Not doing currently

65

AH.9.5 - if you have feedback to add please do so here

66

AH.13.c / AH.14 - do you support the inclusion of AH.13.c and removal of AH.14? Proposed for inclusion to align with other assurance schemes and due to concerns about ability to ensure good hygiene and piglet management in these systems

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Ent
AH.13 Piglets may only be weaned from the sow at an age less than 28 days under certain circumstances	AH.13.a Piglets may be weaned up to 7 days earlier if moved into specialised housing which <ul style="list-style-type: none">has been emptied and thoroughly cleaned and disinfectedis separate from housing where sows are kept		CS.
	AH.13.b Removal of piglets from a sow at an age earlier than 21 days is only permitted if the health and welfare of the piglets or dam would otherwise be adversely affected		
	AH.13.c Box systems for supplementary rearing of piglets, such as rescue decks, are prohibited		
AH.14 Supplementary rearing accommodation ("rescue decks") must be managed appropriately	AH.14.a Declaration to this effect signed by the vet on the QVRs	QVRs for previous four quarters	GS

- ☐ Yes - as part of Core
- ☐ Yes - for EW/FR tiers only
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

67

AH.13.c / AH.14 - if you have feedback to add please do so here

68

If you currently use rescue decks or similar, how much notice would you need to cease their use?

- ☐ 3 months or less
- ☐ 3 - 6 months
- ☐ 12 months
- ☐ More than 12 months
- ☐ N/A - rescue decks are not used within my business

69

If you have comments regarding your answer above please include them here. If you indicated you would require more than 3 months' notice please include your reasons.

70

HP.3.2.a - do you support the amendment of this existing audit point? Recommended by our Task & Finish group to ensure robust requirements are in place where tail docking is carried out, in particular that persons carrying out tail docking remain competent in the procedure

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enter
HP.3.2 Tail docking is carried out appropriately	HP.3.2.a Only persons deemed competent to by a vet, within the last three years, perform tail docking, unless supervised by a trained and competent person	List of those deemed competent in VHP	CS, E
	HP.3.2.b Only carried out on pigs up to 72 hours old		
	HP.3.2.c Tails are docked to a uniform length		
	HP.3.2.d Equipment is cleaned and disinfected between each litter of pigs		
	HP.3.2.e Equipment is different to that used to carry out teeth reduction		

- ☐ Yes - as part of Core
- ☐ Yes - for EW/FR tiers only
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

71

HP.3.2.a - is this something you are already doing/have in place?

- ☐ Already doing
- ☐ Not doing currently
- ☐ Not applicable

72

HP.3.2.a - if you have feedback to add please do so here

73

HP.4.1.a - do you support the amendment of this existing audit point?

HP.4.1 Teeth reduction is carried out appropriately	HP.4.1.a Only persons deemed competent to by a vet, within the last three years , perform teeth reduction, unless supervised by a trained and competent person	List of those deemed competent in VHP	CS, E
	HP.4.1.b Only carried out on pigs up to 72 hours old		
	HP.4.1.c A smooth intact surface is left and the pulp cavity is not exposed		
	HP.4.1.d Equipment is cleaned and disinfected between each litter of pigs		

- ☐ Yes - as part of Core
- ☐ Yes - for EW/FR tiers only
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

74

HP.4.1.a - is this something you are already doing/have in place?

- ☐ Already doing
- ☐ Not doing currently
- ☐ Not applicable

75

HP.4.1.a - if you have feedback to add please do so here

76

HP.4.2 - do you support the inclusion of this new recommendation? This is proposed to ensure equivalence with other existing assurance scheme requirements and to promote best practice

HP.4.2 (Recommended) <i>It is recommended to grind rather than clip teeth</i>			CS, E
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- ☐ Yes - as part of Core
- ☐ Yes - for EW/FR tiers only
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

77

HP.4.2 - is this something you are already doing/have in place?

- ☐ Already doing
- ☐ Not doing currently
- ☐ Not applicable

78

HP.4.2 - if you have feedback to add please do so here

79

HP.5.a - do you support the amendment of this existing audit point?

HP.5 Nose ringing must only be carried out by demonstrably competent persons	HP.5.a Only <u>persons</u> deemed competent to by a vet, within the last three years , carry out nose-ringing, unless supervised by a trained and competent person	List of those deemed competent in VHP	CS, E
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- ☐ Yes - as part of Core
- ☐ Yes - for EW/FR tiers only
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

80

HP.5.a - is this something you are already doing/have in place?

- ☐ Already doing
- ☐ Not doing currently
- ☐ Not applicable

81

HP.5.a - if you have feedback to add please do so here

82

Bl.12.a - do you support the inclusion of this new audit point? This is proposed to ensure equivalence with other existing assurance scheme requirements.

Bl.12 (was OP.8) Measures must be in place to minimise disease transmission between batches	Bl.12.a Indoor farrowing accommodation is cleaned and disinfected between occupancies Bl.12.b (was OP.8.a) Outdoor farrowing arcs, tents, kennels and associated enclosing runs for growing pigs must be moved* to fresh land after each farrowing cycle or batch *unless sited on a concrete base Bl.12.b (was OP.8.b) After weaning, used bedding from <u>farrowing</u> accommodation is removed/destroyed		CS EW
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- ☐ Yes - as part of Core
- ☐ Yes - for EW/FR tiers only
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

83

Bl.12.a - is this something you are already doing/have in place?

- ☐ Already doing
- ☐ Not doing currently
- ☐ Not applicable

84

Bl.12.a - if you have feedback to add please do so here

85

LT.4.1 - do you support the inclusion of this new standard? Recommended by the Task & Finish group in part to align with other assurance scheme requirements, but also to ensure that where pre-transport feed withdrawal is practiced it is not for too long so as not to cause prolonged hunger. The standard does **not** require feed to be withdrawn prior to transport as it was recognised there are challenges around this

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	En
LT.4.1 Withdrawal of feed before transport is within prescribed limits to avoid prolonged hunger	LT.4.1.a No more than 8 hours prior to transport (to farm or abattoir)		CS
	LT.4.2.b No more than 12 hours prior to planned arrival at destination		

- ☐ Yes - as part of Core
- ☐ Yes - for EW/FR tiers only
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

86

LT.4.1 - is this something you are already doing/have in place?

- ☐ Already doing
- ☐ Not doing currently
- ☐ Not applicable

87

LT.4.1 - if you have feedback to add please do so here

88

LT.4.2.b - do you support the inclusion of this new audit point? This is proposed to ensure equivalence with other existing assurance scheme requirements.

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Ente
LT.4.2 Journey times (from time of first pig being loaded, to last pig being unloaded) must be kept to a minimum	LT.4.2.a [was LT.4.1.a] Piglets less than 10 kg are not transported for more than 8 hours		CS, t
	LT.4.2.b Pigs are unloaded without delay on arrival at farm		

- ☐ Yes - as part of Core
- ☐ Yes - for EW/FR tiers only
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

89

LT.4.2.b - is this something you are already doing/have in place?

- ☐ Already doing
- ☐ Not doing currently
- ☐ Not applicable

90

LT.4.2.b - if you have feedback to add please do so here

91

LT.6 - do you support the amendment of LT.6.b and inclusion of LT.6.c?

LT.6 Emergency plans and facilities must be in place	LT.6.a Driver equipped with a mobile phone and emergency contact numbers	Contingency plan (can be detailed within farm contingency plan)	CS, I
	LT.6.b In the case of long journeys (over 8 hours) a written contingency plan outlines actions to be taken in the event of an emergency during transport of pigs off farm is available		
	LT.6.c Any interruption causing a delay of more than one hour to the scheduled arrival time is notified to the receiving slaughterhouse or farm		

- ☐ Yes - as part of Core
- ☐ Yes - for EW/FR tiers only
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

92

LT.6 - is this something you are already doing/have in place?

- ☐ Already doing
- ☐ Not doing currently
- ☐ Not applicable

93

LT.6 - if you have feedback to add please do so here

94

LT.9.d - do you support the inclusion of this new audit point? This is proposed to ensure equivalence with other existing assurance scheme requirements.

LT.9 Vehicles used to transport pigs must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected with Defra-approved disinfectants (Revised)	LT.9.a Vehicles are cleansed and disinfected before leaving the site, after each delivery, where pigs are delivered to an assured market, collection centre or abattoir	Vehicle C&D records	CS, I
	LT.9.b Vehicles are cleansed and disinfected after every load and within 24 hours of delivery, where pigs are delivered to farms, shows or other non-assured sites with no effective wash facilities. Where repeat journeys are made between the same two points in a single day, cleansing and disinfection is carried out before the first journey and within 24 hours of the last delivery		
	LT.9.c Only disinfectants approved by Defra/DAERA are used, applied at the approved dilution rates for General Orders		
	LT.9.d Records of vehicle cleaning and disinfection are kept		

- ☐ Yes - as part of Core
- ☐ Yes - for EW/FR tiers only
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

95

LT.9.d - is this something you are already doing/have in place?

- ☐ Already doing
- ☐ Not doing currently
- ☐ Not applicable

96

LT.9.d - if you have feedback to add please do so here

Enhanced Welfare and Free Range proposed standards

To shape the new tiered standards, Red Tractor brought together a group of industry experts through our Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for Pigs, supported by a dedicated Task and Finish group. This smaller working group included a mix of TAC members and four additional pig producers, representing free range systems, flexible farrowing, and both indoor and outdoor production experience.

Over the course of six detailed meetings, the group worked through the proposed standards, debating, refining, and ensuring the content was practical, evidence-based, and aligned with industry needs. Their final proposals were then submitted to the Red Tractor Pigs Board for review and inclusion in our consultation.

The proposed standards for our new Enhanced Welfare and Free Range tiers are designed to align with existing market requirements for outdoor-bred and free range pig production. This alignment is key to helping these new Red Tractor tiers gain broad support across the supply chain. In general, there's very little difference between the Red Tractor proposals and current requirements being met on outdoor and free range farms. Where we have diverged, we've done so to make the standards clearer, more practical, and easier to audit, leaving out anything that didn't feel relevant or workable.

Red text indicates new/amended wording. Text with strikethrough indicates removed wording

Standards highlighted in blue are existing Red Tractor requirements moved from the Outdoor Pig section

The fourth column - "Enterprises" - indicates which tier the requirements apply to: CS = Certified Standards (core Pigs Scheme), EW = Enhanced Welfare, FR = Free Range

None of the questions are mandatory. If a question or proposed standard is not relevant to you or you do not have a view, please skip it and move to the next question.

97

Would you like to review and provide feedback on the proposed Enhanced Welfare and Free Range tier standards?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

98

TI.5.j and TI.5.k - do you support the inclusion of these audit points as requirements for the Enhanced Welfare and Free Range tiers, respectively?


Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enterprises
TI.5 EW Controls must be in place to ensure assurance status of livestock and semen being sold as assured	TI.5.a Pigs and semen are only sourced from sites assured under the Red Tractor or QMS Pigs Scheme, or any other scheme as may be approved from time to time	Written derogation(s) from Red Tractor for non-assured stock/semen	CS, EW, FR
	TI.5.b No pigs are purchased from live auction markets		
	TI.5.c A written derogation from Red Tractor must be sought in advance of intake of any consignment of non-assured breeding stock or semen	Semen delivery notes	
	TI.5.d In order to retain their assured status, stock are transported by members of a recognised livestock transport assurance scheme	Evidence of notification to customers of suspension/withd rawal	
	TI.5.e Pigs can only move through a market or collection centre that is Red Tractor Assured for Pigs and only when moving directly to slaughter after		
	TI.5.f Pigs may only move to a show if they are moving directly to slaughter after		
	TI.5.g There are no non-assured pigs on the unit		
	TI.5.h Assured sites supplying semen or breeding stock include the source site's RT number on delivery information		
	TI.5.i Assured sites supplying semen or breeding stock to Red Tractor assured farms notify their customers within two working days in the event of their certificate being suspended or withdrawn		
	TI.5.j Sites participating in Red Tractor's Enhanced Welfare tier may only source pigs for further rearing from other certified Enhanced Welfare units		EW
	TI.5.k Sites participating in Red Tractor's Free Range tier may only source pigs for finishing from outdoor certified Enhanced Welfare units		FR

99

TI.5.j and TI.5.k - if you have feedback to add please do so here

100

HF.3.2 - do you support the inclusion of this standard as a requirement for the Enhanced Welfare and Free Range tiers?

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enterprises
HF.3.2  All pigs must have access at all times to a solid and bedded lying area	HF.3.2.a Bedding material is safe, comfortable, absorbent and provides thermal comfort		EW, FR
	HF.3.2.b Bedding is provided in sufficient quantity for comfort and hygiene		
GUIDANCE: Suitable bedding material includes straw and coarse sawdust. The following materials are not permitted for use as bedding: shredded paper, waste plasterboard and/or waste gypsum, anaerobic digestate, mushroom compost, peat, recycled manure solids ("green bedding"), rubber. This requirement applies to pigs of all age categories, including breeding females in farrowing accommodation.			

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

101

HF.3.2 - if you have feedback to add please do so here

102

HF.6.a - do you support the inclusion of this audit point as a requirement for the Enhanced Welfare tiers? Please skip this question if not relevant to you

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enterprises																					
HF.6 Key Growing pigs must be provided with sufficient space	HF.6.a The unobstructed floor area available to each growing pig is at least: <table><tr><th>Average liveweight (kg)</th><th>Minimum total floor area per pig (m²)</th></tr><tr><td>≤10</td><td>0.15</td></tr><tr><td>10.1 - 20</td><td>0.20</td></tr><tr><td>20.1 - 30</td><td>0.30</td></tr><tr><td>30.1 - 50</td><td>0.40</td></tr><tr><td>50.1 - 85</td><td>0.55</td></tr><tr><td>85.1 - 110</td><td>0.65</td></tr><tr><td>>110</td><td>1.00</td></tr></table>	Average liveweight (kg)	Minimum total floor area per pig (m ²)	≤10	0.15	10.1 - 20	0.20	20.1 - 30	0.30	30.1 - 50	0.40	50.1 - 85	0.55	85.1 - 110	0.65	>110	1.00		CS					
Average liveweight (kg)	Minimum total floor area per pig (m ²)																							
≤10	0.15																							
10.1 - 20	0.20																							
20.1 - 30	0.30																							
30.1 - 50	0.40																							
50.1 - 85	0.55																							
85.1 - 110	0.65																							
>110	1.00																							
	HF.6.b For growing pigs housed indoors, where at least one third of the total area is mucked out at least twice a week, minimum area per pig (m ²) is: <table><tr><th>Average liveweight (kg)</th><th>Bedded lying area</th><th>Total area</th></tr><tr><td>10.1 - 20</td><td>0.13</td><td>0.20</td></tr><tr><td>20.1 - 30</td><td>0.20</td><td>0.30</td></tr><tr><td>30.1 - 45</td><td>0.26</td><td>0.40</td></tr><tr><td>45.1 - 85</td><td>0.46</td><td>0.70</td></tr><tr><td>85.1 - 110</td><td>0.53</td><td>0.80</td></tr><tr><td>>110</td><td>0.66</td><td>1.00</td></tr></table>	Average liveweight (kg)	Bedded lying area	Total area	10.1 - 20	0.13	0.20	20.1 - 30	0.20	0.30	30.1 - 45	0.26	0.40	45.1 - 85	0.46	0.70	85.1 - 110	0.53	0.80	>110	0.66	1.00		EW
Average liveweight (kg)	Bedded lying area	Total area																						
10.1 - 20	0.13	0.20																						
20.1 - 30	0.20	0.30																						
30.1 - 45	0.26	0.40																						
45.1 - 85	0.46	0.70																						
85.1 - 110	0.53	0.80																						
>110	0.66	1.00																						

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

103

HF.6.b - if you have feedback to add please do so here

104

HF.6.c - do you support the inclusion of this new audit point as a requirement for the Enhanced Welfare tier? Please skip this question if not relevant to you

	HF.6.c For growing pigs in outdoor systems:		EW
		Minimum total floor area per pig (m²)	
	Average liveweight (kg)	Bedded lying area	
	10	0.1	
	20	0.15	
	30	0.2	
	35	0.23	
	40	0.26	
	50	0.31	
	60	0.36	
	70	0.41	
	75	0.43	
	80	0.45	
	90	0.475	
	95	0.49	
	100	0.50	
	110	0.53	

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

105

HF.6.c - if you have feedback to add please do so here

106

HF.6.d - do you support the inclusion of this audit point (and associated guidance) as a requirement for the Free Range tier ? Please skip this question if not relevant to you

	HF.6.d At least 40m²/pig paddock space except where accommodation is moved to new paddocks after each batch when this may be reduced to 12m²/pig*. Minimum lying area in shelters as per HF.6.c		FR
	HF.6.e (was HF.6.b) Pigs have enough space to allow all the animals to lie down at the same time		CS, EW, FR
GUIDANCE *Total area (but not the lying area) in HF.6.d for free range growing pigs may be reduced for a maximum of three weeks post-weaning enable pigs to become accustomed to their new paddocks. It is permitted to move finished pigs into accommodation (i.e. no longer free range) for sorting no more than 48 hours prior to collect transport to the abattoir. In such cases the requirements of HF.6.b and HF.3.2 apply			

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

107

HF.6.d - if you have feedback to add please do so here

108

HF.6.1 - do you support the inclusion of audit points HF.6.1.f, HF.6.1.g and HF.6.1.j as requirements for the Enhanced Welfare tier? Please skip this question if not relevant to you

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enterprises
HF.6.1 Breeding pigs must be provided with sufficient space	HF.6.1.a Pens used to house a group of sows/gilts have sides longer than 2.8m, except where there are 6 or fewer sows/gilts in which case the sides are no less than 2.4m in length (see Appendix for further guidance)		CS
	HF.6.1.b The total unobstructed floor area available to each gilt after service and to each sow when gilts and/or sows are kept in groups is at least 1.64m ² and 2.25m ² respectively		
	HF.6.1.c For gilts after service and pregnant sows, a part of the total unobstructed floor area required (at least 0.95 ² per gilt and at least 1.3m ² per sow) is of continuous solid floor of which a maximum of 15% is reserved for drainage openings		
	HF.6.1.d Adult boars are provided with a minimum unobstructed floor area of 6m ² for their own use		
	HF.6.1.e Where boar pens are used for natural service, a minimum of 10m ² floor area is provided and pen design allows adequate movement		
	HF.6.1.f The total unobstructed floor area available to each gilt after service (first and second parity) and to each mature sow is 2.5m ² and 3.5m ² respectively		EW
	HF.6.1.g Adult boars are provided with a minimum unobstructed floor area of 7.5m ²		EW
	HF.6.1.h (was OP.3) Stocking density must not exceed 30 adult pigs per hectare		EW
	HF.6.1.j Bedded lying area is at least 1m ² for first and second parity animals and 1.5m ² for mature sows		EW

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

109

HF.6.1 - if you have feedback to add please do so here

110

HF.7.d - do you support the inclusion of this audit point as a requirement for the Enhanced Welfare and Free Range tiers? Recommended for inclusion in recognition of the potential for pigs reared in mixed sex groups to experience welfare issues associated with aggression and mounting around puberty. Whilst also recognising there are challenges to delivering split sex rearing in practice and experience and evidence on farm may suggest it is not necessary. If adopted, guidance will be provided to members regarding how and when to share the evidence dossier and what it should include.

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enterprises
HF.7 Livestock must be kept in appropriate groups	HF.7.a Grouped appropriately by size, age, production status		CS, EW, FR
	HF.7.b Sows and gilts are kept in groups, except during the period between 7 days before farrowing and the day on which weaning is completed		CS, EW
	HF.7.c Weaners and rearing pigs are kept in stable groups with as little mixing as possible		CS, EW, FR
	HF.7.d Action is being taken to ameliorate the negative impacts of rearing entire males and females together. Demonstrated through either: <ul style="list-style-type: none">splitting pigs by sex before 50kg liveweight most of the timesharing with Red Tractor a comprehensive evidence-based dossier of management and welfare outcomes, e.g. lameness, skin lesions		EW, FR

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

111

HF.7 - if you have feedback to add please do so here

112

The current proposal is that the Enhanced Welfare tier, which will primarily cover outdoor-bred pig production, should allow indoor **zero confinement** farrowing (as opposed to flexible farrowing with temporary confinement). Therefore the audit points proposed below are for those doing total free farrowing indoors. They **do not** require any producers to do indoor free farrowing, but are required for those that are and who wish to participate in the Enhanced Welfare tier. HF.9 - do you support the inclusion of audit points HF.9.d, HF.9.e and HF.9.f as a requirement for indoor free farrowing as part of the Enhanced Welfare tier? Please skip the question if it is not relevant to you or you do not have a view

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enterprises
HF.9 There must be appropriate facilities for livestock to give birth	HF.9.a Farrowing environment is designed such that the sow and her piglets stay clean and dry throughout lactation		CS, EW
	HF.9.b (was HF.9.6.b) Farrowing rails or other means to protect piglets from crushing are in place		EW
	HF.9.d Non-solid flooring has openings no greater than 11mm		
	HF.9.e The piglet creep area has solid flooring		
	HF.9.f In indoor farrowing accommodation the sow lying/nest area has solid flooring which is either perforated (up to 1%), or sloped (2-3% towards the dunging area)		
	HF.9.g (was CP.6.b) Outdoor farrowing accommodation is sited on level ground (not excessively sloped or very uneven)		
GUIDANCE: Producers should avoid routinely placing sows in different types of farrowing accommodation on a <u>litter by litter</u> basis.			

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

113

HF.9 - if you have feedback to add please do so here

114

HF.9.1 - do you support the inclusion of HF.9.1.d and HF.9.1.e? Again, these would only be requirements for producers doing indoor free farrowing (zero confinement) and who wish to participate in the Enhanced Welfare tier. Please skip the question if it is not relevant to you or you do not have a view

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enterprises
HF.9.1 Indoor farrowing accommodation must be of a sufficient size	HF.9.1.a Where a crate is used the sow can stand up and lie down at full length, but excessive movement is prevented		CS
	HF.9.1.b An unobstructed area behind the sow or gilt is available for farrowing		CS, EW
	HF.9.1.c (was HF.9.8.a) Sows are able to turn around, rise, lie down fully on their side, nest-build and access feeding and dunging areas at all times without hindrance from fixtures and fittings		EW
	HF.9.1.d Total pen size, including lying area/nest area but excluding feeding stall area if provided, is at least 6.5m² and a minimum turning circle of 1.8m diameter is available for the sow		
	HF.9.1.e A separate creep area of at least 1.2m² is provided for piglets		

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

115

HF.9.1 - if you have feedback to add please do so here

116

HF.9.2.b - do you support the inclusion of this audit point as a requirement for the Enhanced Welfare tier? Recommended by the Task & Finish group for inclusion in the Enhanced Welfare tier as research has demonstrated that giving sows sufficient time to settle into their farrowing accommodation reduces farrowing duration, incidence of mastitis and therefore impacts piglet mortality.

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enterprises
HF.9.2 Sows must be moved in to farrowing facilities at an appropriate time	HF.9.2.a (was HF.9.2) Sows do not enter farrowing crates more than 7 days prior to their expected farrowing date		CS
	HF.9.2.b Sows enter farrowing facilities at least 3 days prior to their expected farrowing date		EW

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

117

HF.9.2.b - if you have feedback to add please do so here

118

HF.9.5.d - do you support the inclusion of this audit point as a requirement for the Enhanced Welfare tier?

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enterprises
HF.9.5 Sows must be given sufficient suitable material* to satisfy nest-building behaviour	HF.9.5.a Nesting material is provided regardless of the slurry system		CS, EW
	HF.9.5.b Nesting material is placed where the sow can easily access it		CS, EW
	HF.9.5.c (was part of HF.9.5) Available during at least the 24 hour period prior to expected farrowing		CS
	HF.9.5.d Available during at least the 48 hour period prior to expected farrowing		EW
GUIDANCE: *Acceptable nesting material for Certified Standards (CS) includes, but is not limited to, wood shavings, shredded paper, straw, hessian sack/pieces, natural rope (ideally extending to the floor so the sow can push it along the floor). Acceptable nesting material for Enhanced Welfare (EW) is at least 2kg of long-stemmed or long-cut straw, hay or haylage only.			

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

119

HF.9.5.d - if you have feedback to add please do so here

120

FW.1.1 - do you support the inclusion of this standard as a requirement for the Enhanced Welfare and Free Range tiers?

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enterprises
FW.1.1 All pigs (after weaning) have access to clean substrate to enable expression of foraging behaviour	FW.1.1.a Provided on a daily basis (unless available already as bedding)		EW, FR
	FW.1.1.b Presented in a way that enables easy access for all pigs and does not encourage competition		
GUIDANCE: Suitable foraging substrate includes straw (including long-cut or chopped straw provided as bedding, straw provided in a rack and stamped into a block provided from a dispenser that requires manipulation), green forages and silage. Foraging behaviour includes exploration, rooting and chewing.			

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

121

FW.1.1 - if you have feedback to add please do so here

122

FW.2.d and FW.2.f - do you support the inclusion of these audit points as a requirement of the Enhanced Welfare and Free Range tiers?

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enterprises
FW.2 Feed must be presented in a way that minimises stress and aggression	FW.2.a Where pigs are not fed ad-lib (food delivery is intermittent or rationed) and they are fed as a group, at least 30 cm trough space is provided per pig for pigs over 40kg liveweight so that all pigs can feed at the same time without interference from others		CS, EW, FR
	FW.2.b Where pigs are fed ad-lib sufficient feeder space is provided such that there is no evidence of competition at the feeder, e.g. injurious behaviour		
	FW.2.d Where pigs are fed ad-lib the maximum number of pigs per individual feed place is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">For dry feeders with no full head barriers between each feeding place – 6 pigs/placeWhere there are full head barriers – 10 pigs/placeFor wet and dry feeders - 14 pigs/place		EW, FR
	FW.2.f If wet feeding sows indoors, head and shoulder barriers are erected between each feeding place		EW

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

123

FW.2.d & FW.2.f - if you have feedback to add please do so here

124

FW.3.e - do you support the inclusion of this audit point as a requirement for the Enhanced Welfare and Free Range tiers?

	FW.3.e The following access to drinkers is provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none">For dry feeding systems<ul style="list-style-type: none">nipples/mini bowls: 1 per 10 pigsbowls*: 1 per 20 pigsFor wet and dry feeding systems<ul style="list-style-type: none">1 drinker point per 10 pigsand an additional 1 drinker point per 10 pigs provided as a separate water source from the wet and dry feederFor water troughs, the length of the trough exceeds the following<ul style="list-style-type: none">pigs <35kg: 1cm per pigpigs >35kg: 1.5cm per pig		EW, FR
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- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

125

FW.3.e - if you have feedback to add please do so here

126

HP.1.g - do you support the inclusion of this audit point as a requirement for the Free Range tier?
(please skip this question if not relevant to you)

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enterprises
HP.1 Husbandry procedures must be carried out appropriately	HP.1.a Ear tagging/notching, <u>slapmarking</u> , tattooing and tusk trimming are only performed by demonstrably competent persons	Record(s) of <u>persons</u> that perform husbandry procedures	CS, EW, FR
	HP.1.b Records are kept of the <u>persons</u> who perform specific husbandry procedures	VHP	
	HP.1.c Only husbandry procedures detailed in the VHP are carried out		
	HP.1.d Procedures other than those specifically listed in the Red Tractor Pigs Scheme* are only carried out under veterinary direction, details of which are outlined in the VHP		
	HP.1.e Multiple notching is only carried out as a last resort in pedigree breeding where pig <u>colouring</u> prevents the use of tattooing. Otherwise, only a single ear notch is permitted (1 notch in 1 ear)		
	HP.1.f Ear notching is only carried out on pigs up to 7 days of age		
	HP.1.g Tail docking is prohibited for free-range pigs, including outdoor <u>sows/gilts</u> '		EW, FR

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

127

HP.1.g - if you have feedback to add please do so here

128

HP.3.2.f - do you support the inclusion of this audit point as a requirement for the Enhanced Welfare tier? (Feedback on HP.3.2.a can be provided in the previous section as it is a change to the Core Standards)

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Enterprises
HP.3.2 Tail docking is carried out appropriately	HP.3.2.a Only persons deemed competent to by a vet, <u>within the last three years</u> , perform tail docking, unless supervised by a trained and competent person	List of those deemed competent in VHP	CS, E
	HP.3.2.b Only carried out on pigs up to 72 hours old		
	HP.3.2.c Tails are docked to a uniform length		
	HP.3.2.d Equipment is cleaned and disinfected between each litter of pigs		
	HP.3.2.e Equipment is different to that used to carry out teeth reduction		
	HP.3.2.f Only the minimum amount of tail is removed (i.e. only tip removed or approximately 6cm tail remains)		EW

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

129

HP.3.2.f - if you have feedback to add please do so here

130

Bl.12.c & Bl.12.d - do you support the inclusion of these audit points as requirements for the Enhanced Welfare tier? (Feedback on Bl.12.a can be provided in the previous section as it is a change to the Core Standards)

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Ent
Bl.12 (was OP.8) Measures must be in place to minimise disease transmission between batches	Bl.12.a Indoor farrowing accommodation is cleaned and disinfected between occupancies		CS,
	Bl.12.b (was OP.8.a) Outdoor farrowing arcs, tents, kennels and associated enclosing runs for growing pigs must be moved* to fresh land after each farrowing cycle or batch		EW
	*unless sited on a concrete base		
	Bl.12.b (was OP.8.b) After weaning, used bedding from farrowing accommodation is removed/destroyed		
	Bl.12.c Sites are only used for farrowing paddocks for a maximum of 2 years, or 2.5 years for single parity herds		
	Bl.12.d Farrowing sows are not placed on land previously used for farrowing paddocks for at least 6 months		

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

131

Bl.12.c & Bl.12.d - if you have feedback to add please do so here

132

LT.4.2.c - do you support the inclusion of this audit point as a requirement for the Enhanced Welfare and Free Range tiers?

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Ent
LT.4.2 (was LT.4.1) Journey times (from time of first pig being loaded, to last pig being unloaded) must be kept to a minimum	LT.4.2.a (was LT.4.1.a) Piglets less than 10 kg are not transported for more than 8 hours		CS,
	LT.4.2.b Pigs are unloaded without delay on arrival at farm		
	LT.4.2.c Maximum transport time is 8 hours for all pigs		EW

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

133

LT.4.2.c - if you have feedback to add please do so here

134

EC.1.4 - do you support the inclusion of this standard as a requirement for the Enhanced Welfare and Free Range tiers?

Standard	How You Will Be Measured	Records	Ent
EC.1.4 Assessment of site and soil suitability is undertaken before placing pigs on land for outdoor pig production GUIDANCE: This could involve consulting soil scientists, agronomists, ecologists, environmental consultants and/or soil and geological data.			EW

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Partially
- ☐ No

135

EC.1.4 - if you have feedback to add please do so here

136

Do you feel there is anything missing from the proposed requirements which could impact acceptability of the Enhanced Welfare / Free Range modules by the market?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

137

If you would like to comment further on your response to the above question please do so here

Transition away from Farrowing Crates

Introducing a Red Tractor Certified Standards Plus module and logo could help support the pig sector’s transition to alternative farrowing systems. There’s growing industry momentum for a voluntary move to flexible farrowing systems, where sows are only temporarily confined during farrowing. The National Pig Association is lobbying for this to be industry-led, rather than government-mandated. Red Tractor has supported the pig industry’s voluntary initiatives before, like antibiotic use reporting, and could do the same here by providing clear standards for flexible farrowing. With a clear timeline and approach to a transition, established through Red Tractor’s standards, Government may see that legislation is not necessary.

That said, this is a rapidly evolving area. With ongoing uncertainty around Government legislation and the potential of grant funding to support the transition, the Red Tractor Pigs Board has decided not to launch this tier, or any other requirements around phasing out of farrowing crates, at the same time as the Enhanced Welfare and Free Range options later this year. However, the Pigs Board are seeking insights into individual pig producer’s plans to transition away from conventional farrowing crates, the wider industry’s approach, and your views on Red Tractor’s potential role in supporting the transition. Feedback provided in this section will be used to inform Red Tractor Pigs Board’s future discussions. Any changes or new initiatives would be subject to further consultation.

None of the questions are mandatory. If a question is not relevant to you or you do not have a view, please skip it and move to the next question.

138

Would you like to answer questions about industry’s transition away from using farrowing crates?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

139

The Buildings Supplier Forum has committed voluntarily to refrain from installing new conventional farrowing crates, instead advising customers on alternative pen designs with reduced confinement. The National Pig Association supports this approach as detailed in its public Position Paper on Flexible Farrowing Systems. Red Tractor is considering supporting this voluntary industry commitment by prohibiting installation of new and second-hand crates (apart from repair or replacement of individual crates) on Red Tractor pig units. Would you be supportive of Red Tractor doing so?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Maybe
- ☐ No

140

If you would like to comment further on your answer to the question above please do so here

141

If you are a pig producer, do you anticipate installing new or second-hand conventional farrowing crates on your unit(s) within the next 3 years? (i.e. replacing all crates in an existing farrowing house or installing crates in a new farrowing house. If you only anticipate repairing/replacing individual crates within existing accommodation answer 'No')

- ☐ Yes - new
- ☐ Yes - second-hand
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not Applicable

142

If you would like to expand on your answer to the above question, please do so here

143

If you are a pig producer with conventional farrowing crates, approximately what age is your existing farrowing accommodation? If you have a mixture of ages please indicate the age of your oldest farrowing accommodation.

- ☐ Less than 5 years old
- ☐ 5-10 years old
- ☐ 10 - 20 years old
- ☐ More than 20 years old
- ☐ Not applicable

144

If you are a pig producer with conventional farrowing crates, when do you anticipate beginning to transition to flexible (temporary confinement around farrowing) or free farrowing?

- ☐ Within the next 12 months
- ☐ In 12 months - 5 years' time
- ☐ 5-10 years' time
- ☐ More than 10 years
- ☐ I would have to exit the industry rather than transition
- ☐ Not applicable

145

Are you considering installing flexible farrowing (temporary confinement around farrowing) or free farrowing (zero confinement)?

- ☐ Flexible farrowing
- ☐ Free farrowing (indoor)
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ Other

146

What total pen size are you considering installing for flexible farrowing?

- ☐ <6m2
- ☐ 6 - 6.2m2
- ☐ 6.24m2
- ☐ 6.5m2
- ☐ >6.5m2
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ A mixture of different sizes

147

What total pen size are you considering installing for free farrowing?

- ☐ 6 - 6.5m2
- ☐ 6.5 - 7m2
- ☐ 7 - 7.5m2
- ☐ >7.5m2
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ A mixture of different sizes

148

If you would like to comment further on your response to the above question re pen sizes please do so here

149

Will you be installing new farrowing accommodation as part of your planned transition?

- ☐ New buildings only
- ☐ Mixture of new buildings and retrofitting existing
- ☐ Retrofitting existing buildings only
- ☐ Not sure

150

Would you be supportive of Red Tractor establishing a time point after which conventional farrowing crates would be prohibited?

- ☐ Yes, and they should be prohibited within 10 years
- ☐ Yes, and they should be prohibited within 15 years
- ☐ Yes, and they should be prohibited within 20 years
- ☐ Yes but unsure what timeframe
- ☐ No - Red Tractor should not do this yet

151

If you would like to comment further on your response to the above question please do so here

152

Should Red Tractor publish a specification for flexible farrowing outlining the standards (pen size, maximum duration of confinement, flooring type etc) which must be met by anyone adopting flexible farrowing (i.e. only for those opting to do it; for those with conventional crates the existing standards would apply until such time that farrowing crates are prohibited)?

- ☐ Yes - asap
- ☐ Yes - but wait to align with legal requirements
- ☐ Not yet
- ☐ Not sure

153

If you would like to comment further on your response to the above question please do so here

154

If Red Tractor were to publish a specification for flexible farrowing, including minimum pen size, we would likely to seek to ensure that any early adopters of flexible/free farrowing not meeting the specification are not penalised unduly. This would possibly involve granting "grandfather rights" for any alternative farrowing systems installed before the Red Tractor specification was published / before a certain date, e.g. through issuing derogations to those farms. Would you be supportive of this approach?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

155

If you would like to comment further on your response to the above question please do so here

End of the Consultation

Thank you for taking the time to respond to our consultation, your views are really important to us.

If you have not managed to answer all the questions that you would like to, **you cannot save the form for completion later, however you can submit your response and then edit your responses afterwards.** So if you can't complete it in one sitting, submit your progress and then return to edit your response when you're ready to complete it. We will not view or analyse responses until after the consultation closes.

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