

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL FEEDINGSTUFFS

Meeting of ACAF on 8th May 2013

Discussion Paper:

THE REVISED FEED LAW CODE OF PRACTICE

Action: the Committee is asked to consider and comment on the revised feed law code of practice.

Feed Review: Implementation

Operations Group

Food Standards Agency

April 2013

The Revised Feed Law Code of Practice

Purpose

1. To provide the Committee with the first draft of the revised feed law code of practice (CoP) and to comment on and to raise any issues.

Background

2. In March 2012 the FSA Board requested that a review of local authority (LA) delivery of feed controls be forward as a priority. In November 2012 the Board agreed to all the review recommendations to improve current LA delivery. A feed review implementation programme was established to take forward and implement these improvements.
3. The current Feed Law CoP is being reviewed and revised. It is one of the work streams within the overall programme. The revised CoP will incorporate all the agreed improvements.
4. Initial informal consultation with key internal FSA colleagues, local authorities and their representative bodies has taken place.
5. The revised Feed Law CoP and associated practice guidance will undergo formal public consultation in GB. The public consultation will take place commencing in July 2013 with a view to the CoP being published in November/December 2013.
6. It is anticipated that there will be three separate versions of the revised CoP - England, Scotland and Wales. These versions are expected to differ only in terms of legislative references and specific differences in the delivery of the controls. The CoP will be implemented in Northern Ireland as guidance for DARD.

Discussion

7. The following changes have been made to the current version of the Feed Law CoP (GB):

- incorporated outputs from the feed review implementation programme, particularly in relation to earned recognition;
- been aligned with the revised Food Law CoP;
- shows clear links to Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 and the Framework Agreement on official feed and food controls by LAs;
- introduced a more comprehensive competency framework for officers; and
- guidance for LAs (excluding instructions) will be incorporated into separate practice guidance. This is in the process of being drafted and will be part of the final consultation.

Conclusions

8. The Committee is asked to consider and comment on the draft feed law code of practice.

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