

Laying Hen Standards Technical Advisory Group meeting
10am Tuesday 23 May
Meeting Summary

Verandas and Natural Light

The group discussed the transition towards natural daylight and verandas being included in the RSPCA welfare standards. The potential challenges and benefits of these changes were discussed further. The RSPCA will be compiling more information and guidance on these topics in order to assist RSPCA Assured members in complying with future standards.

Feather Pecking and Intact Beak Birds

The current state of the industry with regards to feather pecking and management of intact beak birds was discussed. Strategies for encouraging producers to positively engage the transition to intact beak birds were highlighted, and further work will be continued in this area.

Avian Influenza

RSPCA Assured introduced plans for increased engagement with wider industry regarding Avian Influenza this season, and suggestions for how audits will be conducted in the event of future housing orders. More consideration will be given to potential options in the coming months.