

**RSPCA Pig Standards Technical Advisory Group meeting
on Wednesday 18th January 2017**

Meeting Summary Notes

Issues and queries relating to the standards

The group discussed general issues and standards-related queries, including defining what is meant by '*treated without delay*' in relation to sick or injured animals, breakdowns at abattoirs and the use of emergency lairages, transport times and the rotation of land for outdoor rearing/finishing. The outcome of the discussions would be used to inform proposed amendments to the standards, where appropriate.

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 November 2018. The proposals related to many areas of the standards including food and water, environment, health, protection from other animals, and slaughter/killing. The proposals would be reviewed in light of these discussions.

Water quality testing

The group discussed the current water testing standard and sought clarification on what the test result needed to show. The standards do not set parameters; all that is required is that the test results clearly state the the water quality was suitable for livestock to drink.

Permission letters

Members discussed the current permission process for mutilations . The RSPCA would like to review the current process in a bid to make it more efficient, and to gather required information more effectively. A proforma is currently available on the website to aid with capturing required information, but it is not widely used. Any proposed changes to the current process will be discussed at the 2018 meeting.