



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ref: ATISN 24715

23 May 2025

Dear ,

ATISN 24715 - Farmed animal welfare enforcement

Information requested

Thank you for your request which we received on 14 May.

You asked for the following information:

Please could you provide the following information in relation to farmed animal species **only** during the period **1 January 2024 - 31 December 2024**.

1. Do you enforce farmed animal welfare legislation?
 - a. If the answer is no, please explain why e.g. a different public authority does etc.
 - b. If a different public authority enforces this legislation in your area, please inform us which one?
2. What was your body's budget for farmed animal welfare enforcement?
3. How many people do you employ to carry out farmed animal welfare inspections as part of their duties? If possible, please provide the response in FTE (Full time equivalent).
4. How many of each of the following in your jurisdiction were inspected for welfare purposes one or more times?
 - a. Farms;
 - b. Markets;
 - c. Borders; and
 - d. Transport vehicles.

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Cangen Lles Anifeiliaid / Animal Welfare Branch
Swyddfa'r Prif Swyddog Milfeddygol / Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer
Llywodraeth Cymru / Welsh Government
Parc Cathays / Cathays Park
Caerdydd / Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

For the avoidance of doubt, if the same premise was inspected more than once, it should only be recorded once.

5. What was the total number of inspections that were conducted for welfare purposes in your jurisdiction at the following premises?
- a. Farms;
 - b. Markets;
 - c. Borders; and
 - d. Transport vehicles.

Please note that this question refers to the total number of inspections, not premises inspected. Therefore, the numbers can include situations where multiple inspections took place on the same premise.

6. How many of these inspections found non-compliance with animal welfare law at the following premises?
- a. Farms;
 - b. Markets;
 - c. Borders; and
 - d. Transport vehicles.
7. Please list whether an improvement notice was issued under section 10 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006 on each of the occasions an inspection revealed non-compliance at each of the following:
- a. Farms;
 - b. Markets;
 - c. Borders; and
 - d. Transport vehicles.
8. Please list whether a prosecution was commenced on each of the occasions an inspection revealed non-compliance with animal welfare law at each of the following:
- a. Farms;
 - b. Markets;
 - c. Borders; and
 - d. Transport vehicles.
9. How many welfare complaints did you receive in relation to the following:
- a. On-farm animal welfare;
 - b. Welfare at markets;
 - c. Welfare during transport; and
 - d. Welfare at a border post.
10. Of the above complaints, how many led to an on-site inspection?
- a. On-farm animal welfare;
 - b. Welfare at markets;
 - c. Welfare during transport; and
 - d. Welfare at a border post.

11. How many compliance notices were issued by your inspectors for failures to comply with the Welfare of Animals (Transport) (Wales) Order 2007?
12. How many prosecution proceedings did you commence **or refer** to the Crown Prosecution Service or a local authority for offences named in the Animal Welfare Act 2006 or the Welfare of Farmed Animals (Wales) Regulations 2007?
13. How many prosecution proceedings did you commence **or refer** to the Crown Prosecution Service or a local authority for offences named in the Welfare of Animals at Markets Order 1990?
14. How many prosecution proceedings did you commence for offences named in the Welfare of Animals (Transport) (Wales) Order 2007?
15. How many individuals subject to any of the above enforcement actions had previously been convicted of an animal welfare offence?

Our response

Questions 1-3: The Welsh Government does not enforce farm animal welfare legislation. Farm animal welfare legislation is enforced by Local Authorities.

Questions 4-8: Following a search of our paper and electronic records, we have established that the information you require is not held by the Welsh Government.

Question 9-10: Following a search of our paper and electronic records, we have established that we received no welfare complaints during the period of 1 January 2024 – 31 December 2024.

Questions 11-15: The Welsh Government does not enforce farmed animal welfare legislation. Farmed animal welfare legislation is enforced by Local Authorities.

Yours sincerely