

Working Together Agreement between Environment Agency and Animal Health

Environmental Permitting Regulations (England and Wales) 2010

This is a Working Together Agreement as described in *Working together: your role in our environmental permitting*, our public participation statement made under the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2010.

What we want to achieve by working together on permitting decisions

- Protection of human health and the environment (including the protection of animal health) in relation to activities prescribed under the Environmental Permitting Regulations
- A risk based approach to permitting and to requests for further information
- A better public awareness of the relationship between the Environment Agency and Animal Health

Roles and Responsibilities (of each participating organisation)

- The Environment Agency is one of the regulators under the Environmental Permitting Regulations in England and Wales and has responsibility for the permitting of certain industrial and waste management activities specified in these Regulations
- Under the Environmental Permitting Regulations, the Environment Agency has responsibility for regulatory measures contributing to the implementation of a number of European Directives
- Animal Health is responsible for protecting animal health and welfare in England, Scotland and Wales
- Animal Health is responsible for approving certain activities through the approval of plants under European and national Animal By Product legislation.
- Some activities involving animal by-products are regulated both by Animal Health and by the Environment Agency

How we will work together

Generally we will:

- Work to the principles described in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Environment Agency and Animal Health.
- Share relevant information
- Use electronic media rather than paper

Specifically the Environment Agency will:

- Consult with Animal Health when developing the risk criteria and rules to be complied with for standard permits that include activities which involve animal by-products
- Provide Animal Health with a list of relevant sites that have been issued with a standard or bespoke permit, on a six monthly basis, until such time as these are routinely published on the Environment Agency website
- Consult with Animal Health on all relevant applications for bespoke permits that include activities which involve animal by-products
- Consult with Animal Health on all relevant applications and regulator initiated variations which may have a significant negative effect on the environment, animal health or the general public and include activities which involve animal by-products
- Take account of comments that are received within the agreed timescale
- Alert Animal Health where further information is submitted which we consider pertinent to their interests.

Specifically Animal Health will:

- Respond on matters within their remit, providing clear and concise advice on animal health issues where appropriate.
- Respond within 20 working days where possible, if they have any comments to make.