

**RSPCA Pig Standards Technical Advisory Group meeting
on Friday 1st June 2018**

Meeting Summary Notes

Proposed new and amended standards

The group considered proposed changes to the RSPCA welfare standards for pigs for inclusion within the next revision of the standards, scheduled for the second quarter of 2019. The proposals related to several areas of the standards including environment, health and slaughter/killing. The proposals would be reviewed in light of discussions.

Issues and queries relating to the standards

The group discussed general issues and standards-related queries, including split-sex rearing, the use of emergency lairage during abattoir breakdowns, cull sows, space allowances and water testing. The outcome of the discussions would be used to inform proposed amendments to the standards, where appropriate.

Welfare Outcome Assessment data

One year's worth of welfare outcome assessment (WOA) data for pigs had been collected, and data analysis had been started. The results of the initial analysis were reviewed.

EC project - establishing best practices on the production, the processing and marketing of meat from uncastrated or immunocastrated pigs

An EC funded project had been commissioned to collect good practices and share them EU-wide to encourage producers to produce pig meat without castration. Members of the group were encouraged to participate, and to encourage participation, with the project as appropriate.

Tail docking and tail biting action plan

AHDB Pork were looking for strategic farms to look at developing tail biting action plans. Any farm that was willing to be used as a case study, with an interest in tail biting, was encouraged to apply, regardless of their current practices.