

Animal Welfare Team
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To All Consultees

13 September 2012

Dear Consultee

CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS TO IMPLEMENT REGULATION 1099/2009 ON THE PROTECTION ANIMALS AT THE TIME OF KILLING IN ENGLAND

1. I am writing to invite views on proposals to implement Council Regulation (EC) 1099/2009 on the protection of animals at the time of killing, in England, with effect from 1 January 2013.

Consultation documents

2. The following documents can be found on the Defra website: www.defra.gov.uk/consult
- Consultation letter
 - Consultation document
 - Consultation questionnaire
 - List of consultees
 - Impact assessment

Scope of this consultation

3. Defra is seeking views on proposed measures to implement:
- the legal obligations in Regulation 1099/2009;
 - national rules to maintain existing welfare standards where these are higher than those in Regulation 1099/2009;
 - transitional measures;
 - criminal and administrative sanctions and penalties for breaches of Regulation 1099/2009 and stricter national rules.

Following consultation new domestic regulations, The Welfare of Animals at the time of Killing (England) Regulations 2012 (WATOK) will be laid before Parliament at the end of 2012 to implement and enforce Regulation 1099/2009 and to repeal and replace the Welfare of Animals (Slaughter or Killing) Regulations 1995 (insofar as they apply to England), save for



certain transitional provisions. The new domestic regulations will apply in England only. Separate implementing regulations will be made in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Obtaining copies of the consultation paper

4. An electronic copy of the consultation paper can be downloaded from the Defra website at www.defra.gov.uk/consult

5. If you require a printed copy of this consultation please contact the Defra Animal Welfare Team at:

animalwelfareconsultations@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Or write to us at:

Animal Welfare Team
Area 8B LMB
C/o Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London
SW1P 3JR

Responses

6. Anyone may reply to this consultation. Defra would like to hear from anyone with an interest, including people working in the slaughter industry, animal welfare organisations and the general public.

You can complete the survey on-line at:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RFPCFS7>

This survey does not collect any personal data to enable us to identify the person or organisation responding.

Alternatively you can download and complete the consultation questionnaire which can be found at www.defra.gov.uk/consult

Please note that if you are responding on behalf of an organisation (such as a business, trade association, charity or non-governmental organisation) you should reply using the consultation questionnaire if you want to ensure the name of your organisation appears in your response.

7. Email responses should be sent to:

animalwelfareconsultations@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Written responses should be sent to:

Animal Welfare Team
Area 8B LMB
C/o Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London
SW1P 3JR

8. This consultation started on 13 September 2012 and all responses should be received by 24 October 2012.

Consultation criteria

9. This consultation is in line with the Coalition Government's Consultation Principles. These can be found at <http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/resource-library/consultation-principles-guidance>.

10. If you do not want your response - including your name, 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 details confidential. We will take your reasons into account if someone asks for this information under Freedom of Information legislation. However, because of the law, we cannot promise that we will always be able to keep those details confidential.

11. When this consultation ends, we will summarise all responses and place this summary on our website at www.defra.gov.uk/consult. This summary will include a list of names of organisations that responded but not people's personal names, addresses or other contact details.

12. We will place a copy of the responses received in the Defra library. To see consultation responses and summaries please contact the library at:

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

Tel: 0207 238 6575

Email: defra.library@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Please give the Library 24 hours' notice. There is a charge for photocopying and postage.

13. If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please contact the Defra Consultation Co-ordinator, Area 7b Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London SW1P 3JR, or email consultation.coordinator@defra.gsi.gov.uk.

14. Thank you for your help in this matter. If you have any queries please contact us as above.

Yours sincerely

Geoff Webdale

Animal Welfare Team
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs