

Lidl GB Policy

# Farm Animal Health and Welfare

Lidl Great Britain • Last updated 09.07.2024



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# Our position

Our vision is to ensure that our food and all our products are produced, sold and consumed in ways that benefits producers, people and the planet as part of our overarching sustainability strategy ‘making good food accessible to everyone’.

At Lidl GB the welfare of farmed animals worldwide forms a key part of our continued dedication to our sustainability strategy. We believe this is in the interests of both our business, ensuring integrity and sustainability, and our customers, who have told us that they are increasingly invested in buying produce that has been produced and sourced with strong welfare considerations.

We acknowledge that farm animals are sentient beings and are dedicated to the continuous improvement of their health and welfare. We are able to achieve this by working alongside our suppliers across all our food categories to understand and overcome potential challenges, as well as with the wider industry, including animal welfare specific Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs).

The Lidl GB policy on animal welfare endorses the Five Freedoms, which were proposed by the Farm Animal Welfare Council (FAWC):

- Freedom from hunger and thirst by ready access to water and a diet to maintain health and vigour
- Freedom from discomfort by providing an appropriate environment
- Freedom from pain, injury or disease by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment

- Freedom to express normal behaviour by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and appropriate company of the animal’s own kind



- Freedom from fear and distress by ensuring conditions and treatment, which avoid mental suffering

This policy and internal animal welfare responsibility is owned by the Lidl GB Responsible Sourcing Manager who is situated within the Lidl GB purchasing department. Lidl GB reserves the right to audit compliance against this policy at any time and any queries on this policy should be directed to [CSR@lidl.co.uk](mailto:CSR@lidl.co.uk). Lidl GB welcomes feedback on the positions outlined.

### British sourcing

For the last 25 years, since entering the UK market in 1994, Lidl GB has continued to invest in British farming and has grown its local sourcing considerably over this period. We are proud that many of our suppliers have remained working with us over these years and continue to grow alongside us. Currently, we offer over 2,300 British-sourced products across our permanent food range.

Own brand product	Sourced from national farmers
Fresh beef	100%
Butter	100%
Fresh chicken	100%
Cream	100%
Eggs	100%


Milk	100%
Fresh pork	100%
Fresh turkey	100%

Our continued support for the British farming industry is evident through our introduction of long-term contracts with key suppliers, across a variety of product lines. Longer-term contracts help give suppliers certainty and allow them to invest for the future, helping them to create new jobs and develop their businesses.

We have made a commitment to increase the number of national suppliers covered by these long-term agreements which we started introducing in 2017. For further details, please see our section on the benefits of Lidl long-term contracts in our sustainability report, The Good Food Report: [www.lidl.co.uk/sustainability-reports](http://www.lidl.co.uk/sustainability-reports)

We have introduced integrated CSR business plans to ensure that we work collaboratively with our suppliers on topics focussed around sustainability. These CSR plans are individual to suppliers and scope out goals for the next five years and beyond. Topics include both

environmental and social commitments, but also have a focus on farm animal welfare.

		Sustainability Business Plan					
Focus area	Objective	Action	Measure	2019 Target	2020 Target	Owner	Lidl lead
Climate change / Natural environment	Drive circularity of plastics and packaging						
	Reduce carbon emissions						
	Reduce water usage and promote soil health						
	Reduce food waste						
Animal welfare	Make sure all animals live a good life						
People	Uphold Human Rights in the sector						
	Champion Young Farmers						
Hyper-transparency	Deliver Hyper-transparency						

## Collaboration

As part of our work with British suppliers, we also maintain relationships with national industry bodies, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and British farming organisations. This collaboration ensures we are always progressing the industry standards collectively and sharing valuable, expert insight. This policy explores the various ways we work with a variety of organisations.

Below are a selection of industry organisations we actively engage with:

Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC)



Agricultural and Horticultural Development Board (AHDB)



British Retail Consortium (BRC)



Compassion in World Farming (CIWF)



Linking Environment and Farming



National Farmers Union (NFU)



Marine Stewardship Council (MSC)



Responsible Use of Medicines in Agriculture Alliance (RUMA)



Organic Farmers and Growers



RSPCA Assured



Red Tractor



The external benchmarking survey Business Benchmark on Farm Animal Welfare (BBFAW) shows our considerable rise in the last year to tier 3. We are proud that this survey recognises our on-going improvements and commitment to farm animal welfare, yet we are also aware there is still some way to go. We continue to work hard to progress to higher tiers. We work closely with suppliers that have been identified through this survey as demonstrating leading animal welfare standards. We continue to strengthen these supplier relationships and tackle animal welfare objectives together.

### Third-Party Certification

As a minimum requirement, all Lidl GB British fresh and frozen meat, poultry and dairy must be Red Tractor Farm Assured, except for in Scotland, where all fresh and frozen beef, lamb and pork can also be assured to Quality Meats Scotland. For the small portion of products sold that are not produced in the UK, Lidl GB aims to work closely with these suppliers to drive improvements in animal welfare standards that exceed the legal requirements within these international supply chains.

The Red Tractor and Quality Meats Scotland standards are world-leading, independent certifications. As part of these assurance schemes, our food producers are required to complete annual audits that cover a multitude of standards, including animal welfare credentials. These standards are continually evolving and go beyond legal requirements through all stages of the supply chain, from hatcheries to the transportation of livestock.

<b>Fresh British sourced product</b>	<b>Red Tractor certified (as a minimum requirement)</b>
Beef	100%
Chicken	100%
Liquid milk	100%
Lamb	100%
Pork	100%
Turkey	100%

All Lidl GB own-brand products, that are procured through our network of international businesses, must comply with our international sourcing standards on animal welfare, which can be found online on the respective Lidl country websites.

### Higher Welfare Standards

Alongside Red Tractor certifications, we sell products from free range, RSPCA Assured and organic farming systems, all of which are considered 'higher welfare' farming systems. This means that the producer farms are audited by 3rd party schemes which comply to strict requirements, including larger stocking density, outdoor roaming and more environmental enrichment. We offer higher welfare options



across all our meat, poultry, dairy and shell egg ranges, equating to over 30 permanent product lines.

In addition to this we have made the below commitments to higher welfare:

<b>Product</b>	<b>Higher Welfare Commitment</b>
Chicken	All free range chicken must be RSPCA Assured
Laying Hens	All free range and organic shell eggs must be RSPCA Assured
	Additionally, all organic shell eggs must be certified to the Organic Farmers and Growers standard
Pork	All outdoor-bred pork must be RSPCA Assured
Salmon	All 'Deluxe' farmed salmon must be RSPCA Assured
Turkey	All 'Deluxe' turkey must be RSPCA Assured

## Training

Our suppliers and/ or farms that supply to Lidl GB, are expected to pursue regular animal welfare training as part of their normal business procedures. This training should cater to all members to staff that actively work with and handle animals.

Alongside this, our third-party certification scheme, Red Tractor, includes training expectations and recommendations among their Farm Assurance Standards across the sectors.

## Our Scope

This policy applies to all our permanent product lines that form part of Lidl GB food and non-food offerings. Unless otherwise stated, this policy does not apply to branded products, owned by third-party suppliers.

# Our Actions

## General Animal Welfare Policies

### Antibiotics

Antibiotics are used to protect the health and wellbeing of the animals in our food supply chains. The use of antibiotics should not be in replacement of good animal husbandry and we encourage our suppliers to optimise welfare, health, hygiene, and the biosecurity of animals in order to reduce the need for antibiotic treatments.

Lidl GB endorse the industry sector organisation Responsible Use of Medicines in Agriculture Alliance (RUMA) principles published in October 2017. We also encourage our suppliers to follow their recommendation, using antibiotics 'as little as possible, and as much as necessary' while keeping animal welfare the primary focus.

To ensure the continued reduction of antibiotics throughout our supply chains, we have adopted the RUMA Targets Taskforce category-specific antibiotic reduction targets. These are cross-industry targets which are publicly disclosed on an annual basis. Our suppliers are expected to benchmark themselves against these targets and the current industry performance.

Where antibiotics are used in both human and animal medicine, these are called High Priority Critically Important Antibiotics (HP-CIAs). These medicines are the priority focus for reduction, due to the higher risk of potential resistance to human antibiotic treatment. The use of HP-CIA medicines (as defined by the European Medicines Agency) should only be used under veterinary guidance, as a last resort, demonstrated by

culture and sensitivity testing, or in exceptional circumstances when all else has failed. The use of these HP-CIA medicines should be restricted, without compromising animal welfare.

We do not permit the routine prophylactic use of antibiotics. Prophylactic antibiotics treatment should only be considered under exceptional circumstances at the direction of a veterinary surgeon. In all other circumstance's animals should only be administered antibiotics if a disease is first diagnosed.

We are a member of the Food Industry Initiative on Antimicrobials (FIIA) a cross-industry working group made up of retailers, manufacturers, processors and food service companies. The FIIA have the vision of all food sectors, 'coming together to promote and support responsible antimicrobial use and action on antimicrobial resistance.' As part of this group we aim to work collaboratively on this topic, ensuring we are part of the conversation surrounding best-practice and opportunities for improvement.

For further information surrounding the use of antibiotics in our supply chains, please refer to our Antibiotic Stewardship Policy, that outlines in further detail our position and commitment to reduction. This policy is available at the following link:

<https://corporate.lidl.co.uk/sustainability/animal-welfare/antibiotics>

## Castration, Dehorning and Disbudding

The castration, dehorning and disbudding of all Lidl GB own brand fresh British beef and lamb is carefully controlled and must comply with the strict Red Tractor standards.

## CCTV

All abattoirs that work as part of the Lidl GB supply chain, must be equipped with CCTV, functioning in a way as to provide a retainable recording of all areas where live animals are present, including shackling, stunning, and killing activity that takes place in the course of the ordinary operation of the facility. This must be made available on request to relevant DEFRA representatives, veterinary surgeons, appointed auditors/agents and relevant Lidl GB staff.

Only sites (abattoirs and cutting plants) that have been submitted and approved by Lidl GB are permitted to produce and supply product to Lidl GB.

## Cloning & Growth Promoters

Lidl GB do not permit products from farmed animals or their offspring, that have been genetically engineered or cloned. This policy also prohibits the use of growth-promoters across all our own brand meat, poultry and dairy products.

## Confinement

The below table outlines our expectations and commitments for confinement systems within our farmed animal supply chains.

<b>Farm Animal</b>	<b>Confinement System</b>	<b>Our Expectations and Commitments</b>
Dairy Calves	Single Penning	Calves are to be group housed after 8 weeks of age to enable visual and tactile contact with other calves
Dairy Cows	Tethering	Tethering is not permitted
Farmed Salmon	Pen stocking density	100% of our 'Deluxe' farmed Scottish salmon is RSPCA Assured
Laying Hens	Cage-free	100% cage-free eggs by 2025
Pigs	Farrowing crates	Farrowing crates are not allowed for outdoor-bred and RSPCA Assured products

		Where farrowing crates are used, we are supportive of industry efforts to steer away from this requirement during the farrowing cycle
	Sow stalls	Sows are not permitted to be kept routinely in stalls

### Force Feeding

Lidl GB does not condone or sell products that come from the force-feeding of farmed animals e.g. foie gras.

### Stunning

All farm animals entering the Lidl GB supply chain must be stunned prior to slaughter and remain unconscious and insensible to pain from the initial stun until death occurs. These methods will be dependent on the species and abattoir. All operations must be in accordance with the Welfare at Time of Killing (WATOK) regulations and the EU 1099/2009 regulations.

### Transportation

Lidl GB aims to reduce livestock transportation times by working with local and regional suppliers as much as possible. All suppliers must be compliant to the EU regulation on the welfare of animals in transport. Procedures should be put in place to ensure that animal welfare is managed during periods of transportation and that trained hauliers are used without exception. Transportation of livestock should be kept to a minimum and not exceed 8 hours. Vehicles used must maintain the health and welfare of the stock being transported.

### Wild Caught Exotic Species

At certain times of the year, Lidl GB sells a range of wild caught exotic species as part of our 'Food Specials' range. These species must be harvested in a manner that respects both the welfare of the animals and the local environment. These animals must be slaughtered in accordance with EU guidelines and respect local quotas.

### Individual Farm Animal Welfare Policies

#### Laying Hens

Lidl GB have committed to selling 100% cage-free shell eggs and eggs contained as ingredients in own-brand products by 2025, in line with UK industry.

We measure our progress towards this goal on an annual basis and publicly report the data on our website. The below table outlines our progress towards this target so far.

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Proportion of shell eggs from cage-free production systems</b>	<b>Proportion of shell eggs from enriched cages</b>
2017/18	44%	56%
2018/19	50%	50%

All shell eggs must be produced under the Lion Assurance Scheme and carry the British Lion Mark. Producers operating under this scheme must adhere to the British Lion Code of Practice which set strict controls to ensure high levels of traceability, safety and welfare. Under the scheme each egg is consistently printed with the farming method, country of origin and a code which relates to the specific farm where the egg is produced, providing our customers with the information to trace each egg back to its source.

All free range and organic shell eggs must be RSPCA Assured, ensuring that higher standards of animal welfare are met at all stages of the hens' lives. This includes providing hens with access to environmental enrichment such as pecking blocks, straw bales and dustbathing boxes and ensures that the RSPCA's strict standards on flock-size and access to the outdoors are met.

Lidl GB is closely monitoring developments within the industry on the issue of beak tipping. All suppliers of eggs should be engaged within relevant initiatives and programmes to address and ultimately reduce the need for beak tipping, whilst ensuring that existing welfare standards are not compromised.

### **Broiler Chicken**

In our Lidl GB stores, we sell fresh chicken products from a variety of production systems, including barn, free range and organic. Both our 'Birchwood' and 'Deluxe' brands have chickens from Red Tractor Assured farms as well as RSPCA Assured, higher welfare systems. Through our Red Tractor certification, our chickens are raised in barns with natural daylight and a selection of environmental enrichment. The chickens from higher welfare production systems have access to outdoor roaming for a minimum of 8 hours a day.

From industry research and customer surveys we have learned that public knowledge and understanding surrounding the differences between these production systems is limited. To help promote this understanding and ensure our customers are confident in their buying decisions, we initiated a trial of 'Method of Production Labelling' for our fresh chicken range.

This labelling was developed through many consultations with organisations including the National Farmers Union (NFU) and Compassion in World Farming (CIWF) to ensure all opinions contributed to the final outcome.



Labels applied to products explain in further detail the different farming systems for chickens and in particular what this meant for the animal. Further information on this trial, the difference between farming systems, and our next steps in this area is available on our website at the following link: [www.lidl.co.uk/meatlabelling](http://www.lidl.co.uk/meatlabelling)

### Slow growing breeds

All higher welfare chicken certified as RSPCA Assured (both indoor and free range) or organic must be a slower growing breed.

### Key Welfare Indicators

As part of our sustainability objectives in our poultry supply chain, we collect various welfare data from our chicken supplier, on a monthly basis.

The following key welfare indicators (KWIs) are measured, which allow us to understand animal welfare considerations at farm level and help us and our suppliers, monitor progress or highlight concerns. This

information is gathered across our British free range and British indoor chickens:

KWI	Description	
Antibiotic usage	Measured as mgs/live weight	
Stocking density	Following sector specific guidelines:	
	Standard Red Tractor Indoor	Maximum stocking density of 38 kg/m <sup>2</sup>  (By early 2025 all our own-label fresh chicken will move to 30 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )
	RSPCA Assured Indoor	30kg/m <sup>2</sup>
	RSPCA Assured Free Range	27.5kg/m <sup>2</sup>
	Organic	Maximum 21kg/m <sup>2</sup> in fixed housing  Maximum 30kg/m <sup>2</sup> in mobile housing
Leg culls	Any bird that has a leg deformity of any nature and is removed on welfare grounds	

Mortality rates	Total mortality of a flock of birds from day one to slaughter
Pododermatitis	Condition causing a callous underfoot
Hock marking	The mark seen on the hock of the birds
PMI rejects	Quality assessment rejects
DOA	Birds dead on arrival

Method of Production	British Indoor	British Free Range	British Organic
<b>Space Allowance</b>	Maximum stocking density of 38 kg/m <sup>2</sup>  (By early 2025 all our own-label fresh chicken will move to 30 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	Maximum stocking density of 27.5 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	Maximum stocking density of 21 kg/m <sup>2</sup> in fixed housing Maximum stocking density of 30 kg/m <sup>2</sup> in mobile housing
<b>Access to natural daylight and outdoors</b>	Combination of standard lighting and natural lighting at 3% floor space minimum*	Combination of standard lighting and natural lighting at 3% floor space minimum*. Access to outdoors is available up to 8 hours a day	Combination of standard lighting and natural lighting at 3% floor space minimum*. Easy access to outdoors from an early area (weather conditions considered)
<b>Animal Welfare/ Enrichment</b>	One and a half perching bales as a minimum, one pecking object and two metres of perch space per 1,000 birds	Indoors - At least one bale, two metres of perch space and one pecking object per 1,000 birds Outdoors - Natural shelter is encouraged, such as hedges and trees	Birds are given access to an outdoor range at an early as possible age. This can provide access to aerial perches, natural dusting areas and access to woodland When indoors there must be at least two enrichments per 500 birds
<b>Breed</b>	Standard Breed	Slow growing breed	Slow growing breed
<b>Slaughter</b>	CAS/CAK methods using inert gas	CAS/CAK methods using inert gas	CAS/CAK methods using inert gas
<b>Third party assurance partners</b>	Red Tractor	RSPCA Assured Red Tractor	Organic Farmers & Growers Soil Association Organic



*\*CIWF expect natural light covering at 3% of floor space to be able to meet at least a 50 LUX light level. Natural lighting systems in broiler barns report average daytime light levels of 54.6 to 555 LUX. Intensity variation within the shed helps create functional areas and act as additional enrichment.*

## **Turkey**

All our fresh and frozen whole turkeys are Red Tractor Farm Assured as a minimum standard, and 100% sourced from British farms, in line with our other poultry products. This certification means that birds have continual access to food, water and have the availability to roam at will inside the barns in which they are raised.

Our 'Deluxe' range of turkey products are certified to the higher welfare, RSPCA Assured free range standard. This strict standard ensures that the birds have access to outdoor roaming for a minimum of 8 hours each day as well as a variety of environmental enrichment, including straw bales, length of rope and perch space.

## **Meat Pigs and Sows**

At Lidl GB we supply a number of different product lines of fresh British pork, 100% of which are assured to Red Tractor as a minimum standard.

Our higher welfare offering of outdoor-bred pork is certified to RSPCA Assured.

The routine tail docking, teeth clipping or teeth grinding of pigs is not permitted within our meat pig and sow supply chains. There may be instances where, as a last resort and under the guidance of a veterinary surgeon, these practices may be permitted if it is in the best interests of pig welfare.

Pigs and sows must have permanent access to environmental enrichment and be provided with adequate manipulable materials throughout their lives.

Under the Red Tractor standard, the castration of all our own brand fresh pork is prohibited. Alongside this, no electric goads should be used in the moving, handling or loading of pigs except under extreme circumstances, as stated within the Red Tractor Farm Assurance scheme.

## **Dairy Cattle**

100% of our fresh milk is British and certified to the Red Tractor Farm Assurance scheme. We also have an organic milk selection that is certified by the Organic Farmers and Growers standard. Organic certification means cattle can be pasture fed and roam freely outdoors.

Lidl GB encourages the processes of proactive herd health planning, human resource management, responsible use of medicines and experienced stockmanship. Guidelines on these processes may be

found in the Red Tractor Farm Assurance guidelines. Lidl GB appreciates the demand for production efficiency and diversification in the dairy sector, therefore all Lidl GB suppliers should be actively involved in the process of business and animal health and welfare assessment on an annual basis with veterinary surgeons and appropriate experienced farm advisors, to ensure Lidl GB milk is guaranteed to excel above and beyond the minimum standards set out by the Red Tractor Farm Assurance scheme.

### **Dairy Bull Calves**

Dairy bull calves are typically seen as a by-product to the production of milk on dairy farms. Although up to 80% of dairy bull calves progress into the meat industry, many are euthanised or exported and sold overseas. We have made the following commitments to support the 'dairy cattle welfare strategy' which involves three strategic steps:

1. Increase the percentage of dairy bull calves used in the supply chain
2. Reduce the number of calves euthanised on farm
3. Reduce the number of calves exported

Lidl bans live export of bull calves outside of the UK, due to the welfare concerns associated with this activity. From 2023 the euthanasia or slaughter of healthy calves before 8 weeks of age will no longer be permitted within Lidl GB. We will work with our key beef supplier, to increase the number of dairy calves collected and reared.

### **Grassroots Dairy Partnership**

As part of our commitment to increasing our long-term supplier commercial agreements, we have set up our Grassroots Dairy Partnership, working with our dairy and liquid milk supplier Mueller Milk & Ingredients. As part of this partnership a fixed-term price deal has been agreed to invest in and support Mueller dairy farmers.

As a key supplier to Lidl GB, this agreement encompasses many sustainability objectives, where progress is reported through regular team updates across CSR topics, in particular animal welfare and antibiotic use. The below infographic shows the multiple aspects of the partnership that we believe will lead to a sustainable dairy industry.



A vital part of this partnership and our sustainability programme is the support and training of the next generation of young dairy farmers. The current average age of a farmer in the UK is 55 and therefore as a business we have a responsibility to support the future of the industry.

One way we have supported these young farmers is through open days at our regional distribution centres, to show the next steps of the milk that these farmers supply. Through these open days, we also see the importance in sharing details of our internal buying processes and

having honest discussions about challenges in the sector and ideas for industry development and sustainability.

## Lamb

It is our requirement that all lambs entering our supply chains are reared as naturally as possible, meaning that they stay with their mothers, suckle freely and live in family groups until they are weaned. After this, lambs must stay together as a group and be fed on a diet of grass and forage, supplemented by natural alternatives when weather patterns mean grass is temporarily unavailable. Lidl does not permit mulesing and supports the reduction in routine tail docking where possible.

All our British lamb is sourced to Red Tractor standards. We buy all our lamb through trusted suppliers, ensuring traceability back to farm and that health and welfare is proactively managed at all times. We supplement our range from selected farmers in New Zealand and Australia that are certified to standards that are comparable with Red Tractor.

## Farmed Fish

Lidl GB have made the following commitments on farmed fish and seafood to ensure welfare for these animals in our supply chain. Our Sustainable Fish and Seafood Policy can be found at the following link: <https://corporate.lidl.co.uk/sustainability/seafood>

100% of our own brand chilled, frozen farmed species as well as farmed species used as an ingredient in other products must be sourced from Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) 2, Global G.A.P or Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) certified sources.

We are working towards 100% traceability and sustainability in our farmed seafood supply chains. Therefore, we expect all suppliers of own brand chilled and frozen farmed species to be working towards BAP 4 (or equivalent). We regard equivalent schemes as:

- Processing plants to be BAP/Global gap certified
- Farms to be BAP/Global gap or ASC certified
- Hatcheries to be BAP or Global Gap certified
- Feedmill to be BAP, Global GAP certified (or ASC)

All Scottish farmed Salmon within our 'Deluxe' range must be RSPCA Assured.

## Non-Food and Textiles

### Animal Testing

At Lidl GB we do not support testing on animals for cosmetic or household products, and we do not carry out or commission any such testing on our own-brand products or the ingredients they contain. Cosmetics testing is banned in the UK and all EU member states for the purposes of the Cosmetics Regulation. To support our commitment to no animal testing, in January 2022 Lidl GB became approved as cruelty free under the Leaping Bunny Programme. Leaping Bunny is the globally recognisable gold standard for cruelty free cosmetics, personal care, household and cleaning products. We adhere to a fixed cut-off date policy and monitor our suppliers to ensure that our products continue to adhere to the Leaping Bunny criteria. All suppliers must meet our Leaping Bunny requirements and ensure that cosmetic and household products, including their ingredients have not been tested on animals after our fixed cut-off date of 11th March 2013. For more information about Cruelty Free International, Leaping Bunny and Leaping Bunny criteria, please visit [www.crueltyfreeinternational.org](http://www.crueltyfreeinternational.org).

## **Fur**

In 2014, the Lidl Group joined the international “Fur Free Retailer” initiative (<http://www.furfreeretailer.com>). As part of this membership Lidl has committed to not sell own-label textiles, footwear or accessories containing fur from any species (including mink, fox, coyote and rabbits). To ensure that our expectations are met, a stringent monitoring system is implemented, which includes working closely with certification standards such as OekoTex 100, Bluesign and Fairtrade.

## **Feather and Down**

Feather and down used in our products must be sourced as a by-product of the meat industry and from producers with good animal husbandry. The feather and down must not be a by-product of foie gras production. Feather and down must not be harvested through live plucking and veterinary certificates should be available if requested to prove this.

## **Angora Fibres and other Rabbit Hair**

Angora fibres and other rabbit hair must not be used in the production of textiles or accessories.

## **Wool**

Lidl GB does not accept the practice of mulesing. Any merino wool used within the production of Lidl products must be accompanied by a

statement from the supplier to confirm that the wool has not been supplied from a farm that practices mulesing.

## **Leather**

All leather must be sourced as a by-product of the meat industry and from producers with good animal husbandry processes and practices. Leather must not be obtained whilst the animal is still alive or from aborted animals.

## **Endangered Species**

Endangered species that appear on either the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) or the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) lists must not be used in any of our products.

# Our Commitments

Our Animal Health and Welfare Policy is always expanding in scope and expectation. Below we have highlighted the key commitments addressed in this policy. Through future editions we plan to continually grow and update these commitments.

**Long-term Commercial agreements** Increase the number of national suppliers covered by long-term commercial agreements, including the introduction of CSR-orientated business plans

<b>Higher Welfare</b>	Chicken	All free range chicken must be RSPCA Assured
	Laying Hens	All free range and organic shell eggs must be RSPCA Assured
		Additionally, all organic shell eggs must be certified to the Organic Farmers and Growers standard
	Pork	All outdoor-bred pork must be RSPCA Assured
	Turkey	All 'Deluxe' turkey must be RSPCA Assured
Salmon	All 'Deluxe' farmed salmon must be RSPCA Assured	

**Cage-Free** By 2025, Lidl GB will sell 100% cage-free shell eggs and eggs contained as ingredients in own-brand products in line with UK industry. We measure our progress towards this goal on an annual basis and publicly report the data on our website.

## Dairy Bull Calves

From 2023, the euthanasia or slaughter of healthy calves before 8 weeks of age will no longer be permitted within Lidl GB

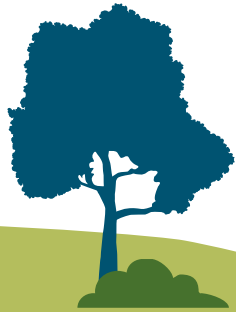
We will work with our key beef supplier, to increase the number of dairy calves collected and reared

## Farmed Fish and Seafood

100% of our own brand chilled, frozen farmed species as well as farmed species used as an ingredient in other products must be sourced from Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) 2, Global G.A.P or Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) certified sources

We are working towards 100% traceability and sustainability in our farmed seafood supply chains. Therefore, we expect all suppliers of own brand chilled and frozen farmed species to be working towards BAP 4\* (or equivalent). We regard equivalent schemes as:

- Processing plants to be BAP/Global GAP certified
- Farms to be BAP/Global GAP or ASC certified
- Hatcheries to be BAP or Global GAP certified
- Feedmill to be BAP, Global GAP certified (or ASC)



## Contact

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## Further information about CSR

[Website](#)

[CSR Website](#)

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