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**Direct Line** 020 7238 6583  
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18 May 2011

Dear Consultee

## **CONSULTATION ON ELECTRONIC REPORTING OF PIG MOVEMENTS IN ENGLAND**

(Pigs, (Records, Identification and Movement) Order 2011)

I am writing to invite views on Defra's proposals to replace the current paper method of reporting pig movements in England with a pre-notification electronic system. The proposed system will be delivered in partnership with industry and will include a bureau service for those keepers who do not have access to computers. The existing Pigs (Records, Identification and Movement) Order 2007 (PRIMO) will be replaced by a new 2011 Order to accommodate the necessary legislative base.

We also invite comments on a few other changes to PRIMO. These are to permit the use of compressed air applied slap marks (tattoos) as an alternative to the use of standard manual application equipment, to reduce the retention period for on farm records from 6 years to 3 years and to require individual identification and recording for boars moving to artificial insemination centres.

The proposals build on an industry / Government pilot project on electronic reporting and have the support of the main bodies representing pig producers. This non-formal written consultation will last for four weeks.

The following documents may be found on Defra's website at:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/consult/2011/05/18/pig-movements1105/>

- A copy of this letter
- The consultation document
- A list of consultees
- The draft 2011 Order
- An Impact Assessment

We welcome your views and comments on the proposals. If you wish to obtain a copy of the consultation, please contact:

The Livestock Identification Team  
Livestock and Livestock Products Hub  
Defra  
Area 5E, 9 Milbank, c/o Nobel House  
17 Smith Square  
LONDON, SW1P 3JR

Responses to this consultation should be sent by post to the above address, or by email to: [Fig.Movements@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Fig.Movements@defra.gsi.gov.uk). Responses should be received by Wednesday 15 June 2011.

This consultation is in line with the Code of practice on Consultations. This can be found at <http://www.bis.gov.uk/policies/better-regulation/consultation-guidance>

When the consultation ends, we intend to put a copy of the responses in the Defra HQ Library. This is so the public can see them. Also, members of the public may ask for a copy of a response under freedom of information legislation. If you do not want your response – including your name, address, contact details and any other personal information – to be publicly available, please say so clearly in writing when you send your response to the consultation. Please note, if your computer automatically includes a confidentiality disclaimer that will not count as a confidentiality request. Please explain why you need to keep your details confidential. We will take your reasons into account if someone asks for this information under freedom of information legislation. But, because of the law, we cannot promise we will always keep those details confidential.

We will summarise all responses and place this summary on our website at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/consult/2011/05/18/pig-movements1105/>. To see consultation responses as well as the summary, please contact the library at:

Defra  
Information Resource Centre  
Lower Ground Floor  
Nobel House  
17 Smith Square  
London, SW1P 3JR

Telephone: 0207 238 6575  
Email: [defralibrary@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:defralibrary@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

Please give the library 24 hours notice. There is a charge for photocopying and postage. If you have any complaints about the consultation process, please address them to the Consultation Co-ordinator, Area 7C Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR or email [consultation.coordinator@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:consultation.coordinator@defra.gsi.gov.uk).

Thank you for your consideration of these proposals. If you have any queries please contact me at the above address.

Yours faithfully

Patrick Brophy

**Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs**