

Animal Health and Welfare Policy

Associated British Foods plc (ABF) is a highly diversified group, with a range of food and ingredients businesses as well as our retail brand, Primark. We are united in our purpose: to provide safe, nutritious and affordable food, and clothing that is great value for money. We work hard every day to create long-term value for our shareholders and our stakeholders, which include our customers, employees and suppliers.

Scope

This Animal Health and Welfare Policy applies to all ABF businesses.

Responsibility

The responsibility for ensuring our businesses comply with relevant legislation and with ABF's policies, including this policy, sits with the chief executive or managing director for each individual ABF business.

Our businesses report regularly to the Group, including on Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG) factors.

Approach

At ABF, we believe in the importance of high animal health and welfare standards.

Only a small number of our businesses have direct involvement with the farming or management of animals, and this is primarily through AB Agri in Europe and George Weston Foods in Australia. Several of our businesses purchase ingredients derived from animals, such as eggs and dairy products, and some sell products into the livestock industry¹.

Wherever the farming or management of animals, or the purchasing of ingredients derived from animals, is relevant to a business, its approach to animal health and welfare is guided by the internationally recognised Five Freedoms² outlined below:

1. Freedom from Hunger and Thirst – by providing ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigour.
2. Freedom from Discomfort – by providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area.
3. Freedom from Pain, Injury or Disease – by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment.
4. Freedom to Express Normal Behaviour – by providing sufficient space, proper facilities, and company of the animal's own kind.
5. Freedom from Fear and Distress – by ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering.

As a minimum, our businesses will always adhere to all relevant and applicable local and international legislation regarding animal health and welfare.

Also, our suppliers and representatives must comply with the standards we expect in our supply chains and seek to develop relationships within their own supply chains that are consistent with the principles set out in this policy.

Animal testing³

We do not conduct, support or condone the use of animal testing that is not required by law.

All Primark's cosmetic products are certified as cruelty-free by the highly respected Leaping Bunny Program⁴, meaning no animal testing is carried out on these products or their ingredients at any stage of product development.

Animal trials⁵

AB Agri is committed to producing feed for animals that is both nutritious and effective in treating common complaints, such as vitamin and mineral deficiencies. As such, it conducts feed ingredient and compound feed product efficacy trials that are run on farms simulating typical commercial conditions and/or in strict scientifically controlled environments, which are governed by rigorous welfare and ethics codes and approval committees, as detailed in its Animal Health and Welfare Policy⁶.

Welfare indicator monitoring

Our businesses monitor key welfare indicators to drive continued improvements in welfare performance and to ensure that all animals under their care are managed to high welfare standards.

Paul Lister

**ABF plc – Director of Legal Services
and Company Secretary**

¹ More information about the approach our businesses take to sourcing ingredients derived from animal, including eggs, is available in our [Responsible Sourcing ESG Insights](#).

² [Farm Animal Welfare Council](#)

³ Animal Testing refers to procedures performed on living animals, for the purposes of research, outside of what an animal would expect to experience either in its natural environment or in a typical domestic or farmed situation.

⁴ [Leaping Bunny Programme](#) and [Primark's cruelty free programme](#)

⁵ Animal Trials refers to nutritional evaluation trials on living animals, based on what an animal would expect to experience either in its natural environment or in a typical domestic or farmed situation.

⁶ [AB Agri Animal Health and Welfare Policy](#)