Dairy Standards Technical Advisory Group Summary notes 6th August 2025

Scheme impact

The Group considered how to maximise the scheme's impact on welfare, including increasing membership and effectiveness of the standards.

Environment

Topics such as water quality testing, electrical testing, concrete flooring and cubicle width were discussed in depth. The potential for the standards to move to more outcome-based measures was also raised as a key focus.

Management

The Group discussed the requirement for continuing professional development (CPD) for staff working on-farm with animals, and the development of bTb action plan. The benefits and concerns associated with breeding plans and genetic selection were also highlighted.

Welfare outcome assessment

A representative of RSPCA Assured outlined plans to use on-farm data to drive continuous improvement of welfare, provide targeted support and engage members.