# Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS) Regulatory Baseline

Verifiable Standards 2026

Verifiable standards for classifying breaches of:

Statutory Management Requirements (SMR) and Good Agricultural and Environmental Conditions (GAEC) 2026



## Introduction

Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS) Regulatory Baseline Verifiable Standards sets out the important regulatory baseline standards that all farmers must meet to receive payment. It lays firm foundations upon which Welsh farmers can produce world class food and also provides an important mechanism to protect and safeguard the Welsh countryside.

The Verifiable Standards, in the following tables, set out in detail the obligations of a farmer who receives SFS payments. If you claim these payments, you must familiarise yourself with these standards.

The farmer fact sheets provide a summary of the verifiable standards: <a href="https://www.gov.wales/sustainable-farming-scheme-regulatory-baseline-2026">https://www.gov.wales/sustainable-farming-scheme-regulatory-baseline-2026</a>

Any payment recipient found to be in breach of these standards will have their payment reduced, recovered or withheld. More details on how penalties are calculated can be found at: <a href="https://www.gov.wales/sustainable-farming-scheme-regulatory-baseline-2026">https://www.gov.wales/sustainable-farming-scheme-regulatory-baseline-2026</a>

## **Key Dates**

Mar	15	GAEC 6: You must not burn heather, rough grass, bracken, gorse or vaccinium on land other than upland areas after this date.
	31	GAEC 6: You must not burn heather, rough grass, bracken, gorse or vaccinium on land anywhere, including upland areas, after this date.
Apr	30	SMR 1: You must have recorded the number and type of livestock kept on your farm and the amount of time the livestock spent on your farm during the previous calendar year. You must also have calculated the amount of nitrogen they produced in the previous calendar year by this date. You must also record the number and type of livestock in a building or hard standing during the previous storage period.
Aug	1	SMR 1: Start of closed period for applying organic manure with a high readily available nitrogen content to tillage land on shallow or sandy soils (application is allowed between 1 August and 15 September as long as a crop is sown on or before 15 September).
Sept	1	SMR 1: Start of closed period for applying organic manure with a high readily available nitrogen content to grassland on shallow or sandy soils. SMR 1: Start of closed period for applying manufactured nitrogen fertilisers to tillage land.
	15	SMR 1: Start of closed period for applying manufactured nitrogen fertilisers to grassland.
Oct	1	SMR 1: Start of closed period for applying organic manure with a high readily available nitrogen content to tillage land on soils which are not shallow or sandy.  GAEC 6: You can burn heather, rough grass, bracken, gorse or vaccinium on land in upland areas from this date.
	15	SMR 1: Start of closed period for applying organic manure with a high readily available nitrogen content to grassland on soils which are not shallow or sandy.
Nov	1	GAEC 6: You may burn heather, rough grass, bracken, gorse or vaccinium on all land types from this date.
Dec	1	SMR 8: Stocktake record all sheep and goats being kept on 1 December.

## SFS Regulatory Baseline Verifiable Standards 2026 Contents

## **Statutory Management Requirements (SMR)**

SMR 1: Water Protection

SMR 2: Wild Birds

SMR 3: Conservation of Fauna and Flora (Biodiversity)

SMR 4: Food and Feed Law

SMR 5: Restrictions on the Use of Substances having Hormonal or Thyrostatic Action and Beta-Agonists in Farm Animals

SMR 6: Pig Identification and Registration

SMR 7: Cattle Identification and Registration

SMR 8: Sheep and Goat identification

SMR 9: Prevention, Control and Eradication of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSE)

SMR 10: Restrictions on the Use of Plant Protection Products

SMR 11: Welfare Standards for the Protection of Calves

SMR 12: Welfare Standards for the Protection of Pigs

SMR 13: Welfare Standards for the Protection of Animals Kept for Farming Purposes

SMR 14: Statutory Public Access (includes PRoW and open access)

SFS Regulatory Baseline Verifiable Standards 2026 Version 1.0

## SMR 15: Invasive Non-native Species

## **Good Agricultural and Environment Condition (GAEC)**

GAEC 2: Water – Use of Water for Irrigation

GAEC 3: Water – Groundwater

GAEC 6: Soil and Organic Matter - maintenance

GAEC 7: Maintenance of landscape features

## **SMR 1: Water Protection**

The aim of these requirements is to reduce the pollution of waters from agricultural sources and to prevent such pollution occurring in the future.

You must comply with the Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021 from 1 April 2021.

Full details of the requirements are available in the Control of Agricultural Pollution Regulations 2021 – Guidance for Farmers and Land Managers available from **gov.wales/land-management** and by calling the Control of Agricultural Pollution Regulations Helpline (ADAS) 01974 847000. Remember: the application of organic manures or N fertilizer on uncultivated land or semi-natural areas may constitute a project under the Environmental Impact Assessment (Agriculture) (Wales) regulations 2017. You may need to obtain a screening decision from Welsh Government. In this requirement 'N' means nitrogen and 'P' mean phosphate/phosphorus.

For the purposes of these requirements "Surface water" includes coastal waters, estuaries, canals, lakes, ponds, rivers, streams and ditches which contain free flowing water and also temporarily dry ditches and blind ditches.

## A1 Record keeping:

A2

You must keep the following records up to date for at least 5 years and produce them for inspection when requested (see the Control of Agricultural Pollution Regulations 2021

- Guidance for Farmers for information on how to fulfil these requirements):
- field records of actual applications of manufactured nitrogen fertiliser including dates of application, quantities applied and types. (exemptions apply for low intensity grassland farms);
- for holdings with animals kept in a building or hardstanding during the storage period the amount of slurry or poultry manure that will be produced by the anticipated number of animals during the storage period and the storage capacity is required;
- the area of your holding;
- any livestock manure moved onto or off the farm including quantities, dates and details of recipients;
- by 30 April each year, dates when field sites are used for the temporary storage of poultry and solid manure and the location;
- your nitrogen fertiliser plan (showing for each crop, in each field: the calculated soil nitrogen supply (SNS); the anticipated month the crop will be planted; the calculated crop nitrogen requirement; the calculated nitrogen supply from any planned application of organic manure; and the calculated amount of manufactured nitrogen fertiliser required;
- field records of arable crop yields and by 30 April each year a record of how grassland was managed in the previous year;
- if you intend to spread nitrogen fertiliser, field records of your crop planting dates and a copy of any advice received from a Fertiliser Advisers Certification and Training Scheme (FACTS) qualified adviser;
- if you spread organic manure, a risk map of the holding.
- by 30 April each year, the number and type of livestock kept on your holding and the amount of time the livestock spent on the holding during the previous calendar year;
- by 30 April each year, a calculation of total amount of nitrogen produced by the specified livestock kept on your holding during the previous calendar year.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Records incomplete or missing e.g. manure storage calculations, fertiliser plan, field records, livestock records including total N production, farm area, risk map, manure imports/exports, field manure storage.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Minimal: Minor errors or omissions to risk map and/or minor errors or omissions in records but a full assessment can be made. Low: Moderate errors or omissions to risk map (e.g. features missing, land areas missed that may be utilised for spreading). Some errors or omissions in records but an almost full assessment can be made. Medium: Risk map and records available	Permanence Rectifiable or Permanent
		almost full assessment can be made.  Medium: Risk map and	
		capacity calculation missing.  High: Failure to make any records and/or a risk map available on request. Failure to retain records for the required period.	

I	A3	You must for each specified crop type, make sure the holding average nitrogen application rate (manufactured nitrogen fertilizer,
I		plus crop available nitrogen, from organic manure) does not exceed the maximum N limit for that crop type (see the Control of
I		Agricultural Pollution Regulations 2021 – Guidance for Farmers for information on how to fulfil these requirements).

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Failure to comply with the maximum N limit for	On-farm effect	Medium: up to and	Rectifiable: medium only.
the specified crop types.	or	including 5%in excess	or
	Off-farm effect	of the maximum N limit.	Permanent
		High: greater than 5% in	
		excess of the	
		maximum N limit.	

## A4 Field organic manure limit:

You must limit the rate of application of organic manure (excluding manure deposited by grazing animals) in any 12-month period to any individual field to an amount that contains no more than 250 kilograms of nitrogen per hectare, unless you only apply BSI PAS 100 certified compost which contains no livestock manure in which case the total amount of nitrogen in organic manure applied to any given hectare on the holding must not exceed:

- 1000 kg in any four-year period if it is applied as mulch to orchard land; or
- 500 kg in any two-year period if it is applied to any other land, as mulch or incorporated into the ground.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Field organic manure limit exceeded.	On-farm	Low: up to and including	Rectifiable: low only.
-	or	10% in excess	or
	Off-farm effect	of the field-based limit on	Permanent
		any field of the	
		holding under inspection.	
		High: greater than 10% in	
		excess of the	
		field based limit on any	
		field of the holding	
		under inspection.	

Whole holding limit for livestock manure. You must limit the livestock manure that is applied to land on your holding (including manure deposited by grazing animals and any imported livestock manures) to 170 kilograms of total nitrogen per hectare in each calendar year, averaged over the area of your holding.

See Control of agricultural pollution regulations: guidance for further details of the specific requirements.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Whole holding limit for livestock manure	On-farm effect	Low: up to and including	Rectifiable: low only.
exceeded.	or	5% in excess of the	or
	Off-farm effect	170kg/ha limit.	Permanent
		High: greater than 5% in	
		excess of the 170 kg/ha	
		limit.	

A6 You must apply nitrogen fertiliser in as accurate a way as possible.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Nitrogen fertiliser (manufactured and	On-farm effect	Medium: evidence of	Rectifiable or Permanent
organic) not applied to land in as accurate a	or	non-accurate spreading of	
way as possible.	Off-farm effect	manufactured fertiliser or	
		solid/semi solid organic	
		manure.	
		High: evidence of non-	
		accurate spreading of	
		liquid organic manure;	
		evidence of nitrogen	
		fertiliser entering surface	
		water.	

A7	You must only spread slurry with low trajectory equipment (less than 4 metres from the ground) or other technique such as band
	spreading or injection (unless using equipment which can achieve an average slurry application rate of not more than 2 millimetres
	per hour when it is operating continuously).

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Slurry has been applied by high* trajectory	On-farm effect	High	Permanent
spreading equipment (*not including	or		
equipment that achieves an average	Off-farm effect		
application rate of not more than 2mm/hr			
when operating continuously, e.g. pulse jet			
irrigator).			

A8 When applying organic manure to bare soil or stubble, you must incorporate it into the soil as soon as possible and within 24 hours at the latest.

Applies to:

- poultry manure;
- slurry and liquid digested sludge, unless it is applied by a trailing shoe, dribble bar or injected under the soil surface;
- any other organic manure (other than organic manure spread as a mulch on sandy soil) and the land is within 50 metres of surface water and slopes in a way that there may be run-off to that water.

Description of I	oreach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
	nure applied to the surface	On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable: evidence run-
of bare soil or stu	ubble not incorporated into	or		off hasn't occurred where
the soil in accord	dance with the rule.	Off-farm effect		manure is incorporated
				into the soil during the
				visit.
				or
				Permanent

A9 You must provide sufficient storage for all slurry produced on the holding by specified livestock and all poultry manure produced whilst in a yard or building during the following storage periods:

- 1 October to 1 April (six months) for pigs and poultry;
- 1 October to 1 March (five months) for other livestock.

Storage capacity is not required for slurry or poultry manure sent off the holding during the storage period or spread on land that has a low run-off risk after the end of the closed period (as long as this does not breach other spreading rules - see the Control of Agricultural Pollution Regulations 2021 – Guidance for Farmers). Where the intention is to spread on land with a low run-off risk, storage facilities for an additional one week's manure must be provided as a contingency measure. See the Control of Agricultural Pollution Regulations 2021 – Guidance for Farmers for information about calculating your storage requirements.

Severity Permanence
month storage capacity
fect

A10	You must store poultry manure and other types of solid manure (including any bedding contaminated with organic manure) either:
	• in a vessel;
	• on an impermeable surface;
	• in a roofed building; or
	• in correctly located temporary field heaps if organic manure is solid enough to be stacked in a freestanding heap, do not give rise
	to free drainage from within the stacked material and the surface area is as small as reasonably practicable.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Poultry manure and/or other types of solid	On-farm effect	Medium: where minor	Rectifiable or Permanent
manure have not been stored appropriately,	or	defects (maintenance	
e.g. either:	Off-farm effect	issues) affecting the	
• in a vessel;		durability/serviceability of	
on an impermeable surface;		the storage facility are	
• in a roofed building; or		found.	
• in an appropriate temporary field heap.		High	
Any organic manure is not solid enough to	On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable: where there
be stacked in a freestanding temporary heap			is evidence that no run-off
and/or is producing free drainage from within	Off-farm effect		has occurred.
the stacked material.			or
			Permanent

A11 You must cover with an impermeable material any solid poultry manure that does not have bedding material or litter mixed into it and is stored on a temporary field site.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Poultry manure with no bedding within it has	On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable: where there
been stored on a temporary field site and is	or		is evidence that no run-off
not covered with an impermeable material.	Off-farm effect		has occurred.
			or
			Permanent

B1	Closed periods for organic manure: You must not apply organic manures with high readily available nitrogen content (e.g. slurry, poultry manure) to land during the following closed periods (unless you are a registered organic farmer):
	1 September – 31 December for grassland with sandy or shallow soils 15 October – 15 January on grassland on all other soils 1 August – 31 December for tillage land with sandy or shallow soils (application is allowed between 1 August and 15 September as long as a crop is sown on or before 15September) 1 October – 31 January on tillage land on all other soils

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Closed period for organic manure with highly	On-farm effect	High:	Permanent
readily available nitrogen breached.	or		
	Off-farm effect		

B2	Closed period for manufactured nitrogen fertilisers:
	Do not apply Manufactured N Fertilisers to any soil type during the following periods (unless exemptions apply): 15 September – 15
	January for grassland 1 Sept – 15 January for tillage land.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Closed period for manufactured nitrogen	On-farm effect	High	Permanent
fertiliser breached and agronomic	or		
justification not demonstrated.	Off-farm effect		

B3 You must not apply more than 30 m3/ha of slurry or 8 tonnes/ha of poultry manure to land at any one time from the end of the above closed periods until the last day in February and you must allow at least 3 weeks between each individual application.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Restrictions on spreading following the	On-farm effect	High:	Permanent
closed period breached.	or		
	Off-farm effect		

- B4 You must not apply any nitrogen fertiliser before you have carried out a field inspection to assess the risk of run-off to surface water and not apply nitrogen fertiliser if there is a significant risk. The inspection must take into account:
  - the slope of the land, particularly if the slope is more than 12 degrees (1 in 5);
  - any land drains (other than a sealed impermeable pipe); and
  - ground cover, closeness to surface water, weather conditions and soil type.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Inappropriate spreading of nitrogen fertilise	On-farm effect	High	Permanent
has taken place, e.g.	or		
a) the farmer did not carry out a field	Off-farm effect		
inspection to assess the risk of run-off; or			
b) the farmer carried out a field inspection			
but applied N fertiliser and there was a			
significant risk of run-off occurring.			
<b>Note:</b> This is a precautionary control – i.e.	a		
breach occurs even if there is no visible			
pollution.			

B5 You must not apply any nitrogen fertiliser when the soil is waterlogged, flooded, has been frozen for 12 hours or more in the last 24 hours or is snow covered.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Nitrogen fertiliser applied when soil	On-farm effect	High	Permanent
conditions are inappropriate, e.g.	or		
waterlogged;	Off-farm effect		
• flooded;			
<ul> <li>has been frozen for 12 hours or more</li> </ul>			
within the last 24 hours; or			
• snow covered.			
Note: This is a precautionary control – i.e. a			
breach occurs even if there is no visible			
pollution.			

B6 You must not apply manufactured nitrogen fertiliser within 2 metres of surface water.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Manufactured nitrogen fertiliser has been	On-farm effect	Medium	Permanent
applied within 2 metres of surface water	or Off factors		
	Off-farm effect	<b>High:</b> where evidence manufactured nitrogen	
		fertiliser has entered	
		surface water.	

B7 You must not apply organic manure within 10 metres of surface water except on land managed for breeding wader birds or as species rich semi-natural grassland and under certain other restrictions.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Organic manure has been applied within 10	On-farm effect	Medium: Organic manure	Permanent
metres of surface water (6m where precision	or	has been applied between	
spreading equipment is used such as an	Off-farm effect	6 and 10 metres of	
injector system, trailing shoe or dribble bar)		surface water (where no	
on land that is not covered by an exemption		precision spreading	
or applied in a manner not in line with		equipment used).	
restrictions.		High: Organic manure	
Exemptions apply to land managed for		has been applied within 6	
breeding wader birds or as a species-rich		metres of surface water.	
semi-natural grassland. Restrictions are		Evidence organic manure	
listed in the Control of Agricultural Pollution		or run off from the pile has	
Regulations 2021 – Guidance for Farmers		entered surface water.	

B8 You must not apply organic manure within 50 metres of a spring, well or borehole.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Organic manure has been applied within	On-farm effect	Medium: Organic manure	Permanent
50m of a spring, well or borehole.	or	has been applied between	
	Off-farm effect	25 and 50 metres of a	
		spring, well or borehole	
		used as a source of	
		potable water or has been	
		applied within 50 metres	
		of a spring, well or	
		borehole used as a	
		source of other or non-	
		potable water.	
		High: Organic manure	
		has been applied within	
		25 metres of a spring, well	
		or borehole used as a	
		source of potable water.	
		Evidence organic manure	
		has entered any spring,	
		well or borehole.	

B9 A temporary field site must not be:

- within 10 metres of a surface water or land drain;
- within 50 metres of a spring, well or borehole;
- within 30 metres of surface water on land with an incline of 12 degrees or more;
- on land likely to become waterlogged;
- on land likely to flood;
- in a single position for more than 12 successive months;
- in the same place as an earlier heap constructed within the last two years;
- · where topsoil has been removed.

Description	n of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Temporary	field heaps have been sited in	On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable: where there
breach of t	ne regulations, i.e. a high-risk	or		is evidence that no run-off
location.		Off-farm effect		has occurred.
				or
				Permanent

You must not carry out separation of slurry into its solid and liquid fractions unless it is done mechanically, or on an impermeable surface, where the liquid fraction drains into a suitable container.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Separation of slurry has not been carried out	On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable: where there
mechanically or on an impermeable surface	or		is evidence that no run-off
or with suitable containment.	Off-farm effect		has occurred.
			or
			Permanent

C Silage making and storage of silage and slurries Definitions:

- 'Silage' means silage effluent, crops being made into silage, silage made in clamps, baled silage (bagged or wrapped) and field silage (field heaps or non-baled, bagged silage such as Ag-Bags).
- 'Slurry' means a 'liquid or semi-liquid matter composed of excreta produced by livestock while in a yard or building (including that held in wood chip corrals)'; or a mixture wholly or mainly consisting of livestock excreta, livestock bedding, rainwater and washings from a building or yard used by livestock, and of a consistency that allows it to be pumped or discharged by gravity at any stage in the handling process.
- 'Installation' means a silo or slurry storage system. Slurry storage systems include; any pit, tank or lagoon, and associated pipes and channels used to store slurry, but not to slurry while it is stored temporarily in a tanker that is used for transporting slurry on roads or about a farm.
- 'Field silage' means silage made on open ground, where there is no form of excavation, or floors, or walls on the site. The making and storage of non-baled silage in 'bulk bags' on open ground is also field silage. This rule does not apply to silage that is compressed into bales that are wrapped and sealed into impermeable membranes or enclosed in impermeable bags.

#### You must:

- notify Natural Resources Wales of the place where field silage is to be made at least 14 days before that site is first used;
- comply with any notices served by Natural Resources Wales that require improvements to be made to an installation or field silage site if Natural Resources Wales does not consider them to be suitable;
- carry out regular inspections of installations and make timely repairs where necessary
- make sure that installations meet requirements for capacity (see A9), durability, maintenance and safety zones, are built in accordance with the relevant construction standards, and field silage site rules are met.
- notify Natural Resources Wales in writing about a new, substantially enlarged, or substantially reconstructed installation at least 14 days before construction work begins on the structure;

Details are available in the Control of Agricultural Pollution Regulations 2021 – Guidance for Farmers

You must notify Natural Resources Wales in writing about a new or substantially enlarged or substantially reconstructed installation at least 14 days before construction work begins.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Failure to notify Natural Resources Wales 14 days prior to beginning construction work.	On-farm effect	Low	Rectifiable: where construction work on the installation is delayed for notification to be made.
			or <b>Permanent</b>

C2 You must notify Natural Resources Wales of the place where field silage is to be made at least 14 days before that site is first used.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Failure to notify Natural Resources Wales 14	On-farm effect	Low	Rectifiable: where use of
days before first use of a field silage site.			the installation is delayed
			for notification to be
			made.
			or
			Permanent

You must make sure that installations meet requirements covering capacity, durability, maintenance and safety zones, are built in accordance with the relevant construction standards, and field silage site rules are met. For slurry storage capacity you should refer to the Control of Agricultural Pollution Regulations 2021 – Guidance for Farmers

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Failure to meet the installation requirements	On-farm effect	Minimal: Installation does	Rectifiable or
and/or field site rules.	or	not meet requirements but	Permanent
	Off-farm effect	is a well built and	
		maintained store.	
		Effluent/slurry is contained	
		and there is no visual risk of	
		pollution.	
		Medium: Installation does	
		not meet requirements.	
		There is no immediate	
		visual evidence of effluent	
		or slurry escape but there	
		remains a risk of pollution.	
		Remedial work is required	
		to ensure the installation	
		meets the required	
		standards and does not	
		cause a risk of pollution.	
		Field silage site rules have	
		not been met but no	
		immediate visual risk of	
		pollution.	
		High: Installation does not	
		meet the requirements, and	
		an immediate risk of	
		pollution has been	
		identified. Field silage site	
		rules have not been met,	
		and an immediate risk of	
		pollution has been identified	

C4	You must comply with any notices served by Natural Resources Wales under Regulation 30 (a Regulation 30 notice) to require
	improvements to be made to a slurry or silage storage installation or field silage site. Notices can be served by Natural Resources
	Wales if it does not consider an installation to be suitable and there is a significant risk of pollution to controlled waters. Notices
	specify works, precautions or other steps that must be carried out or taken and by when.

<b>Description of breach</b>	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Failure to comply with notices served by	On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable: where there
Natural Resources Wales.	or	_	is no evidence of
	Off-farm effect		contamination.
			or
			Permanent

You must carry out regular inspections of installations (including components such as pipes and valves) for corrosion, damage or leaks and carry out timely repairs where necessary.

Descrip	tion of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Failure t	to carry out regular checks and	On-farm effect	Medium: if no leaks are	Rectifiable: where there
timely re	epairs.	or	visible.	is no evidence of
		Off-farm effect	High: if leaks are visible.	contamination.
				or
				Permanent

## **SMR 2: Wild Birds**

The aim of these requirements is to protect wild birds, their eggs and nests. They apply to all wild birds. Extra rules apply if you have land designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA).

- A1 In this requirement, 'WCA' means the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended.
  - On your holding (whether or not the land is in a Special Protection Area) you must comply with the following rules:
  - You must not take part in the intentional or reckless killing, injuring or taking of any wild bird
  - You must not intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or take the nest of any wild bird while it is in use, or being built. (Nests of Schedule ZA1 birds, golden eagle, white tailed eagle and osprey are protected all year round even if the nest is not being used);
  - You must not intentionally or recklessly take or destroy any egg of a wild bird;
  - You must not intentionally or recklessly cause disturbance to Schedule 1 birds while they are building a nest or are nesting (including disturbance of dependent young);
  - You must not possess any live or dead wild bird, or any part of a wild bird including eggs (except for Schedule 2 birds);
  - You must not kill or take Schedule 2 birds during the close season. In some counties in Wales, Schedule 2 birds must not be taken on Sundays, even outside the close season. Game birds, pheasant, partridge, red and black grouse must not be killed or taken on any Sunday or Christmas Day; and You must not use large-scale or non-selective methods to catch or kill Schedule 2 birds, or birds on a general licence. This includes illegal traps, snares, hooks, electrical stunning devices, poisons and crossbows.

Note: You can find out whether or not your land is in a Special Protection Area under the Wild Birds Directive by contacting Natural Resources Wales.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Breach in contravention of section 1 of WCA 1981 Intentional Farmer has intentionally or recklessly killed, injured or taken a wild bird. Farmer has intentionally or recklessly damaged destroyed or taken the nest of a wild bird while it is in use/being built or the nest of golden eagle, white tailed eagle or osprey at any time. Farmer has intentionally or recklessly destroyed an egg of a wild bird. Farmer has used large-scale or nonselective methods to catch or kill Schedule 2 birds, or birds on a general licence Farmer possesses any live or dead wild bird, or any part of a wild bird including eggs (except for Schedule 2 birds); Negligent or Intentional Farmer has disturbed a Schedule 1 bird/young while nesting. Farmer has killed/taken huntable birds during the close season and/or game birds on any Sunday or Christmas Day. The farmer will not break these rules if operating	Extent On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Severity High	Permanent Permanent
under a licence issued by the competent authority to undertake authorised action or can rely on one of the legal defences or exceptions.			

## For land classed as a Special Protection Area (SPA) or Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

You must notify Natural Resources Wales in writing of any proposal to carry out, cause or permit any specified operation or where a special nature conservation order applies (unless covered by the terms of a management agreement, scheme or notice) and obtain consent before starting that operation.

Description	n of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer	has carried out, caused or	On-farm effect	Low: where no damage	Rectifiable or Permanent
permitted a	a specified operation for which no	or	has been caused.	
	sent has been given.	Off-farm effect	Medium: where minor	
	operation means one which has		damage has been	
	ified as likely to damage the		caused.	
special inte	erest features of the area.		High: where major	
			damage has been	
			caused.	
	has carried out, caused or	On-farm effect	<b>Low:</b> where no damage	Rectifiable or Permanent
	specified operation on land	or	has been caused.	
	ecial nature conservation order is	Off-farm effect	Medium: where minor	
	which no notice/consent has		damage has been	
been given	l.		caused.	
			High: where major	
			damage has been caused.	
The former	the corried out could be	On-farm effect		Rectifiable or Permanent
	has carried out, caused or an operation with notice/consent	or	<b>Low:</b> where no damage has been caused.	Recuirable of Permanent
•	ed to adhere to the terms of the	Off-farm effect	Medium: where minor	
consent.	ed to adhere to the terms of the	On-iaim enect	damage has been	
Consent.			caused.	
			High: where major	
			damage has been	
			caused.	

B2	You must comply with all management notices served by Natural Resources Wales or of any restoration orders served by a court.
	Where the purpose of the notices or restoration order is to protect or restore the special interest features of the area or otherwise
	restore the land to its former condition as may be so specified.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has failed to comply with a	On-farm effect	Medium: where a farmer	Rectifiable
management notice where the notice is	or	only partially complies	
concerned with special interest features of	Off-farm effect	with the requirements.	
the SPA/SSSI.		High: where a farmer fails	
A management notice is served under		to comply or continues to	
section 28K WCA 1981 (as amended).		fail to comply.	
The farmer has failed to comply with a	On-farm effect	Medium: where a farmer	Rectifiable
restoration order where the order is	or	only partially complies	
concerned with the special interest features	Off-farm effect	with the requirements.	
of the SPA/SSSI.		<b>High:</b> where a farmer fails	
A restoration order may be issued under		to comply or continues to	
section 31 of the WCA 1981 or regulation 26		fail to comply.	
of SI 1994/2716 (with respect to a special			
nature conservation order).			

B3 You must not intentionally or recklessly destroy or damage the special interest features of the area or disturb any fauna that are a special interest feature. This requirement can apply to actions that take place other than on the SPA/SSSI itself, but which have the same consequences.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has intentionally or recklessly	On-farm effect	Low: where minor	Rectifiable
caused damage or destruction of the special	or	damage has been	or
interest or disturbance of the fauna (that is	Off-farm effect	caused.	Permanent
also an interest feature of the SPA/SSSI).		Medium: where	
		intermediate level	
		damage has been	
		caused. High: where	

	major damage has been	
	caused.	

## **SMR 3: Conservation of Fauna and Flora (Biodiversity)**

The aim of these requirements is to protect species of flora and fauna. They apply to all claimants. Extra requirements apply if you have land designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) or Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

On your holding (whether or not in a Special Area of Conservation or Site of Special Scientific Interest) you must not do any of the following:

Pick, collect, cut, uproot or destroy a wild plant of a European protected species or nationally (UK) protected species e.g. bluebells. These European protected species of plant are listed in Schedule 5 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (legislation.gov.uk) and nationally protected species with protection are listed on Schedule 8 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (legislation.gov.uk).

Disturb, injure or kill a wild animal of a European protected species or nationally protected species. Obstruct, damage or destroy their place of shelter. European protected species are listed in Schedule 2 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, and nationally protected species are listed on Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981). In this SMR, 'WCA' means the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended.

You can find out if your land is in a Special Area of Conservation or Site of Special Scientific Interest by contacting Natural

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Picked, collected, cut, uprooted or destroyed	On-farm effect	<b>Medium:</b> where there has	Permanent
a wild plant of a European protected species	or	been a moderate impact	
or a nationally protected species.	Off-farm effect	on the protected species.	
(Part I WCA offences dealt with by the police		High: where there has	
with their (and CPS) own criteria. If it is		been a major impact on	
suspected that an offence has occurred,		the protected species.	
then this will be reported to the police.			

You must not deliberately pick, collect, cut, uproot or destroy a wild plant of a European protected species.

Resources Wales.

A1

A2 You must not disturb, injure or kill a wild animal of a European Protected Species. You must not obstruct, damage or destroy their place of shelter.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Disturbed, injured, killed a wild animal of a	On-farm effect	<b>Medium:</b> where there has	Permanent
European Protected Species or a nationally	or	been a moderate impact	
protected species or obstructed, damaged,	Off-farm effect	on the protected species.	
destroyed, their place of shelter.		High: where there has	
(Part I WCA offences dealt with by the police		been a major impact on	
with their (and CPS) own criteria. If it is		the protected species.	
suspected that an offence has occurred,		·	
then this will be reported to the police.			

## On land designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) or Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

On land designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) or Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) you must notify Natural Resources Wales in writing of any proposal to carry out, cause or permit any specified operation or where a special nature conservation order applies (unless covered by the terms of a management agreement, scheme or notice) and obtain consent before starting that operation (other than in an emergency or certain other specified circumstances).

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has carried out, caused or permitted a specified operation for which no notice/consent has been given. A specified operation means one which has been identified as likely to damage the special interest features of the area.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Low: where no damage has been caused.  Medium: where minor damage has been caused.  High: where major damage has been caused.	Rectifiable or Permanent
The farmer has carried out, caused or permitted a specified operation on land where a special nature conservation order is in force for which no notice/consent has been given.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Low: where no damage has been caused.  Medium: where minor damage has been caused.  High: where major damage has been caused.	Rectifiable or Permanent
The farmer has carried out, caused or permitted an operation with notice/consent but has failed to adhere to the terms of the consent.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Low: where no damage has been caused.  Medium: where minor damage has been caused.  High: where major damage has been caused.	Rectifiable or Permanent

B2 You must comply with all management notices served by Natural Resources Wales and the terms of any restoration orders served by a court. Where the purpose of the notices or restoration orders is to protect or restore the special interest features of the area or otherwise restore the land to its former condition as may be so specified.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has failed to comply with a management notice where the notice is concerned with special interest features of the SAC/SSSI.  A management notice is served under section 28K WCA 1981 (as amended by CRoW).	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Medium: where a farmer only partially complies with the requirements. High: where a farmer fails to comply or continues to fail to comply.	Rectifiable or Permanent
The farmer has failed to comply with a restoration order where the order is concerned with special interest features of the SAC/SSSI.  A restoration order may be issued under section 31 of the WCA 1981 or Regulation 29 of SI2010/490 (with respect to Special Nature Conservation Orders).	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Medium: where a farmer only partially complies with the requirements. High: where a farmer fails to comply or continues to fail to comply.	Rectifiable or Permanent

B3 You must not intentionally or recklessly destroy or damage the special interest features of the area or disturb any protected fauna that are a special interest feature. This requirement can apply to actions that take place other than on the SAC/SSSI itself, but which have the same consequences.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has caused damage or	On-farm effect	Low: where minor	Rectifiable or Permanent
destruction of the special interest or	or	damage has been	
disturbance of the fauna (that is also an	Off-farm effect	caused.	
interest feature of the SAC/SSSI).		Medium: where	
,		intermediate level	
		damage has been	
		caused.	
		High: where major	
		damage has been	
		caused.	

## SMR 4: Food and Feed Law

The aim of these requirements is to ensure the production of food for human consumption and food or feed that is fed to food-producing animals is safe.

## Food and feed safety, withdrawal and recall

A1

You must not:

- Place unsafe food or unsafe feed on the market;
- Feed unsafe feed to food-producing animals.

Note: If there have been cases of animal deaths or livestock products have become contaminated, it is likely that Animal Health or Trading Standards will have become involved to help determine if the feed was the cause of the animal death. Similarly, the Food Standards Agency (FSA) will issue risk management advice and depending upon the severity, a product recall may be issued. Product recalls are issued by the manufacturer, and the FSA will share this on its website and social media platforms. The FSA advises manufacturers to familiarise with the FSA's business guidance on Food incidents, product withdrawals and recalls.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
There is evidence that food that is harmful to	On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable
human health or unfit for consumption	or		or
and/or injurious to health (e.g. mould growth	Off-farm effect		Permanent: if producer
or pest infestation of grain) has been placed			has no system to trace or
on the market or used as feed.			recall the product and has
There is evidence that feed that is deemed			not informed the
to have an adverse effect on human or			competent authorities
animal health has been placed on the			
market.			
There is evidence that unsafe feed has been	On-farm effect	Medium: unsafe feed has	Rectifiable: where there
fed to food producing animals.	or	been fed to producing	is no adverse effect on
	Off-farm effect	animals and there has	the animals and all
		been no adverse effect or	contaminated food
		a minor adverse effect on	products can be recalled.
		those animals.	or
		High: unsafe feed has	Permanent: in all other
		been fed to food	cases.

	producing animals resulting in animal deaths or sickness, or food	
	products have become	
	contaminated.	

#### A2 You must:

- Arrange for unsafe food or unsafe feed to be withdrawn from the market if you believe you have supplied it and inform both your local authority and the Food Standards Agency (FSA) via the, FSA Online Report Form
- Destroy unsafe feed unless the competent authority tells you not to do so;
- Tell consumers of food, or the users of the feed, of the reason for any withdrawal if it may have reached them;
- Arrange for unsafe food or unsafe feed to be recalled if there is no other way of achieving a sufficiently high level of health protection;
- Immediately tell both your local authority and the FSA if food which you have supplied, or is in your possession and you intend to sell, could be harmful to health and of the actions you have taken to prevent risks to the final consumer. The Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD) should also be informed in the case of feedstuffs containing veterinary medicinal products (medicated feedstuffs) and/or specified feed additives (coccidiostats or histomonostats) at levels greater than their prescribed or authorised levels, or feedstuffs which are contaminated with such products, which may be harmful to health.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
There has been a food safety incident, and	On-farm effect	High: unsafe food has	Permanent
the farmer has not followed the requirements	or	been supplied and	
concerning notification, recall and	Off-farm effect	adversely affected the	
withdrawal.		food chain (actual	
		incident) – evidence	
		required, producer failed	
		to recall or inform	
		competent authority.	
Where there has been a feed safety incident	On-farm effect	Medium: if feed is	Rectifiable: if not used.
the farmer has not followed the due	or	unlikely to have an	or
processes.	Off-farm effect (The	adverse effect on animal	Permanent: if non-
"Due processes" – procedures to withdraw	breach might be in	or consumer health.	compliant feed has been
feed include holding any unused stock and	relation to a nationwide	High: if feed is likely to	used (i.e. fed).
not using it for feed use. Recall would	recall of batches A farmer	have an adverse effect on	
include contacting customers receiving non-	must keep records of	animal or consumer	

SFS Regulatory Baseline Verifiable Standards 2026 Version 1.0

			T	
	ompliant feed. The competent authorities	those they have	health.	
th	nat must be informed of a withdrawal or	immediately supplied with		
re	ecall are either the local authority (usually	feed but not other parties,		
th	ne trading standards department) and the	which might receive the		
F	ood Standards Agency (FSA). Destruction	feed subsequently).		
	vould probably be under the direction of a	. ,,		
	ocal authority inspector and would often be			
	is a result of a sample of feed having been			
	ested positive for a contaminant, which			
	reached a statutory maximum permitted			
	evel. Other acceptable uses might be			
	onsidered depending on the case as long			
	is these did not have implications for the			
	ood chain (e.g. industrial use).			
	n the case of feed containing veterinary			
	nedicinal products (medicated feed) and/or			
	. ,			
	pecified feed additives (coccidiostats or			
	istomonostats) at levels greater than their			
	rescribed or authorised levels, or feed			
	which is contaminated with such products,			
	which may be harmful to health, the VMD			
sl	hould also be informed.			

## A3 Traceability

You must put in place systems and procedures for the traceability of inputs to your farm, which identify:

- the name and address of your supplier;
- the type and quantity of inputs that were supplied to you;
- the date of the delivery of these inputs to your farm.

You must put in place systems and procedures for the traceability of products when they leave your farm, which identify:

- the name and address of the businesses you supplied;
- the nature and quantity of the products that were supplied to those businesses;
- the date on which the products left your farm.

You must store this information in a format which is readily available and produce it when requested.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Key pieces of information are missing, or	On-farm effect	Low: information largely	Rectifiable or Permanent
information is not kept at all.		available but incomplete.	
Information is kept but not in a systematic		Medium: poor or	
manner: it cannot be produced on demand,		inadequate system of	
taking into account a test of reasonableness.		keeping the required	
		information. Cannot fully	
These enterprises will consist of:		meet inspection	
<ul> <li>Dairy, Eggs, Livestock including beef,</li> </ul>		requirements.	
sheep, pigs and poultry (meat production);		High: no system or	
Cereals (combinable crops);		information kept following	
Horticulture;		a test of the traceability	
<ul> <li>Potatoes and other root crops</li> </ul>		system having broken the	
		business down into	
		different enterprises and	
		checking two inputs and	
		two outputs for any	
		livestock enterprises and	
		two outputs for any	
		cereals/crop-based	
		enterprises.	

	Food and feed hygiene
	N.B. Rules A4 – A9 do not apply to the direct supply by the producer of small quantities of primary products to the final consumer
	(for example, farm gate sales) or to local retail establishments which then directly supply the final consumer.
A4 You must store and handle waste and hazardous substances in order to prevent contamination of your food products or	
	products.

<b>Description of breach</b>	Extent	Severity	Permanence
There is evidence of inappropriate use and	On farm effect	Low: poorly stored	Permanent: where there
handling of waste or hazardous substances.	or	handled waste or	has been an off-farm
	Off-farm effect	hazardous substances,	food/feed safety incident
Waste or hazardous substances stored	(i.e. when there has been	leading to an increased	or traceability is not
inappropriately.	a food/feed safety	risk of contamination.	possible. Otherwise, can
	incident).	Medium: gross	withdraw.
Whilst not an exhaustive list, waste and		contamination from poorly	or
hazardous substances may include: slurry,		stored/handled waste or	Rectifiable: in all other
dirty water/run-off, silage effluent, waste		hazardous substances.	cases.
metal, batteries, sheep dip, plant protection		The product is still on	
products and biocides, fertilisers, veterinary		farm. The non-compliance	
products, noxious chemicals, diesel, swarf.		is unlikely to lead to a	
		direct impact on human	
		health.	
		High: in extreme	
		instances where non-	
		compliance has led to, or	
		can be linked to, food-	
		borne disease with a	
		direct impact on human	
		health. Farmer has taken	
		no steps to control or	
		prevent the breach.	

A5	You must store feed away from chemicals or any other products prohibited for use as animal feed.			
A6	You must handle medicated and non-medicated feeds separately to prevent cross-contamination and store medicated feeds in			
	such a way so they can't be fed by mistake to animals for which they are not intended.			

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Feed not stored separately of	r is stored in On-farm effect	<b>Low:</b> feed is poorly stor	red Permanent: where there
direct contact with a product	with the or	or handled, although it i	s has been an off-farm food
potential to cause contaminate	tion. Medicated Off-farm effect	ct: where not in contact with	or feed safety incident or
feeding stuffs not clearly labe	elled as such there has been	n a medicated feeding stuff	s traceability is not possible.
and stored separately from n	on-medicated   food/feed safe	ty incident. or other hazardous	or
feed. Feeds are not separate	ed in store via	substances. The non-	Rectifiable: in all other
physical barrier or bagged.		compliance is unlikely to	cases.
		lead to a direct impact of	on
No separate handling facilitie	s for medicated	human health.	
feeding stuffs.		Medium: gross	
		contamination from poo	rly
		stored/handled feed that	t
		has come into contact	
		with chemicals or	
		medicated feed has	
		contaminated non-	
		medicated feed. The	
		product is still on farm.	
		The non-compliance is	
		unlikely to lead to a dire	ct
		impact on human health	1.
		High: where non-	
		compliance has led to,	or
		can be linked to, food-	
		borne disease or illness	
		with a direct impact on	
		human health. Farmer	
		has taken no steps to	
		control or prevent the	

	breach.
A7	You must source and use feed, for food-producing animals, from establishments that are registered and/or approved by your local
	authority. In the case of medicated feeding stuffs or feed containing specified feed additives source the feeding stuffs from
	establishments that are approved by the Veterinary Medicines Directorate.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Evidence that the farmer is sourcing and/or	On-farm effect	Low: feed, medicated	Permanent: where there
using feed from establishments that are not	or	feed and/or feed	has been an off-farm
registered/approved.	Off-farm effect: where	containing feed additives	food/feed safety incident
	there has been a	has been sourced from	and feed sourced from
	food/feed safety incident.	establishments not	unregistered unapproved
		registered/ approved in	establishments.
		accordance with Retained	or
		EU Law 183/2005 but	Rectifiable
		there has been no	
		contamination or risk to	
		animal health or human	
		health.	
		High: feed, medicated	
		feed and/or feed	
		containing feed additives	
		has been sourced from	
		establishments not	
		registered/ approved in	
		accordance with Retained	
		EU Law 183/2005 and	
		has led to, or can be	
		linked to, food-borne	
		disease with a direct	
		impact on human health;	
		linked to animal	
		illness/death.	

A8 You must use feed additives, veterinary medicinal products, plant protection products and biocides correctly (if you use them on your farm) with dosage, application and storage as stated on the label or as prescribed. This includes ensuring that food you produce does not contain residues of pesticides or veterinary medicinal products that are higher than the permitted maximum residue limit (MRL) for the medicine used.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Evidence of feed additives, veterinary medicines plant protection products or biocides being used incorrectly or inappropriately.  For example: • not mixed or stored correctly; • not labelled; • past their use-by dates; • not used in accordance with the instructions/dosage on the label (evidence from records of application); • withdrawal periods have been contravened (evidence from veterinary medicines record).	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect: where there has been a food/feed safety incident.	Medium: gross contamination of feed not stored separately, or medicated feeds fed either in excess or to the wrong species. The non- compliance is unlikely to have a direct impact on human health. High: in extreme cases, where non-compliance has led to or can be linked with direct impacts on human health. The farmer has not controlled or prevented the breach.	Permanent
The farmer has placed food on the market that, on analysis of a sample, and taking account of measurement uncertainty, has been found to contain a pesticide residue that exceeds the statutory maximum residue level (MRL) for a pesticide found in the food tested.	Off-farm effect	Medium:  • There is approval for the use of a pesticide on the crop, but the MRL set from residues of that pesticide has been exceeded.  • No safety or health concern arises from the breach of the MRL.	Permanent

SFS Regulatory Baseline Verifiable Standards 2026 Version 1.0

		High:  • There is no authorisation for the use of the pesticide concerned on any crops in the UK.  • There is no authorisation for the use of the pesticide on the crop concerned.  • Safety concerns arise from the level of pesticide residue found.	
The farmer has sold or supplied an animal for slaughter, or has sold/supplied milk, eggs or honey that, on analysis of a sample, has been found to contain residues of authorised veterinary medicinal products that exceed the maximum residue limit (MRL) for the medicine used or an unauthorised substance.	Off-farm effect	Medium:  • The medicine used is an authorised product, but the MRL set for residues of that medicine has been exceeded.  • No safety or health concern arises from the breach of the MRL.  High:  • The medicine is not authorised for use in food producing species in the UK.  • Safety or health concerns arise from the level of medicine residue found.	Permanent

A9	You must keep up to date records on all of the following, if they are relevant to your business and make them available to an
	inspector:

- veterinary medicinal products, or other treatments, given to your animals, (including the dates of the treatment and the withdrawal period);
- the use of plant protection products and biocides;
- the results of any analyses carried out on samples taken from food-producing animals, plants, animal feed or other samples taken for diagnostic purposes that have importance for human and animal health and to take account of these accordingly;
- any relevant reports on checks carried out on animals or products of animal origin;
- any use of genetically modified seeds in feed production.

	Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
N	No records kept or records incomplete and or not produced at inspection.  Note  (a) Inspectors likely to restrict check to one that verifies that veterinary medicine and plant protection product records exist and took reasonably complete.  (b) Possible example is herd milk recording carried out to establish the offending animals with high somatic cell counts.  (c) Possible example is TBC/SCC/antibiotic records from purchaser.  For b and c the inspector is verifying that the results are being kept by the farmer in his farm records; there is no requirement under this standard for the inspector to interpret the results.	On-farm effect	Low: missing information or errors that can be rectified and a full assessment is possible.  Medium: partial records/incomplete records.  Sufficient information to allow a partial assessment.  High: no records.	Rectifiable: if records can be corrected using information available on farm, at inspection. or Permanent: if there are no records or if records cannot be corrected.
	The results of any analysis carried out	On-farm effect	Medium: unlikely to have an	Permanent
	ndicate a possible risk to human health and the farmer has not taken any action to stop	or Off-farm effect	adverse effect on human health. <b>High:</b> likely to have an adverse	
	the risk.		effect on human health.	

A10 You must take adequate measures to prevent the introduction and spread of diseases transmissible to humans through food.

#### You must:

- ensure that all eligible animals conform to national herd/flock health surveillance and testing intervals for TB;
- abide by the statutory pre-movement testing of animals test 60 days prior to movement (Note: pre-movement testing is not a requirement in all parishes/herds; farmer must keep test chart TB52 for 60 days plus 3 years);
- comply with statutory post movement TB testing of animals where it is required. All cattle need a PoMT, within the period 60-120 days after arrival on a holding, when they are moved into: the Low TB Area of Wales from:
- an Intermediate TB Area or High TB Area in Wales.
- the Edge Area or High-Risk Area of England
- Northern Ireland
- an Intermediate TB Area of Wales from:
- a High TB Area in Wales
- the High-Risk Area of England
- Northern Ireland
- have a system in place regarding precautionary measures when new animals are introduced on-farm (e.g. keep separate from rest of herd/flock to verify whether they carry disease or not);
- inform the relevant authority of a disease incident on farm (Note: diseases referred to here are the notifiable zoonotic diseases);
- report indicators of potential outbreaks (abortions) to relevant authorities.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Failure to ensure that all eligible animals conform to national herd/flock health surveillance and testing intervals for TB. Further aspects of these control measures are covered by specific standards for raw milk.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect: where animals have been moved off.	Very Low: where a test date is overdue by between 1 and 10 days (inclusive).  Medium: where test date is overdue by between 11 days and 30 days (inclusive).  High: where test date overdue by more than 30 days or animals have been moved off whilst under restriction.	Permanent
INTENTIONAL:  Once the notice of an enforced test is issued the breach will be considered as an intentional breach.  Where the enforced test is refused a 100% intentional breach will be applied.		Where non-compliance has led to, or can be linked to, a food-borne disease with a direct impact on human health.	
Failure to abide by the statutory pre and/or post-movement testing of animals.	Off farm effect	Medium or High: Where non-compliance has led to, or can be linked to, a food-borne disease with a direct impact on human health.	Permanent
Clear evidence that farmer has no system in place regarding precautionary measures when new animals are introduced on-farm (e.g. not kept separate from rest of herd/flock to verify whether they carry disease or not).	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect: where there has been a proven food or feed safety incident.	Medium or High: where non-compliance has led to, or can be linked to, a food- borne disease with a direct impact on human health.	Rectifiable or Permanent: Only where there has been an off- farm food/feed safety incident.

Farmer has not informed the relevant	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
authority of a disease incident on farm.	or	or	
	Off-farm effect:	<b>High:</b> where non-compliance has	
<b>Note:</b> diseases referred to here are the	where there has	led to, or can be linked to, a food-	
notifiable zoonotic diseases.	been a proven	borne disease with a direct	
	food/feed safety	impact on human health.	
Evidence that farmer has failed to report	incident.		
indicators of potential outbreaks (abortions).			

If you a	If you are a producer of raw milk (from any species), or handle raw milk, the following extra rules apply:				
B1	You must ensure that raw milk comes from animals that:				
	(-) !				
	(a) are in a good general state of health				
	(b) present no sign of disease that might result in the contamination of milk				
	(c) do not have any udder wound likely to affect the milk				
	(d) are not within the prescribed withdrawal period following the administration of authorised products or substances				
	(e) have not been given any unauthorised substances or products				

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
(a – c) Evidence that milk from animals showing signs of ill health (as could reasonably be determined by a non-vet, e.g. discharge, inflammation, udder wounds) has been included in the bulk tank.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Low: where milk is going for heat treatment.  Medium: where milk will not be heat treated.	Rectifiable or Permanent
(d) Evidence of milk from treated animals that have not observed the required withdrawal time has been included in the bulk tank.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	High	Rectifiable or Permanent

(e) Evidence of milk from animals treated with an unauthorised substance has been included in the milk tank.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	High	Rectifiable or Permanent
--	---	------	--------------------------

You must make sure that raw milk comes from animals belonging to herds/holdings which have disease-free status for tuberculosis and brucellosis. If your herd or holding is not disease free, with authorisation of the competent authority, you may sell milk from your non-reactor animals provided it has undergone heat-treatment before sale for human consumption. Sheep or goat milk must come from a herd that is officially free of brucellosis (OBF). However, with authorisation of the competent authority you can manufacture cheese with a maturation period of at least two months.

The FSA's business guidance on dairy registration and inspections provides further information on how to apply for registration of a milk production holding.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Evidence that milk for human consumption from reactor animals or herds or flocks that have lost their disease-free status has not been sent for appropriate heat treatment. (Heat treatment or cheese production with a maturation period of over 2 months).	Off-farm effect	Medium: all situations except where producer sells raw milk directly to the final consumer. High: if producer sells raw milk directly to the final consumer.	Permanent
Note: The appropriate treatment depends on the disease-free status lost and the species in question. Further information is contained within Retained EU Law Regulation EC853/2004, Annex III, section IX, Chapter 1.			

B3 You must effectively isolate animals that are infected, or suspected of being infected, with brucellosis or tuberculosis so that there is no adverse effect on other animals' milk.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Evidence of failure to isolate animals that	On-farm effect	Low: contact with herd mates	Rectifiable or Permanent
are infected or suspected of being infected.	or	and milk has been heat treated.	
	Off-farm effect	High: contact with susceptible	
		livestock on neighbouring	
		holdings and milk has been heat	
		treated.	

B4 You must make sure that milking equipment and the premises where milk is stored, handled or cooled are located and constructed to limit the risk of contamination of milk.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
I I	On-farm effect		Rectifiable
Evidence that there is a significant risk of		problems with no risk of	
contamination occurring due to location of		contamination.	
the milking equipment close to hazardous		Medium: where the problems	
materials and/or due to poor construction		found show a small risk of	
and/or practices in maintenance of the		contamination of the milk.	
milking shed or milk storage area.			

B5	You must ensure that premises used for the storage of milk are protected against vermin (including birds and birds' nests) and
	adequately separated from premises where animals are housed.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Premises used for the storage of milk are not adequately protected from vermin and/or separated from premises where animals are housed, e.g. visible signs of vermin infestation or common air space with livestock areas.	On-farm effect	Medium: gross infestation, inadequate separation or poor refrigeration and milk is still on farm. The non-compliance is unlikely to lead to a direct impact on human health.  High: in extreme instances where non-compliance has led to/or can be linked to food borne disease from the milk that has a direct impact on human health, or	Rectifiable
		the farmer has taken no steps to control or prevent the breach.	

B6	You must make sure the surfaces of equipment that come into contact with milk are easy to clean and disinfect (where this is
	necessary).
B7	You must clean (and disinfect where necessary) the surfaces of equipment that come into contact with milk after use and maintain
	in a sound condition.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
<ul> <li>Evidence that equipment that comes in contact with milk is not constructed of materials conducive to easy cleaning/are not maintained in a sound condition.</li> <li>Evidence that smooth, washable and nontoxic materials are not in use.</li> <li>Evidence of dirty equipment.</li> <li>Evidence that milk contact surfaces in the milking area or milk storage area are dirty or contaminated (e.g. stale milk residues/milk)</li> </ul>	On-farm effect	Low: dependent upon levels of contamination and the location of any such contamination.  Medium: dependent upon levels of contamination and the location of any such contamination.	Rectifiable

stone/mould).		

B8	You must carry out milking hygienically, especially making sure that:
	a) before milking starts the teats, udder and adjacent parts are clean
	b) you satisfactorily identify animals undergoing any medical treatment which is likely to transfer residues to the milk
	c) raw milk from any animals that are still within the withdrawal period after receiving medication is not used for human
	consumption

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
(a) Teats and udders not clean before cluster attachment at milking time. Milking routine or facilities are not robust enough for the cleanliness of the animals.	On-farm effect	Very Low: all situations except where producer sells raw milk directly to the final consumer.  High: if producer sells raw milk directly to the final consumer.	Rectifiable
(b) Animals that are undergoing medical treatment likely to transfer residues to the milk or are still within the withdrawal period for that treatment are not adequately identified at milking.	On-farm effect	Low	Rectifiable or Permanent
<ul> <li>(c) Such animals are not milked last and with the delivery pipe removed from the bulk tank, or using separate equipment e.g. separate dump bucket and cluster.</li> <li>Note: If such practices are not followed it could lead to milk obtained from these animals being sold for human consumption.</li> </ul>	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Low	Rectifiable or Permanent

B9	You must hold milk in a clean place, designed and equipped to avoid contamination, immediately after milking. You must have suitable refrigeration equipment in order to meet the post-milking cooling rules.
	The milk must be cooled immediately to: • no more than 8°C if it is collected daily;
	• no more than 6°C if it is not collected daily.

Descr	ription of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Storag or are condu	nce of inappropriate storage of milk. ge facilities are not appropriate, clean; not constructed from materials cive to easy cleaning and prevention tamination.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Low: inappropriate storage (no contamination).  Medium: inappropriate storage resulting in contamination and the likelihood of it leading to a direct impact on human health.  High: inappropriate storage resulting in gross contamination and a significant risk of a direct impact on human health.	Rectifiable or Permanent
reasor end of ( <b>Note</b> : immed	as not been cooled within a nable period (2 hours) following the f milking and prior to collection.  It may not be practical to cool milk diately in all situations).	On-farm effect: the milk will not be collected by the buyer. or Off-farm effect: where there has been a food safety	Very Low: non-compliance unlikely to lead to a direct impact on human health. Medium: where breach is seen to be a very recent development and little or no effort is being made to rectify situation. High: where it is obvious that the	Rectifiable or Permanent
refrige on the	eration of milk. This can be observed tanker dockets and/or by taking erature of milk stored.	incident; milk has left the premises.	facilities are not in effective operational order or are not suitable for the volume of milk to be stored (extra tanks outside dairies without cooling equipment for example) and no action is being taken to rectify situation.	

If you	are an egg producer, the following additional rules apply
C1	You must keep eggs clean and dry, free of strong odour, effectively protected from shocks and out of direct sunshine.

	Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
	Eggs kept in unsuitable conditions, e.g.	On-farm effect:	Very Low	Rectifiable or Permanent
	close to moving agricultural machinery, in	where eggs have		
tl	he tractor shed, close to bleach or diesel.	not left the		
T	This relates to all eggs in shell that are	premises.		
p	produced by farmed birds.	or		
		Off-farm effect:		
		where there has		
		been a food safety		
		incident; eggs		
		have left the		
		premises.		

## SMR 5: Restrictions on the Use of Substances having Hormonal or Thyrostatic Action and Beta-Agonists in Farm Animals

The aim of these requirements is to stop the illegal use in stock farming of substances that have a hormonal or thyrostatic action and beta-agonists, and to prevent the residues that these substances leave in meat and other foodstuffs from entering the human or animal food chain. They apply to you if you keep farmed animals.

A1 You must not give food-producing animals restricted substances (unless in line with any permitted exceptions).

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has administered restricted	On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable: only where
substances with hormonal or thyrostatic	or		the animals concerned
action or beta-agonists to	Off-farm effect		are found on farm and it
food-producing animals.			can be established that no
<b>Note:</b> Some exemptions exist:			products have entered the
•Authorised veterinary medicinal products			food chain.
(VMPs) containing beta-agonists prescribe	d		or
by a veterinary surgeon may be			Permanent
administered by a vet, or by a farmer unde	r		
direction of a vet, to equidae and pets;			
<ul> <li>Authorised VMPs containing beta-agonist</li> </ul>	S		
prescribed by a veterinary surgeon may be	<b>;</b>		
administered by a vet by injection to treat of	or		
induce tocolysis in cows during calving;			
<ul> <li>Authorised VMPs with a gestogenic,</li> </ul>			
oestrogenic (other than oestradiol 17ß and			
its ester-like derivatives) or androgenic			
action prescribed by a veterinary surgeon			
may be administered by a vet, or by a farm	er		
under direction of a vet, for the			
synchronisation of oestrus or for the			
preparation of donors or recipients for the			
implantation of embryos.			

Note: Evidence for this breach may come from the detection in samples taken from live animals or from samples taken at slaughterhouses. Evidence may also come from the detection in feed or water of unauthorised substances having hormonal or thyrostatic action or beta-agonists.  Only the farmer's own veterinary surgeon or a UK registered pharmacy acting in		
accordance with a veterinary prescription should have supplied drugs covered by SMR		
5. However, obtaining such products from a		
non-authorised source may not in itself constitute a breach of SMR 5, if it is a UK		
authorised product and is covered by a		
prescription.		

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer is in possession of any	On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable
substance containing a beta-agonist that			
may be used for induction purposes in the			
treatment of tocolysis.			
<b>Note:</b> Any prescription may not be available			
in written form on the farm. But the farmer			
should be able to demonstrate who			
prescribed the medicinal product and this			
should be followed up to verify. As farmers			
are required to keep the proof of purchase of			
all veterinary medicinal products for 5 years			
this should be available to identify the			
supplier of the source of the medication.			
Some banned substances have legitimate			
uses as medicines for humans and			
companion animals. If the inspector is			
satisfied that any products found are for			
these purposes, no breach of SMR 5 has			
occurred. Where illegal possession is			
suspected or has been established,			
an assessment will have to be made as to			
whether illegal administration has also taken			
place (see above).			
Inspectors may also have to take into			
account that medicines may be found that			
were legally obtained but have since ceased			
to be authorised. The continued possession			
of such products is unlawful.			

A3 You must not have food producing animals on your farm to which a restricted substance has been administered (unless given in line with any permitted exceptions).

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer is in possession of animals with residues in any tissues or body fluids at concentrations that indicate illegal administration to food-producing animals of substances with hormonal or thyrostatic action or beta-agonists.  The farmer is in possession of animals with residues in any tissues or body fluids at concentrations that indicate noncompliance with an authorised SMR 5 product's stated dosing instructions.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect Note: Where it is found that an animal and/or animal products have left the farm it will be necessary to consider whether a breach has occurred under A4 and/or A5.	High	Rectifiable or Permanent

A4 You must not place on the market or send to slaughter for human consumption any animal to which restricted substance has been administered (unless given in line with any permitted exceptions).

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has placed on the market or sent to slaughter for human consumption animals with residues in any tissues or body fluids at concentrations that indicate illegal administration to food-producing animals of substances with hormonal or thyrostatic action or beta-agonists.  Certain exemptions apply – see Regulation 9 of SI 1997 No.1729.		High	Rectifiable: in cases where the animals have not been sold (they can be destroyed instead). or Permanent: in cases where the animals have already been sold (usually the case).

A5 You must not place on the market meat, or any other animal product, derived from an animal to which any restricted substance has been administered (unless given in line with any permitted exceptions).

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer placed on the market, meat or animal products from animals with residues at concentrations that indicate illegal administration of substances with hormonal or thyrostatic action or beta-agonists.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	High	Rectifiable: in cases where the produce can still be prevented from entering the food chain. or Permanent: in cases where the produce cannot be prevented from entering the food chain.

B1 You must observe the relevant withdrawal period if your food-producing animals have been given any of the restricted substances in line with the permitted exceptions.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has not observed the relevant	On-farm effect	High	Permanent
withdrawal periods where food producing	or		
animals have been administered any of the	Off-farm effect		
restricted substances.			
Currently there are no authorised medicines			
containing thyrostats for farm animals.			
Failure to observe withdrawal periods only			
applies to slaughtered animals or to live			
animals from which products (usually eggs			
or milk) are taken.			

You must make veterinary medicinal records relating to the administration of restricted substances available to the competent authority, or anyone acting on behalf of the competent authority, on request.

D	escription of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
N ai ho ai h	on-maintenance of records of permitted nimal treatment with substances with ormonal or beta-agonists to food-producing nimals contrary to Regulations 18 (if the dministration is by the vet) or 19 administration is by the farmer) of the eterinary Medicines Regulations. It is sees sment of medicines records is often art of the procedure for Animal Health then they inspect farms. Where dministration of the substances covered by MR 5 is permitted under an exception, eeping the records required by the eterinary Medicines Regulations is also equired and failure to do so is a breach of MR 5.  armers must keep proof of purchase of all eterinary medicinal products for 5 years. This will include proof of purchase of any eatments relating to SMR 5. Therefore, if a armer has the appropriate proof of purchase at no or an incomplete record of use of an MR 5 product this may provide evidence of noffence.	On-farm effect	Low: minor omissions in records of administration of SMR 5 substances or mistakes but inspector still able to make an assessment of compliance with withdrawal periods or trace treated animals.  Medium: records of administration of SMR 5 substances incomplete-only sufficient for inspector to make a partial assessment of compliance with withdrawal periods or trace treated animals.  High: no records of administration of SMR 5 substances – or inspector unable to make an assessment of compliance with withdrawal periods or trace treated animals.	Rectifiable or Permanent: depending on time-lag between suspected treatment and whether farmer is in possession of any information that would enable him to make a record.

B2

### **SMR 6: Pig Identification and Registration**

The aim of these requirements is to reduce the risk of pig diseases spreading through controlling movements and improving traceability.

They apply to you if you keep pigs.

A1 You must register your details with Animal and Plant Health Agency within 1 month of establishing your holding and notify them of any change of your details (including if you stop keeping pigs) within 1 month of the change.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Applicant details not correctly registered with competent authority or maintained.	On-farm effect	Medium: where registration details are not up to date. High: where the applicant is not registered.	Rectifiable or Permanent

A2	You must correctly identify your pigs before they leave your holding in one of the following ways, depending on their age and
	destination:

- Pigs aged 1 year or over moving to any type of market, to slaughter or between holdings use eartags, tattoos or double slapmarks bearing your herdmark;
- Pigs aged under 1 year moving to any type of market or to slaughter use eartags, tattoos or double slapmarks bearing your herdmark; or
- Pigs aged under 1 year moving between holdings use eartags, tattoos or double slapmarks bearing your herdmark or a temporary mark (paintmark).

	Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
E	Evidence that movement of pigs has taken place without the required identification.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Low: Absolute: up to and including 5 animals not correctly identified at inspection. Percentage: up to and including 40% of animals not correctly identified at inspection. Medium: Absolute: greater than 5, up to and including 10 animals not correctly identified at inspection. Percentage: greater than 40% up to and including 60% of animals not correctly identified at inspection. High: Absolute: greater than 10 animals not correctly identified at inspection. Percentage: greater than 60% of animals not correctly identified at inspection. Percentage: greater than 60% of animals not correctly identified at inspection. Note: The highest determined severity level is used to calculate	Rectifiable or Permanent

the level of penalty.
•

A3 You must not remove or replace identification without permission from your local authority unless it is lost, illegible or removed for welfare reasons. The appropriate replacement identification must be applied as required.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Identification has been removed or replaced	On-farm effect	High	Permanent
without appropriate authority or identification	or		
has not been replaced when required.	Off-farm effect		

A4	On-farm records and movements				
	You must record all movements of pigs on and off your holding within 36 hours. Always record the:				
	• name and address of the person keeping the record;				
	• date of the movement;				
	• identification number or temporary mark;				
	• number of pigs;				
	holding you moved the pigs from;				
	holding you moved the pigs to.				
	You must notify eAML2 before you move pigs from your holding unless one of the following exemptions applies:				
	• you are moving any pigs to a market or collection centre which agrees to notify the eAML2 system online on the day that the pigs				
	arrive;				
• you are moving any pigs to a veterinary practice for emergency treatment;					
	• you are moving any pigs to a show without knowing which holding they will move the pigs to after the show (in this case you must notify the eAML2 system online or the eAML2 Bureau Service within 3 days of the move from the show).				
	must notify the cravite system offine of the cravite bureau service within 3 days of the move norm the show).				
	If you do not notify the eAML2 system online and the exemptions do not apply, you must give the required information to the				
	eAML2 Bureau Service by telephone or in writing and you must not move any pigs until you have received a document from the				
	eAML2 Bureau Service recording that information.				
	Unless you are moving any pigs for emergency veterinary treatment, for all of the above you must always give the following				
	information:				
	• full addresses, including postcodes and CPH numbers, of both the origin and destination of the pigs;				
	• date of the movement;				
	• number of pigs being moved;				
	• identification marks of the pigs; and				
	• lot numbers of the pigs (if the movement is from a market).				
	You must when transporting pigs, carry a haulier summary or movement document that accompanies pigs during moves, and				
	where the moves have not been reported online this must be signed by the keeper. If the keeper receiving the animals is not able				

to notify the eAML2 system online, you must give the keeper two copies of the haulier summary or movement	nt document.					
You must notify movements of pigs onto your holding within 3 days by:						
• confirming online on the eAML2 system that the pigs have arrived (noting any changes); or						
• sending a copy of the haulier summary or movement document (noting any changes) to the eAML2 Bureau Service; or						
• phoning the eAML2 Bureau; or						
sending a text message to eAML2 text message service.						
You must keep a copy of the haulier summary sheet or movement documents for 6 months after any pigs ar	rive on your holding					
(unless you have notified the eAML2 system online that they have arrived).						
You must if you are sending any pigs to a port for consignment outside Great Britain, either notify the eAML2						
send a copy of the haulier summary or movement documents to the eAML2 Bureau Service within 3 days of	the pigs leaving the					
holding.						
Pigs intended for export will need an eartag with the 'UK' prefix the herdmark, animal number along with the	'GB' suffix, OR a					
tattoo bearing the 'UK' prefix, herdmark, animal number and 'GB' suffix.						
You must record the details of replacement identification as a result of identification becoming illegible or los	t, establishing a link					
with the animals original identity, unless the replacement used is identical to the original.						

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Movement documents not maintained in accordance with the legal requirements.	On-farm effect	<b>Medium:</b> inaccurate licence or eAML2 entry compared to	Rectifiable or Permanent
	Off-farm effect	movements or licence not retained for required period. <b>High:</b> no licence or eAML2 entry	
		compared to movements.	
Records not maintained in accordance with legal requirements.		Low: failure to record full movement details for one or more movements, on or off the holding, or details of re-identification which cannot be verified through other farm documentation (i.e. invoices etc.) where the keepership has not changed.  Medium: failure to record full movement details for a	Rectifiable or Permanent

	movement, on or off the holding, or details of re-identification where the keepership has changed and/or failure to record full movement details for a movement, on or off the holding where the keepership has not changed, which cannot be verified through other farm documentation (i.e. invoices etc.).  High: repeated failure to record full movements, on or off the holding, or no records have been kept.
--	---

A5 You must, once a year, record the maximum number of pigs you normally keep on the holding and the actual number of pigs on the holding on that date.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
No record has been made of the maximum	On-farm effect	Low	Rectifiable or Permanent
number of pigs normally kept or actual			
number of pigs is not recorded on the date			
maximum number is recorded.			

## **SMR 7: Cattle Identification and Registration**

The aim	The aim of these requirements is to establish a system for the identification and registration of cattle to facilitate their traceability, in particular					
	ent of a disease outbreak. Within this SMR, 'cattle' means all bovine animals.					
A1	For SFS purposes, you do not need to do anything more than you are already required to do by law for the identification and					
	tracing of cattle. The key elements of the cattle tracing system, which applies specifically for SFS purposes, are listed below. This					
	is a summary only. For a full explanation of your legal obligations, you should refer to the relevant legal provisions and Cattle					
	Identification and Movement: guidance for keepers in Wales   GOV.WALES.					
	a. Eartags					
	• Each calf born on your holding (or cattle imported from outside the EU) must be double tagged with approved eartags with the same unique identification code.					
	Beef calves must be tagged within 20 days of birth, or before they leave the holding, if this is sooner. Dairy calves must be					
	tagged with one eartag within 36 hours and the other eartag within 20 days of birth. • Bison calves must be tagged within 9 months					
	of birth or when they are separated from their mother if this is earlier.					
	• All animals leaving your holding should be tagged to the full requirement for that animal including double tags for any calves					
	regardless of age.					
<ul> <li>Eartags must not be removed or replaced without permission from BCMS except when replacing lost or illegible tags.</li> <li>Illegible or lost tags must be replaced within 28 days of noticing the loss.</li> </ul>						
	You must not alter, obliterate or deface an eartag.					
	b. Cattle passports					
	• An application must be made for a cattle passport within seven days of a calf being tagged (that is, within 27 days of birth; 7 days					
for bison).						
	You must register cattle imported from within the EU, but outside Great Britain, within 15 days of its arrival on your holding by					
	sending the foreign passport/movement document to BCMS and making an application for a passport.					
	• You must register cattle imported from outside the EU within 15 days of tagging the animal and no later than 35 days from its					
	release from import checks by making an application for a passport to BCMS.					
	When cattle are moved, you must ensure that they are accompanied by their cattle passports, which must be completed and					
	signed.					
	You must not alter or deface a cattle passport.					
	You must produce a signed and valid passport for every animal in your care on request.					
	c. Notification					
	• Births must be notified to BCMS by an application for a cattle passport within 7 days of tagging (that is, within 27 days of birth).					
	You must notify BCMS via either CTS online, the BCMS telephony service, using approved software or complete the death					

details in the passport of any cattle deaths on your holding within 7 days of the date of death. You must return the passport or certificate of registration and any other official identification documents within 7 days of the death to BCMS. Should you report the
death via CTS online, the BCMS telephony service or using approved software, you do not need to complete the death details on
the passport but are required to return the passport within 7 days of the date of death.
• You must notify BCMS of the date of any movements of cattle on to and off your holding within 3 days of each movement.
• You must notify BCMS by returning the passport of any lost or stolen animal within 7 days of becoming aware of the loss or theft.
d. On-farm registers
• You must keep an up-to-date herd register for your holding, which includes the following appropriate details for each animal:
official eartag number; dam's official eartag number; date of birth; sex; date of movements on and off your holding; details of
where the animal has moved to or from; breed; date of death, which must match CTS.
• The register must be completed within 36 hours of a movement and eartag replacement where the eartag number is changed,
within 7 days of a death and within 7 days of a birth in a dairy herd (or within 30 days of the birth of any other calf).
• The register must be kept for 10 years from the date of the last entry and be available to Welsh Government officials or the local

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
To be assessed in line with the CII	On-farm effect	Very Low/Minimum WL	Rectifiable or Permanent
discrepancy seriousness scores. See below	or	Absolute: greater than 0 up to	
for table including explanation of severity	Off farm effect: in	and including 3.	
score.	cases where	<b>Percentage:</b> greater than 0 up to	
	animals have	and including 10.	
	moved off since	Low:	
	being fed animal	<b>Absolute:</b> greater than 3 up to	
	protein or	and including 5.	
	products.	Percentage: greater than 10 up	
		to and including 40.	
		Medium:	
		<b>Absolute:</b> greater than 5 up to	
		and including 10.	
		Percentage: greater than 40 up	
		to and including 60.	
		High:	
		Absolute: greater than 10.	
		Percentage: greater than 60.	

authority on request.

## Annex 1: Penalty procedures for breaches in SMR7: Animal Identification and Registration – Cattle

Discrepancies identified, whether by inspection or administrative check, are coded and a score attached as follows:

Code	Discrepancy description	Score	Extent list 1	Extent list 2	Permanence	Discrepancy Group
FM	Failure to report a movement to BCMS – over 14 days	1.0	Off farm	On farm	Permanent	Failure to report movement to
FM1	Late reporting of movement to BCMS - between 8 and	1.0	Off farm	On farm	Rectifiable	BCMS within specified
	14 days inclusive					timescales.
FM2	Late reporting of movement to BCMS – between 4 and 7 days inclusive	0.4	Off farm	On farm	Rectifiable	
ID	Incorrect DAM ID (Critical) on passport/farm record	0.3	On farm	Off farm	Rectifiable	Incorrect DAM ID (Critical) on passport/farm record.
LZ	Incorrect DAM ID (Noncritical) on passport/farm record	0	On farm	Off farm	Rectifiable	Incorrect DAM ID (Noncritical) on passport/farm record.
NF1	Homebred animal not found in farm records	1.0	On farm	On farm	Permanent	Animal not found in farm
NF2	Bought in animal not found in farm records	0.4	On farm	On farm	Rectifiable	records.
MV	Movement details not recorded or incorrectly recorded in farm records or on passport or CTS	0.4	On farm	Off farm	Permanent	Movement details not recorded or incorrectly recorded in farm records or on passport or CTS.
DB	Incorrect date of birth on passport/CTS record/farm record	0.7	On farm	Off farm	Rectifiable	Incorrect Date of Birth on passport/ farm record.
NP	Animal present without passport, Certificate of Registration (CPP35)/CTS record	1.0	On farm	Off farm	Permanent	Animal present without a passport.
DD	Dead animal not reported to BCMS – over 14 days	1.0	Off farm	Off farm	Permanent	Late reporting of dead animal
DD1	Late reporting of dead animal to BCMS – between 8 and 14 days inclusive	1.0	Off farm	Off farm	Rectifiable	to BCMS.
NA	Passport/CoR/CTS record present without animal	1.0	Off farm	Off farm	Permanent	Passport present on holding without animal/duplicate passport held.
OP	Other passport details incorrect (e.g. sex, breed)	0.1	On farm	Off farm	Rectifiable	Other passport details (sex, breed) do not correspond with farm records.

SFS Regulatory Baseline Verifiable Standards 2026 Version 1.0

Code	Discrepancy description	Score	Extent list 1	Extent list 2	Permanence	Discrepancy Group
TG1	Not tagged in accordance with legal requirements	1.0	On farm	Off farm	Permanent	Animal incorrectly
TG2	Tag missing over 28 days or no evidence of a replacement policy	0.4	On farm	Off farm	Permanent	tagged/Lost tags not replaced within 28 days.
TG3	Tag missing less than 28 days	0	On farm	Off farm	Rectifiable	

The scores allocated to each discrepancy found are added up, which is known as the 'absolute score'. The absolute score is then used to work out a percentage, which is established by dividing the absolute score by the number of animals inspected and multiplying that figure by 100. These two figures are then assessed against the threshold severity levels listed in the verifiable standards and the highest is taken forward in determining the level of financial penalty.

The level of financial penalty is then determined using:

- the highest of the severity levels;
- extent (whether effects are confined to on-farm or off-farm);
- intent (whether errors are attributed to negligence or intentional non-compliance);
- permanence (whether the errors are rectifiable in a reasonable period of time, or are permanent);
- repetition (when discrepancies within the same discrepancy group are found within a 3-year period).

### Example:

Following an inspection, it is determined that one animal had not been tagged in accordance with legal requirements and the keeper of the animals had failed to report a movement to BCMS. The number of animals inspected was 18.

The discrepancies identified attract the following score: Code	Discrepancy description	Score
FM	Failure to report a movement to BCMS – over 14 days	1.0
TG1	Not tagged in accordance with legal requirements	1.0

Absolute Score calculated as follows:

1.0

+ 1.0

Absolute Score: 2.0

The Percentage is calculated as follows:

2.0 (absolute score) ÷ 18 (animals inspected) = 0.11

 $0.11 \times 100 = 11.11\%$ 

These scores are assessed against the verifiable standards to determine the severity level. In this example: Absolute Score: 2.0 = Minimum WL/Very Low Percentage: 11.11% = Low

The highest determined severity level is used to calculate the level of penalty. In this example the severity level used would be Low.

# SMR 8: Sheep and Goat identification (Sheep and Goat (Records, Identification, Movement (Wales) Order 2015))

The aim of these requirements is to maintain a system for the identification and registration of sheep and goats in order to facilitate their traceability, in particular in the event of a disease outbreak. They apply to you if you keep sheep and/or goats, even as pets.

#### Α1

#### You must:

- Identify all sheep and goats with the correct means of identification within 6 months of birth for intensively farmed animals and 9 months for extensively farmed animals, or before they leave the holding of birth, whichever is soonest;
- Identify with a single electronic slaughter tag (or two identical identifiers), animals intended for slaughter in the UK before 12 months of age. If you keep these sheep or goats beyond the age of 12 months you must then replace the single means of identification with two new identifiers. For sheep, one of the identifiers must be electronic;
- Identify with two identical identifiers, animals not intended for slaughter within the UK before 12 months of age or if intended for third country or intra-community trade; if born on or after 31 December 2009 one of these identifiers must be electronic.

**Note:** permitted identifiers are eartags, ruminal bolus, pattern mark or tattoo – not all combinations allow an animal to be exported. The single (non-electronic) slaughter tag cannot be used to identify lambs identified on or after 1 January 2016.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Sheep and/or goats have never been tagged or are incorrectly tagged (i.e. not in accordance with Council Regulation/SAGRIMO).		Low: Absolute: up to and including 5animals sampled are incorrectly tagged or have never been tagged.  Percentage: up to and including 10% of animals sampled are incorrectly tagged or have never been tagged.  Medium: Absolute: Greater than 5 and up to and including 10 animals sampled are incorrectly tagged or have never been tagged.  Percentage: greater than 10%, and up to and including 40% animals sampled are incorrectly tagged or have never been tagged.  High: Absolute: greater than 10 animals sampled are incorrectly tagged or have never been tagged.  Percentage: greater than 40% of the animals sampled are incorrectly tagged or have never been tagged.  Percentage: greater than 40% of the animals sampled are incorrectly tagged or have never been tagged (Note: The highest determined severity level is used to calculate the level of penalty).	Permanent

A2	You must:
	• Replace any lost or illegible means of identification within 28 days of noticing their loss or illegibility, or before the animal leaves the holding whichever is the earlier. You must not:
	• Alter, obliterate or deface any means of identification attached to an animal. However, you may apply additional management information provided the legibility of the UK flock mark or UK individual ID number is not affected.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Sheep and/or goats with lost or illegible means of identification that are not replaced within 28 days.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Medium: identification tags have been lost; the inspector is not satisfied that there is a tag replacement policy in place, and that no tags have been ordered (if appropriate) within the 28 day time limit, or, the keeper has failed to confirm that missing tags have been replaced within 28 days.	Permanent
Means of identification has been altered, obliterated or defaced for reason other than replacement, illegibility or welfare.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	<b>High:</b> any animal sampled found to have their means of identification altered, obliterated or defaced.	Permanent

You must keep up-to-date on-farm records, for each holding (for sheep and goats a separate holding is defined as land not under your control, or further than 5 or 10 miles from your main holding, depending on whether it has transitioned onto the new County Parish Holding (CPH) rules).

Records should include the following information:

- An inventory (stocktake) of the animals kept at 1 December;
- Details of the movement of sheep and goats on and off your holding, including: the date of the movement the number of animals moved the destination or origin of animals the haulier's name and vehicle registration;
- Records must be updated within 36 hours of the movement, including cross-referencing of different number replacements;
- Records must include:
- the individual identification numbers of individually identified animals and in the case of batches of animals identified with a single slaughter tag which originate from different holdings of birth, the number of animals with each different flock/herd mark
- the holding of birth, the year of birth and the date of identification
- the month and year of death of the animal on the holding
- the breed and, if known, the genotype.

Animals that were born/identified prior 31/12/2009 are exempt from individual movement recording when those animals are moving direct to slaughter.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Flock/herd records not maintained in accordance with the legal requirements (SAGRIMO).	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Low: failure to record full movement details for one movement or where land is contiguous and/or failure to record up to and including 5 animals:  • at first EID Identification; and/or • EID deaths; and/or • where replacement tags have been fitted but no details are recorded in the records.	Rectifiable or Permanent

Annual stocktake (inventory) has not been	On-farm effect	Rectifiable or Permanent breach.  Medium: failure to record full movement details for more than one and up to 5 movements, on or off the holding and/or failure to record more than 5 animals:  • at first EID identification; and/or  • EID deaths; and/or  • where replacement tags have been fitted but no details are recorded in the records.  High: failure to record full movements, for more than 5 movements on or off the holding.  Low: if the stocktake (inventory)	Permanent
maintained in farm records.	On-larm enect	is not recorded by 1 January.	Permanent
Number of animals counted and movement records, including recorded deaths, do not reconcile with an annual stocktake (inventory). The difference found is beyond the scope of reasonable explanation.	On farm effect: or Off farm effect: if unknown animal movements may have contributed to the difference found.	Low: up to and including 10% of flock not reconcilable with annual stocktake (inventory).  Medium: from 10% and up to and including 40% of flock not reconcilable with annual stocktake (inventory).  High: more than 40% not reconcilable with annual stocktake (inventory).	Rectifiable or Permanent

A4	You must keep up-to-date on-farm records, for each holding (for sheep and goats a separate holding is defined as land not under your control, or further than 5 or 10 miles from your main holding, depending on whether it has transitioned onto the new County Parish Holding (CPH) rules).
	<ul> <li>keep records for a minimum of 3 years or since setting up the flock/herd. Where all animals leave a holding, the records need to be kept for 3 years from the day the last animal left the holding;</li> <li>ensure that your farm records are available for inspection on request</li> </ul>

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Failure to keep adequate records and/or	On-farm effect	High	Permanent
failure to show to the inspector on request.	or		
	Off-farm effect		

# SMR 9: Animal Diseases – Prevention and control of transmissible spongiform encephalopathies – TSEs

The aim of these requirements is to minimise the risk posed to human and animal health by certain transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs). They apply to you if you keep farmed animals.

- A1 You must not feed animal protein, or any feeding stuff that contains animal protein, to ruminants, with the exception of the following (subject to required sourcing and processing, e.g. it cannot be catering waste):
  - milk, milk-based products and colostrums
  - eggs and egg products
  - gelatine from non-ruminants
  - hydrolysed proteins derived from non-ruminants or from ruminant hides and skins
  - liquid milk replacers for unweaned ruminants containing fishmeal, if registered.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
There is evidence that the farmer is feeding	On-farm effect	High	Permanent
animal protein or products containing animal	or		
protein to ruminants, including:	Off farm effect: in		
cattle, bison, buffalo sheep, goats	cases where		
seer, antelope, wildebeest camelids	animals have		
	moved off since		
	being fed animal		
	protein or		
	products.		

A2 You must not feed products containing 'banned' or prohibited proteins to any farmed animals or mix prohibited proteins with feed or feedstuffs.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
There is evidence that the farmer is feeding	On-farm effect	High	Permanent
prohibited proteins to farmed animals or	or		
mixing prohibited proteins with animal feed.	Off-farm effect:		
'Banned' or 'Prohibited proteins' are gelatine	in cases where		
from ruminants and processed animal	animals have		
protein (such as mammalian meat and	moved off since		
bonemeal, poultry meal, feather meal, beef	being fed		
gelatine).Dried terrestrial invertebrate	protein(s).		
(insects) and Processed animal proteins) of			
insect origin cannot be used in feed for any			
farmed animals.			

A3 You must not use restricted proteins to produce feed for non-ruminants unless you have received authorisation from the competent authority.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Description of breach  The farmer is producing feed for non-ruminants which contains restricted proteins and does not have authorisation from the competent authority to do so.  Requirement applies to all farms/sites producing feed using restricted proteins.  'Restricted proteins' are animal proteins restricted to non- ruminant feed production: fishmeal, including dried aquatic invertebrates from an approved ABP premises (for feeding to non-ruminants only e.g. horses, pigs, poultry); non-ruminant blood products; pig and poultry (non-ruminant) bloodmeal (for feeding to farmed fish); dicalcium phosphate and tricalcium phosphate of animal origin.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect:	Low: if ruminants not kept.  Medium: if ruminants present and there is evidence that they have been exposed to restricted proteins.	Rectifiable or Permanent

A4	You must not use feed products containing restricted proteins on a farm where there are ruminants present unless you have
	received registration from the competent authority to do so.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer does not have	On-farm effect	Low: if there is no evidence that	Rectifiable or Permanent
registration/permission to store or use feed	Of farms offerst	ruminants have been exposed to	
containing restricted proteins where required.	Off-farm effect:	feed containing restricted proteins.	
Note: Requirement applies to all farms where ruminants are present.		<b>Medium:</b> if there is evidence that ruminants have been exposed to feed containing restricted proteins.	

A5	You must not export from the UK any bovine animal, born or reared in the United Kingdom before 1 August 1996.
A6	You must not place on the market or export any products consisting of, or incorporating, any material (other than milk) derived
	from a bovine animal born or reared in the United Kingdom before 1 August 1996.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has exported a bovine animal born or reared in the United Kingdom before 1 August 1996.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	High	Rectifiable: if the animal or product can be traced and eliminated. or
The farmer has placed on the market or exported products consisting of or incorporating material (other than milk) derived from a bovine animal born or reared in the United Kingdom before 1 August 1996.			Permanent

A7 You must not place on the market or export first generation offspring, the semen, ova or embryos of cattle, sheep or goats (of any age) without fully complying with the documentation requirements and restrictions applying to the sale or export of such products.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has placed the offspring of a BSE case on the market.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	High	Rectifiable: if the animal or product can be traced and eliminated.
The farmer has placed on the market/exported semen/ embryo/ova of cattle, sheep or goats (of any age) without the correct certificate.			Permanent

A8 You must not move any cattle born or reared in the UK before 1 August 1996 from their registered premises unless you have obtained a movement licence from the Animal and Plant Health Agency Specialist Service Centre (SSC) in Worcester.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has moved cattle which were	On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable: if the animal
born or reared in the UK before 1 August	or	_	or product can be traced
1996 from their registered premises without	Off-farm effect:		and eliminated.
obtaining a movement licence from the			or
Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA)			Permanent
SSC at Worcester			

B1	You must notify the Duty Veterinary Officer of your local Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) office immediately if you know or
	suspect that an animal or carcass in your possession, or under your charge, is infected with a transmissible spongiform
	encephalopathy (TSE).

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has not notified the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) of an animal or carcass in his/her possession, or under	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect:	High	Rectifiable: if the animal or product can be traced and eliminated, including
his/her charge known or suspected of being infected by a TSE.			any potential cohorts. or Permanent

B2	You must fully comply with any:
B3	
B4	movement restrictions imposed
B5	order to slaughter and destroy any animal
	• other notices served by a veterinary inspector or other person appointed by the Welsh Ministers under the TSE (Wales)
	Regulations 2018
	• inquiry carried out by an inspector or other person appointed by Welsh Ministers to identify all animals at risk, including animals
	at natal holdings if required.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has failed to comply with a movement restriction,	On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable: if the animal
slaughter/destruction order and/or any other notices served	or		or product can be traced
by an inspector or other enforcement body.	Off-farm effect:		and eliminated.
NB: All cattle born or reared in the UK before August 1996			or
are restricted to their registered premises. However, there			Permanent
may be exceptional circumstances in which you need to			
move an animal. In these cases, you must apply to the			
Animal and Plant Health Agency Specialist Service Centre			
(APHA SSC) in Worcester for a movement licence and a			
licence must be obtained and approved before the restricted			
animal is moved from the premises.			
The farmer has failed to comply with the enquiry carried out			

by the inspector to identify all animals at risk.		

#### **SMR 10: Plant Protection Products**

The aim of these requirements is to ensure that plant protection products (PPPs) are used correctly and to minimise risks from their use to humans, wildlife and the environment. They apply to you if you, or a contractor, use these products on your land.

In complying with this SMR you should note the following:

Pesticides, also known as 'plant protection products' (PPP) are used to control pests, weeds and diseases. Examples include insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, molluscicides, and plant growth regulators. They can exist in many forms, such as solid granules, powders or liquids and consist of one or more active substances co-formulated with other materials.

- a. Details of approved products are all recorded under the pesticide product names on the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) pesticide database.
- b. "Good plant protection practice" is the practice whereby the treatments with plant protection products applied to a given crop, in conformity with the conditions of their approved uses, are selected, dosed and timed to ensure optimum efficacy, taking due account of local conditions and of the possibilities for cultural and biological control.
- c. Good plant protection practice is explained in the Code of Practice for using Plant Protection Products.

  www.hse.gov.uk/pesticides/resources/c/code of practice for using plant protection products complete20code.pdf
- d. For further information, please access the HSE website at www.hse.gov.uk/pesticides/index.htm

There are record keeping requirements for pesticides and these can be found in SMR 4: Food and Feed Law.

The aim of these requirements is to ensure that plant protection products (PPPs) are used correctly and to minimise risks from their use to humans, wildlife and the environment. They apply to you if you use these products on your land.

A1 You must not use any PPP unless it has been approved under relevant legislation.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has used an unauthorised	On-farm effect	High	Permanent
product and/or a product for which a permit	or		
is required (e.g. a product whose	Off farm effect: where		
authorisation has lapsed,	environmental contamination		

	been revoked; an imported product that does not have a permit for use in GB or 'own-use' parallel imports where an equivalent UK label in English is not available).	or residues in foodstuffs arises from illegal use Impact of the use of an illegal product will vary dependent on the product but may pose a risk to human health or the environment.	
B1	<ul> <li>You must use authorised or permitted PPPs in</li> <li>specified in the approval or in any extension</li> <li>on the label of the product as required by the</li> </ul>	of use; or	

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has used an authorised and/or permitted product but is does not hold a valid UK authorisation or permit, or has not complied with all relevant requirements on the product label or conditions of, use or extension of use, e.g.  • Product not authorised or permitted for intended use, crop, land or situation;  • Product not authorised or permitted for intended method of application;  • Maximum dose/maximum number of treatments/total dose exceeded;  • Application dates/harvest intervals not observed;  • Access restrictions for workers and/or livestock ignored;  • Notifications not given where appropriate (e.g. the requirement to notify beekeepers or the beekeepers liaison officer).  • Product being incorrectly stored or disposed of.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect:	Medium: where the breach is technical in nature. High: where the breach may have consequences for human health or the environment.	Permanent

User has undertaken relevant training and holds a specified certificate.     Relevant application equipment has not been tested under the National Spray Testing Scheme (NSTS)     User has not registered with Defra in line with the Official Controls (Plant Protection)	
with the Official Controls (Plant Protection Products) Regulations 2020.	

# **SMR 11: Animal Welfare (Calves)**

The aim of these requirements is to protect the welfare of calves by setting minimum standards for their care and husbandry. If you keep calves, they apply to you in addition to the requirements for the welfare of all farmed animals

**Inspector note:** Where breaches are referred to as "rectifiable or permanent" this is dependent on the individual circumstances of the breach for the animal(s) concerned. If welfare for individual animals can be improved, then this should be regarded as rectifiable where the animal's pain and distress caused cannot be reduced e.g. injury is permanent or animal has to be euthanised then this must be regarded as permanent.

Severity will be assessed in the following way:

Medium: evidence of breach but where this has not caused unnecessary pain, distress or injury to animal(s).

**High:** where there is unnecessary pain, injury, suffering or distress to animal(s).

A1 You must inspect all housed calves at least twice a day, and those kept outside at least once a day.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Housed calves have not	been inspected On-far	m effect Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
twice each day.		or	
		High	
Calves kept outside have	e not been On-far	m effect Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
inspected once each day	<i>i</i> .	or	
		High	

A2 You must ensure that each of your calves can stand up, turn around, lie down, rest and groom itself without difficulty.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Calf unable to stand up	o, turn around, lie On-farm	effect Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
down, rest and/or groot	m itself without	or	
hindrance/difficulty.		High	

### A3 You must not tether your calves.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Calf tethered for reasons other than feeding	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
group housed calves milk/milk substitute.		or	
		High	
Calf tethered for longer than one hour at	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
each feed.		or	
		High	
Tether prevents calf from lying down,	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
resting, standing up and grooming itself		or	
without hindrance.		High	
Tether has caused pain or injury to calf.	On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable or Permanent

### A4 You must not muzzle your calves.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Calves are muzzled or evidence that calves	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
have been muzzled.		or	
		High	

# A5 You must not keep a calf in an individual stall or pen after the age of 8 weeks (unless it needs to be isolated to receive treatment).

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Calves over 8 weeks old penned singly,	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
without appropriate veterinary advice.	or	or	
	Off-farm effect	High	

A6	You must ensure that individual stalls or pens satisfy the minimum width and length requirements and that they have perforated
	walls which allow the calves to see each other and have physical contact with each other (except for those isolating sick animals).

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Pen size too small in either length or width.	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
		or	
		High	
No perforated walls for individual pens so	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable
calves have no direct and/or visual tactile			
contact with other calves.			

A7 You must ensure that each calf, when kept in a group, has its minimum allowance of unobstructed floor space.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Unobstructed floor space too small for the	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
weight of the calves.		or	
		High	

A8	You must provide flooring, for those calves kept in buildings, that is:
	• smooth but not slippery;
	designed so there is no injury or suffering to the calves standing or lying on it;
	• suitable for the size and weight of the calves;
	• rigid;
	• even; and
	• stable.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Flooring is found to be any one or more of:	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
		or	
• not smooth;		High	
• slippery;			
<ul> <li>not designed to prevent injury or suffering</li> </ul>			
to calves when standing or lying on it;			
<ul> <li>unsuitable for size and weight of calves;</li> </ul>			
• uneven/unstable;			
wholly slatted.			

A9 You must keep all housed calves on, or at all times give them access to, a lying area that is clean, comfortable, well-drained and has dry bedding.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Calf does not have access to a lying area	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
which is clean, comfortable and/or well-		or	
drained and which does not adversely affect		High	
it.		_	

A10	You must give all calves appropriate bedding.	
-----	---	--

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Insufficient/inappropriate or no bedding for	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
all calves.		or	
		High	

You must for calves kept in an artificially lit building, provide artificial lighting for a period that is at least equal to the period of natural light normally available between 9am and 5pm.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Inspector observation and/or farmer	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable
admission that artificial light provided			
between 9am and 5pm for housed animals			
is not equivalent to natural light during this			
time.			

A12 You must clean and disinfect housing and equipment used for your calves; remove dung, urine and left-over food as often as necessary to reduce smells and avoid attracting flies or rodents.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Evidence that cleaning and disinfection procedures are inadequate.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent
Evidence that faeces, urine and uneaten or spilt food has not been removed frequently enough to avoid attracting flies or rodents.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent

A13	You must feed all weaned calves at least twice a day.
-----	---

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Calves are fed less than twice per day (if not fed adlibitum).	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent

# You must ensure that when feeding group-housed calves each calf either: has access to feed at the same time as the others in the feeding group; or has continuous access to feed; or is fed by an automatic feeding system.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
For feeding systems that are not adlib, or	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
where animals are not fed by an automati	c	or	
feeding system feeding individually, calve	s	High	
are not able to access the feed at the sam	ne		
time as others in the feeding group.			

A15 You must give your calves fresh drinking water at all times in hot weather conditions or when they are ill

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Sick calves do not have continuous access to water. This requirement is additional to the general requirement to provide animals with suitable and adequate water in SMR 13 Animal Welfare.	On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable or Permanent
In hot weather calves do not have continuous access to water. This requirement is additional to the general requirement to provide animals with water in SMR 13 Animal Welfare.	On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable or Permanent

A16 You must give all calves food that contains enough iron.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Clinical anaemia in calves, associated with blood haemoglobin level less than 4.5 mmol/l.	On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable or Permanent

A17 You must provide the specified minimum daily ration of fibrous food for each calf over 2 weeks old.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Evidence of no or insufficient fibrous food provision (less than 100g per day per calf at 2 weeks to less than 250g per day per calf at 20 weeks).	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent
Diet present during inspection not suitable for calves.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent

A18 You must ensure that each calf receives bovine colostrum as soon as possible after it is born and within the first 6 hours of life.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Stock-keeper does not ensure that calves	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
receive bovine colostrum within 6 hours of		or	
birth.		High	

# SMR 12: Animal Welfare (Pigs)

The aim of these requirements is to protect the welfare of pigs by setting minimum standards for their care and husbandry. If you keep pigs, they apply to you in addition to the requirements for the welfare of all farmed animals (SMR 13: General Animal Welfare).

**Inspector note**: Where breaches are referred to as "rectifiable or permanent" this is dependent on the individual circumstances of the breach for the animal(s) concerned. If welfare for individual animals can be improved, then this should be regarded as rectifiable where the animal's pain and distress caused cannot be reduced e.g. injury is permanent or animal has to be euthanised then this must be regarded as permanent.

Severity will be assessed in the following way:

Medium: evidence of breach but where this has not caused unnecessary pain, distress or injury to animal(s).

High: where there is unnecessary pain, injury, suffering or distress to animal(s).

A1 You must ensure that each of your pigs is free to turn around without difficulty at all times.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Not all pigs can turn around without difficulty	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
at all times. If this breach is observed, it is		or	
likely to be because of inadequate tethering		High	
arrangements or accommodation – these		_	
breaches are detailed below.			

Λ2	You must not tether pigs at any time
A2	You must not tether pigs at any time

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Pig tethered unnecessarily (i.e. not tethered	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
for imminent or recent examination,		or	
treatment, operation). The farmer will not		High	
break this requirement relating to the			
tethering of pigs if it is for veterinary			
purposes. In this case any tether must be			
regularly inspected and adjusted to ensure			
that it does not cause pain or injury to the			
pig and allows it to lie down, rest, stand up			
and groom itself.			
Tether prevents pig from lying down, resting,	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
standing up and grooming itself without		or	
hindrance.		High	
Tether has caused pain or injury to pig.	On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable or Permanent

A3	You must ensure that the accommodation for your pigs allows them to:
	<ul> <li>stand up, lie down and rest without difficulty;</li> <li>have a clean, comfortable and adequately drained place in which to rest (including making sure that any bedding is clean, dry</li> </ul>
	and not harmful to the pigs); • see other pigs (unless the pig is isolated for veterinary reasons or for farrowing);
	• maintain a comfortable temperature, including the requirement that you must not keep pigs in the high; temperature/high
	humidity environment known as the 'sweat box system';
	have enough space to allow all of them to lie down at the same time.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Pig(s) unable to stand up and/or lie down	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
and/or rest without difficulty.		Or	
Pig(s) do not have a clean, and/or physically comfortable and/or adequately drained lying area to rest, or that bedding is not suitable/maintained to avoid harm/discomfort.	On-farm effect	High Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent
Pig(s) are unable to see other pigs (unless the pig is isolated for farrowing or for veterinary reasons).	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent
Pig(s) cannot maintain a comfortable temperature; including the use of accommodation defined as the sweat box system).	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent
Insufficient space for all pigs to lie down at the same time.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent

A4 You must ensure that individual stalls or pens satisfy the minimum size requirements (these do not apply in certain excepted situations).

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Internal area of stall/pen is less than the square of the length of the pig; any internal side is less than 75% of the length of the pig. The length of a pig is measured from the tip of its snout to the base of its tail while it is standing with its back straight.  Important: the following circumstances are permitted exceptions and are NOT classed as a breach of requirements for the size of an individual pen:  • Those used for holding a female pig for the period between seven days before the predicted day of her farrowing and the day on which her piglets are weaned (including any piglets fostered by her);  • When keeping a pig in a stall or pen: - for veterinary purposes  - for the purposes of servicing, artificial insemination or collecting semen  - while it is fed - for the purposes of marking, washing or weighing it  - while its accommodation is being cleaned  - while it is waiting to be loaded for transportation.  However, the period the pig is kept in this accommodation must not be longer than needed for that purpose.  The requirements for a minimum size of stall	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent

or pen also do not apply if it is referring to a stall or pen that the pig can enter or leave		
when it wants. In this case the stall must be		
entered from another stall or pen where the pig is normally kept, and which does comply		
by the minimum standards.		

A5 You must provide flooring, for those pigs kept in buildings, that is: smooth but not slippery; suitable for the size and weight of the pigs; rigid, even; and stable, if there is no litter; designed, constructed and maintained so there is no injury or suffering to the pigs standing or lying on it.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Flooring is found to be one or more of:	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
		or	
• not smooth;		High	
• slippery;			
<ul> <li>not suitable for size and weight of pigs;</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>uneven/unstable (when no litter has been</li> </ul>			
provided);			
<ul> <li>not designed, constructed or maintained to</li> </ul>			
prevent			
<ul> <li>injury or suffering to pigs when standing or</li> </ul>			
lying on it.			

A6 You must provide flooring of the correct measurements (for openings and slats) if you use concrete slatted floors. This applies for pigs kept in groups and if your holding has been newly built, rebuilt or brought into use for the first time after 1 January 2003 the following rules also apply (these rules apply to all holdings from 1 January 2013).

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Openings are too wide between slats for	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
category of pig. This flooring requirement	or	or	
applies only if the holding was newly built,	Off-farm effect	High	
rebuilt or brought into use for the first time			
after 1 January 2003. (It applies to all			

holdings from 1 January 2013).			
Slat width too small for category of pig. This	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
flooring requirement applies only if the		or	
holding was newly built, rebuilt or brought		High	
into use for the first time after 1 January			
2003. (It applies to all holdings from 1			
January 2013).			

A7 You must provide artificial lighting of at least 40 lux for at least 8 hours each day, for pigs kept in an artificially lit building.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Pigs exposed to light of less than 40 lux in	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable
buildings where pigs are dependent on			
artificial lighting.			
Pigs exposed to less than 8 hours of light in	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable
buildings where pigs are dependent on			
artificial lighting.			

A8 You must not expose your pigs to constant or sudden noise, or levels above 85 decibels in any building where you keep your pigs.

Descri	iption of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Expos	ure of pigs to continuous levels of 85	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable
decibe	els and above.			
Expos	ure of pigs to continuous or sudden	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable
loud no	oises that could be reasonably			
avoide	d or minimised.			

A9	You must give permanent access to enough manipulable material which allows proper investigation and manipulation, for
	example, straw, hay, wood, sawdust, mushroom compost, peat or a mixture of such, which does not upset the health of your
	animals.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
No or insufficient manipulat	ole material On-farm ef	fect Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
available to enable proper i	nvestigation and	or	
manipulation activities.	_	High	
Material provided which cor	npromises pig On-farm eff	fect Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
health.		or	
		High	

A10 You must take measures to prevent fighting which goes beyond normal behaviour, if you keep your pigs together, keeping separate those pigs which show persistent aggression or are victims of that aggression.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Inadequate measures are taken to	minimise On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
aggression in groups of pigs.		or High	
Persistent aggressors, or their vict		Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
not isolated from the rest of the gro	oup.	or	
		High	

You must ensure that when feeding group-housed pigs each pig either: has access to feed at the same time as the others in the feeding group; has continuous access to feed; is fed by an automatic feeding system.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
For feeding systems that are not adlib, or	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable
where animals are not fed by an automatic			
feeding system feeding individually, pigs are			
not able to access the feed at the same time			
as others in the feeding group. There are			

specific requirements for sows and gilts		
detailed later.		

A12 You must give all pigs over 2 weeks old continuous access to a sufficient supply of fresh drinking water

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Pigs over 2 weeks old have not been given	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
continuous access to a sufficient supply of		or	
fresh water. This requirement is additional to		High	
the general requirement to provide animals			
with water in SMR 13 Animal Welfare.			

	Piglets
B1	You must provide piglets with a source of heat and a dry and comfortable lying area away from the sow where all of them can rest at the same time.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Piglets have not been provided with a	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
source of heat and a dry and comfortable		or	
lying area away from the sow where all of		High	
them can rest at the same time (where it is			
considered necessary in order to meet all			
accommodation requirements).			

B2 You must ensure that a part of the total floor where you keep the piglets is large enough to allow the animals to rest together at the same time and is solid, covered with a mat or littered with straw or any other suitable material.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
No or insufficient area for the piglets, which	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
is solid or covered with a mat or littered with		or	

stra	w or other suitable material that allows	High	
all p	piglets to lie together at the same time.		

B3 You must give the piglets enough space to be able to be suckled without difficulty if you use a farrowing crate.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Piglets do not have sufficient space to	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
suckle without difficulty.		or	
		High	

You must not wean piglets from the sow at an age of less than 28 days (unless there is a risk of adverse welfare or health of the dam or piglets). You will not be in breach of the requirement relating to the weaning of piglets if they are weaned up to 7 days earlier, provided that you move them into specialised housing which you empty and thoroughly clean and disinfect before you introduce a new group and which is separate from housing where you keep sows.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Piglets are weaned earlier than 28 days, where there is no reasonable justification based on sow and/or piglet health or welfare grounds AND where there is not appropriate specialised housing for early weaning of pigs.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent
Specialised accommodation is available for early weaned piglets, but the housings are not emptied and thoroughly cleansed and disinfected before introduction of a new group and/or the accommodation is not separated from housing where sows are kept.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent

	Sows and Gilts						
C1	You must treat pregnant gilts and sows against internal and external parasites, if necessary.						
	Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence			
	Sows and/or gilts have not, where necessary, been treated against external and internal parasites (unacceptable parasite burden).	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent			
C2	You must thoroughly clean pregnant sows and	You must thoroughly clean pregnant sows and gilts before they are placed in farrowing crates.					
	Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence			
	Evidence and/or farmer admission that sows	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable			
	and/or gilts are not cleaned prior to placement in farrowing crates.						
C3			the week before the exped	cted farrowing time (unless it is not			
C3	placement in farrowing crates.  You must give sows and gilts enough suitable		the week before the exped	eted farrowing time (unless it is not  Permanence			

material.

C4	You must keep sows and gilts in groups (except during the period between 7 days before the predicted day of farrowing and the
	day on which the weaning of piglets is complete). You will not be in breach of the requirement relating to keeping sows and gilts in
	groups if they are kept on holdings of fewer than 10 sows provided that the individual accommodation keeps to the general
	requirements for pig accommodation.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Sows and gilts housed singly other than	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
during the period 7 days prior to farrowing		or	
and the day on which the weaning of piglets		High	
is complete. On holdings of fewer than 10			
sows, sows and gilts may be kept			
individually as long as their accommodation			
keeps to the general requirements for pig			
accommodation.			

You must ensure that each female pig after service, when kept in groups, has its minimum allowance of unobstructed floor space, continuous solid floor and pens of correct dimensions. This applies to all holdings.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Insufficient unobstructed floor space for the gilts and/or sows after service.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent
Insufficient continuous floor area for the gilts and/or sows after service.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent
Pen length less than 2.8m (or less than 2.4m where there are less than 6 pigs).	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent

C6	You must provide an unobstructed area behind the sow or gilt during farrowing.					
	Borne to the confidence of	- 4	0	<b>P</b>		

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
No unobstructed area available behind	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
sow(s) or gilt(s) for the ease of natural or		or	
assisted farrowing.		High	

C7 You must provide some method of protecting the piglets, such as farrowing rails, if you keep sows loose in farrowing pens.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
When sows are kept loose in farrowing pens	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
there is no method of protecting the piglets		or	
(e.g. farrowing rails).		High	
		_	

C8 You must feed sows and gilts using a system that ensures each pig can get enough food even when other pigs are competing for food.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Sows and gilts kept in groups are not fed	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
using a system which ensures each		or	
individual can obtain sufficient food in the		High	
presence of competitors.			

C9	You must give all dry pregnant sows and gilts enough bulky or high-fibre food, as well as high-energy food, to satisfy their hunger
	and need to chew.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Dry pregnant sows or gilts are not provided	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
with a sufficient quantity of bulky or high		or	
fibre food.		High	
		_	

	Boars
D1	You must place and build boar pens to allow the boars to turn round and to hear, see and smell other pigs

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Boar unable to turn around in pen.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent
Boar unable to hear and/or see and/or smell other pigs.	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent

D2 You must provide clean resting areas in the boar pens and ensure that the lying area is dry and comfortable.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Boar pen does not contain clean resting	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
areas, and the lying area is not dry and		or	
comfortable.		High	
		_	

D3	You must ensure that each boar has its minimum allowance of unobstructed floor space.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Pen, which is not used for natural service, is less than 6m2.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent
Pen, which is also used for natural service, is less than 10m2.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent
Pen, which is also used for natural service, contains obstacles.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent

	Weaners and rearing pigs
E1	You must ensure that each weaner or rearing pig, when kept in groups, has its minimum allowance of unobstructed floor space.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Insufficient floor area for the weaners or	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
rearers assessed by inspector.		or	
		High	

E2	You must place pigs in groups as soon as possible after weaning and keep these groups stable with as little mixing as possible.

	Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
	Pigs mixed at inappropriate age or time, which does not prevent fighting that goes beyond normal behaviour.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent
E3	You must provide opportunities for the animals t done at as young an age as possible, preferably			sary. This must also be

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
When pigs are mixed, adequate	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
opportunities are not provided for pigs to		or	
escape and hide from other pigs.		High	

E4 You must not use tranquilising medication to help with mixing, unless there are exceptional circumstances and is on the advice of a vet.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Tranquillising medication has been used to	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
facilitate mixing where there are no		or	
exceptional conditions and without, or		High	
contrary to, consultation with veterinary			
surgeon.			

#### **SMR 13: Animal Welfare (General)**

The aim of these requirements is to protect the welfare of farmed animals by setting minimum standards for their care and husbandry. They apply to you if you keep any species for farming purposes.

**Inspector note:** Where breaches are referred to as "rectifiable or permanent" this is dependent on the individual circumstances of the breach for the animal(s) concerned. If welfare for individual animals can be improved, then this should be regarded as rectifiable where the animal's pain and distress caused cannot be reduced e.g. injury is permanent or animal has to be euthanized then this must be regarded as permanent.

Severity will be assessed in the following way:

Medium: evidence of breach but where this has not caused unnecessary pain, distress or injury to animal(s).

High: where there is unnecessary pain, injury, suffering or distress to animal(s).

A1 You must ensure that your animals are looked after by enough staff who have the correct skills and knowledge.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Number of staff available insufficient to	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
prevent welfare problems occurring.		or	
		High	
Evidence that stockperson demonstrates	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
lack of professional competence and/or		or	
ability in livestock care, which is not covered		High	
by any other specific criteria listed in the			
schedule.			
For example:			
1) Where any animals (other than poultry)			
are kept in a building and do not have			
access at all times to, a lying area which			
either has well maintained dry bedding or is			
well-drained;			
2) Where animals are kept in a building			

where the maintenance of bedding etc. restricts their freedom of movement but unnecessary suffering has not been caused. Where unnecessary suffering is disclosed in example 2 the breach should be recorded under B1 (freedom of movement).							
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

A2 You must inspect your animals thoroughly at least once a day if your husbandry system depends on frequent human attention and in other systems as often as necessary to avoid suffering.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Livestock have not been inspected to the	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
required frequency. There are specific		or	
requirements relating to calves in SMR 11		High	
Welfare of calves (requirement A1).		_	

A3 You must ensure that you have enough lighting so that you can carry out a thorough inspection at any time.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
There is insufficient lighting to undertake	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
inspection of animals. No or inadequate		or	
fixed or portable lighting available to enable		High	
thorough inspection of animals.		_	

A4 You must ensure that you care for ill or injured animals immediately, and if they do not respond to this care then seek veterinary advice.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Animals have not been suitably cared for	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
including where necessary getting veterinary	or	or	
advice. There has been an unacceptable	Off-farm effect	High	
delay in the care of the sick animal (this may		_	
relate to the inspector's subjective			
assessment of how frequently such animals			

should be inspected. Stockperson has failed		
to seek veterinary advice if inspector		
believes that any competent stockperson		
would have done so.		

A5 You must isolate sick or injured animals in suitable accommodation with dry comfortable bedding if necessary.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Animal not isolated when, in the inspector's opinion on the day of inspection, the animal required isolation in suitable accommodation with, where appropriate, dry comfortable bedding.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent
Isolation facilities are not suitable (taking into account sick animals' injury/illness).	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent

A6 You must make a record and make these records available to any authorised person at inspection (or when otherwise asked for) of any medicinal treatment given to your animals and keep these records for at least 3 years from the date of the treatment.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Medicine records are incomplete/inaccurate	On-farm effect	Low	Rectifiable or Permanent
and or not available for previous 3 years or			
not presented on demand. The farmer will			
be in breach if one or more of the following			
points relating to medicine records are			
found:			
<ul> <li>no records are kept or are not made</li> </ul>			
available to the inspector at the time of			
inspection;			
<ul> <li>records kept but are inaccurate or missing</li> </ul>			
information;			

SFS Regulatory Baseline Verifiable Standards 2026 Version 1.0

records have not been kept for the required	
period of time from the date of treatment.	
Records for medicines are kept but do not	
agree with products/veterinary	
invoices/animals undergoing treatment	
found on farm at the time of inspection are	
inadequate or incorrect.	

You must make a record, and make these records available to any authorised person at inspection (or when otherwise asked for) of the number of deaths found when the animals are inspected, and keep these records for at least 3 years from the date of the relevant inspection.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Mortality records are incomplete/inaccurate	On-farm effect	Low	Rectifiable or Permanent
and or not available for previous 3 years or			
not presented on demand. The farmer will			
be in breach if one or more of the following			
points relating to mortality records are found:			
no records are kept or are not made			
available to the inspector at the time of			
inspection;			
<ul> <li>records kept but are inaccurate or missing</li> </ul>			
information;			
<ul> <li>records of the number of deaths have not</li> </ul>			
been kept for the required period of time			
from the date of the relevant inspection.			
Records for mortality are not kept/kept but			
do not agree with evidence found on farm			
e.g. carcasses and/or relevant database			
information.			

A8 You must not restrict your animals' freedom of movement if this causes them unnecessary suffering or injury.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Animal(s) caused unnecessary sufferin	g or On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable or Permanent
injury due to restricted freedom of		_	
movement.			
Note: Where animals are kept in a build	ding		
where the maintenance of bedding etc.			
restricts their freedom of movement but	t		
unnecessary suffering has not been ca	used		
the breach should be recorded under A			

A9 You must give your animals enough space to avoid unnecessary stress if they are continuously or regularly tethered or confined and also allow them to exhibit their normal behaviour in line with established experience and scientific knowledge.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Animal(s) caused unnecessary suffering or	On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable or Permanent
injury by method of tethering or confinement.			
There are specific tethering requirements			
relating to calves in SMR 11 Welfare of			
calves and pigs in SMR 12 Welfare of Pigs.			

A10 You must not use materials and/or equipment for accommodation purposes that is harmful to your animals.

Extent	Severity	Permanence
On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
	or	
	High	
-		On-farm effect Medium or

Description of bre	ach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Material used mear	s that accommodation is	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
not capable of being	g thoroughly cleaned and		or	
disinfected.			High	

## A12 You must build and maintain accommodation so that there are no sharp edges or protrusions which could injure your animals.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Sharp edges or protrusions in	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
accommodation or fittings likely to cause		or	
injury.		High	
		-	

# A13 You must keep air circulation, dust levels, temperature, relative air humidity and gas concentrations within limits that will not harm your animals.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Air circulation, dust levels, temperature,	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
relative air humidity or gas concentrations		or	
either singly or in combination are harmful to		High	
the animals.			

## A14 You must provide artificial lighting if there is not sufficient natural light in a building.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
No supplementary lighting provided when	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable
natural light provided is insufficient to meet			
the physiological and ethological needs of			
animals.			ļ

A15 You must not keep animals in permanent darkness or without an appropriate rest from artificial lighting.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Animals kept in permanent darkn	ess. There On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable
are specific requirements relating	to calves		
in SMR 11 Welfare of calves and	pigs in		
SMR 12 Welfare of Pigs.			
Animals kept without appropriate	rest from <b>On-farm effect</b>	High	Rectifiable
artificial lighting requirements rela	ting to		
calves in SMR 11 Welfare of calv	es and pigs		
in SMR 12 Welfare of Pigs.			

You must give your animals that are not kept in buildings access to a well-drained lying area at all times and, if necessary, protection from adverse weather conditions, predators and risks to their health.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Evidence of no well drained lying area for stock that are not kept in buildings.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent
Lack of protection from adverse weather conditions, predators and/or other risks to health.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent

A17	You must check automated/mechanical equipment that is essential for the health and well-being of your animals at least once a
	day and put right any faults immediately (or take appropriate steps to protect the health and well-being of your animals until you
	can get the fault put right).

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Automated and/or mechanical equipment essential to animal health and well-being is not inspected at least once a day.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent
Defects are found in automated or mechanical equipment essential for health and well-being and farmer has not taken appropriate action.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent

You must provide an appropriate back-up to the main system if your animals' health and well-being depends upon artificial ventilation and an alarm to warn you if the ventilation system fails. Inspect and test these at least once every 7 days.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Lack of appropriate back-up system and/or	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
alarm system.		or	
		High	
Lack of evidence and response from	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
stockperson indicates that back-up system		or	
and/or alarm system is not inspected at least		High	
every 7 days.			
Backup system and/or alarm system is	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
present but fails to operate when inspector		or	
requests demonstration at time of inspection		High	
(i.e. there are faults in the system(s).			

You must feed your animals a wholesome diet, ensuring that they have access to feed at intervals appropriate to their needs (and, in any case, at least once a day).

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Feed that is available is not wholesome and/or is inappropriate for the age and	On-farm effect	<b>Medium</b> or	Rectifiable or Permanent
species of livestock inspected.		High	
Feed has failed to maintain good health and satisfy nutritional needs.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent
Animals are being fed less frequently than once per day and/or not as appropriate to their physiological needs, and this is not because of veterinary advice. There are specific requirements relating to calves in SMR 11 Welfare of Calves.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Rectifiable or Permanent

A20 You must give all animals access to a suitable water supply and enough fresh drinking water or other fluid each day.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Insufficient or no water supply (or other	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
suitable means) such that animals cannot		or	
meet their fluid intake needs.		High	

A21	ou must not give your animals food or liquid in any way, or containing any substance, that could cause them unnecessary	harm

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Provision of feed and/or liquid that may	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
cause unnecessary suffering or injury.		or	
		High	

# A22 You must minimise any contamination of food and water and the harmful effects of competition between animals through the design and location of feeding and watering equipment.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Contamination of feed and/or water due to	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
design, construction or location of		or	
equipment.		High	
Direct observation of harmful/excessive	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
competition between animals for feed and/o	r	or	
water resource.		High	

## A23 You must not administer any substance that is harmful to your animals, except those given on advice of a vet.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Use of unlicensed treatment administered	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
in/onto animal.		or	
		High	
Use of treatment that is not an accepted	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
therapy for that condition in that species.		or	
		High	

A24 You must not carry out any mutilation or intervention on your animals, unless the action is classed as a 'permitted procedure' (Many of these have conditions attached, including the need to be reasonably justified and be a measure of 'last resort').

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Mutilation that is not listed as a permitted procedure has been carried out on farmed animal. This will be treated an <b>intentional</b> breach.	On-farm effect	High	Permanent
Permitted procedure has been carried out but not by a veterinary surgeon or an experienced/adequately trained person over the age of 18 as required by law. For example, this may include short tail docking of sheep where no unnecessary suffering has resulted.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Permanent
Permitted procedure which has specific requirements attached to it has been carried out without those specific requirements e.g.  • Need for anaesthetic  • Age at which procedure is permitted  • Method used to carry out the procedure  • Absolute requirement for veterinary surgeon to carry out procedure  • That procedure should be a last resort  • Procedure carried out at appropriate stage of breeding cycle Unlawful permitted procedures may be intentional breaches.	On-farm effect	Medium or High	Permanent

A25	You must not carry ou	ut breeding procedures	(either natural or artificial	) that cause, or are likely	y to cause, harm to your animals.
			\	,	,,

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Inappropriate breeding has taken place	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
which is likely to cause or has caused		or	
suffering or injury.		High	

A26 You must not keep animals for farming purposes unless it can be reasonably expected that the normal breed characteristics (genetic and physical) means that they can be kept without harm to their health and welfare.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Animals kept for farming purposes whose	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
genotype or phenotype is likely to have a		or	
detrimental effect on their health or welfare.		High	

# SMR 14: Statutory Public Access (includes PRoW and open access land)

The aim of these requirements is to is to ensure compliance with the legislation relating to Public Rights of Way (PRoW) and open access land, to ensure the network is open, accessible, and safe for public use.

A1 You must meet your legal responsibilities regarding the public rights of way on your land.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
Evidence that legal requirements relating to public rights of way have not been complied with:  This can include  Obstruction of PRoW from overhanging trees and vegetation  Not maintaining structures such as gates and stiles across footpaths, bridleways or restricted byways  Not reinstating PRoWs after	On-farm effect	Low	Rectifiable or Permanent
ploughing			

You must allow access on foot across all land identified as open access land on the maps prepared under the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act, 2000. <a href="Open Access">Open Access - Open Country | DataMapWales</a>, Open Access - Other Statutory Access Land | DataMapWales, Open Access - Other Dedicated Land | DataMapWales.

De	escription of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
		On-farm effect	Low	Rectifiable or
	and identified as open country on the maps			Permanent
pr	repared under the Countryside and Rights			
of	f Way (CRoW) Act, 2000.			

## **SMR 15: Invasive Non-native Species**

The aim of these requirements is to protect farmland from the spread of invasive non-native species (INNS) in accordance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and Invasive Alien Species (Enforcement and Permitting Order) 2019.

A1 Do not cause any new or existing invasive non-native plant species to spread into, or within, or from any area on your land.

The following is a non-exhaustive list of the species most likely to be found on farmland in Wales,

1) Listed under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981: Japanese knotweed, Cotoneaster (all species), Montbretia, Variegated yellow archangel, Rhododendron (and hybrids), Japanese rose, Hottentot fig, Australian swamp stonecrop, Waterweed, Water fern.

Or

2) Subject to the requirements of the Invasive Alien Species (Enforcement and Permitting) Order 2019: Himalayan balsam, Giant hogweed, American skunk cabbage, Chilean rhubarb, Floating pennywort, Parrots feather, Curly waterweed, Nuttall's waterweed.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
New or existing invasive non-native plant species have been caused to spread into, or within, or from any area of your land.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent

# **GAEC 2: Water – Use of Water for Irrigation**

The aim of these standards is to manage the use of water, through controlling water abstraction used for irrigation by licensed abstraction. An abstraction licence issued by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) is required if you abstract more than 20m3 of water per day from inland water (such as a river or a stream) or an underground source (such as a well or a borehole) for irrigation purposes.

You must not have abstracted water for the purposes of irrigation without a licence, where such a licence was required. If you hold a water abstraction licence for irrigation purposes, you must comply with the conditions within the licence.

	Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
2.1	The farmer has failed to comply with the	On-farm effect	Minimum/Very Low: for failing to	Rectifiable or Permanent
	conditions of an Abstraction Licence or failed	or	submit a record of the volumes of	
	to comply with a water abstraction direction.	Off-farm effect	water abstracted under the	
			licence.	
			Low: relates to Natural	
			Resources Wales category 3 or	
			4.	
			Medium: relates to Natural	
			Resources Wales category 2.	
			High: relates to Natural	
			Resources Wales category 1.	

If you do not hold a water abstraction licence for irrigation purposes.
 You must: contact Natural Resources Wales at the earliest opportunity if you start abstracting more than 20m3 of water each day for irrigation purposes or change an existing abstraction licence to authorise irrigation.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has abstracted more than twenty	On-farm effect	Very Low: relates to Natural	Permanent
cubic metres of water each day from a	or	Resources Wales category 3 or	
source of supply for irrigation without holding	Off-farm effect	4.	
an appropriate abstraction licence		Medium: relates to Natural	
or contacting NRW to seek and obtain a		Resources Wales category 2.	

change to an existing licence to authorise irrigation.	High: relates to Natural Resources Wales category 1.	

#### **GAEC 3: Water – Groundwater**

The aim of these standards is to protect groundwater by controlling the discharge of potentially harmful and polluting materials. For the purposes of SFS, 'Groundwater' means all water below the surface of the ground that is in the saturation zone (that is, below the water table) and in direct contact with the land or subsoil.

In this standard, a 'permit' constitutes a permit issued by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2010.

The identification of hazardous substances is the responsibility of NRW on the recommendation of the Joint Agencies Groundwater Directive Advisory Group (JAGDAG). As the list can be updated at any time, it is advised to visit the NRW website to view the latest applicable list of hazardous substances. Certain exclusions from the requirement to hold a permit can apply. These may include accidental and exceptional circumstances (for example pollution resulting from extreme weather events outside of normal bounds of prediction), discharges of pollutants at small quantities and concentrations (for example discharges of disinfectant footbaths for human use) and for certain disinfectant footbaths for animal use.

3.1 You must obtain a permit from Natural Resources Wales before carrying out/ causing or knowingly permitting the discharge of any hazardous substances (for example sheep dip, pesticides, solvents, mineral oil and diesel).

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has failed to obtain a permit from Natural Resources Wales before carrying out, causing or knowingly permitting the discharge of any hazardous substance(s).	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Medium: generally, applies to unauthorised pesticide washings disposals.  High: generally, applies to unauthorised sheep dip disposals.	Rectifiable or Permanent

You must obtain a permit from Natural Resources Wales before carrying out, causing or knowingly permitting the discharge of any non-hazardous pollutants (for example sewage, trade effluent, certain biocides).

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has failed to obtain a permit from	On-farm effect	Low: generally, applies to Low	Rectifiable or Permanent
Natural Resources Wales before carrying	or	Groundwater Vulnerability Areas.	
out, causing or knowingly permitting the	Off-farm effect	For Intermediate Groundwater	
discharge of any non-hazardous pollutant(s).		Vulnerability Areas, the	
		presumption is Low unless depth	
		to groundwater is shallow and the	
		frequency/ volume of discharge is	
		significant.	
		Medium: generally, applies to	
		High Groundwater Vulnerability	
		Areas where receptors are	
		present, and where depth to	
		groundwater is shallow or the	
		frequency/ volume of discharge is	
		significant.	

3.3 You must comply with the conditions of any permit issued by Natural Resources Wales for the protection of groundwater.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has failed to comply with the conditions of any environmental permit (for a groundwater activity) issued in relation to the protection of groundwater.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Low: relates to Natural Resources Wales category 3 or 4 – minimal or no impact. Medium: relates to Natural Resources Wales category 2 – significant impact. High: relates to Natural Resources Wales category 1 – serious impact. Categories for severity relate to Compliance Classification Scheme (CCS).	Rectifiable or Permanent

3.4 You must comply with the conditions of a groundwater activity notice, or any other enforcement notice, issued by Natural Resources Wales for the protection of groundwater.

Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
The farmer has failed to comply with the conditions of any groundwater activity notice or other enforcement notice issued in relation to the protection of groundwater. Failure to comply with a notice issued in relation to a groundwater activity will usually be regarded as intentional but may depend on the nature of the failure; e.g. recipient has tried to comply but has not fully complied with the notice.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Medium: in Low Groundwater Vulnerability Areas where actual pollution of groundwater cannot be established i.e. CICS Cat 4 – no impact. High: where actual pollution of groundwater can be established, as defined by CICS Cat 1, Cat 2 or Cat 3 – minimal, significant or serious impact or High or Intermediate Groundwater Vulnerability Areas, where actual pollution of groundwater cannot be established.	Permanent  Permanent
		9	

## **GAEC 6: Soil and Carbon Stock – maintenance of organic matter**

#### Burning of crop residues:

In these standards, 'crop residue' means straw or stubble or any other crop residue remaining on the land after harvesting of the crop grown on that land. There is a prohibition on burning the following crop residues:

- Cereal straw;
- · Cereal stubble; and
- Residues of oil-seed rape, field beans harvested dry, and peas harvested dry. There are restrictions on burning any linseed residues.

You must not burn any of these crop residues unless the burning is for:

- Education or research, where permission has been granted by Welsh Government;
- Disease control or the elimination of plant pests where a notice has been served under the Plant Health (Great Britain) Order 1993; The disposal of straw stack remains or broken bales, where permission has been granted by Welsh Government.

	Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
6.1	Burning, that contravenes these rules (other	On-farm effect	Low: evidence of burning on land	Rectifiable or Permanent
	than accidental or caused by arson), has	or	up to and including 1ha.	
	been carried out.	Off-farm effect	Medium: evidence of burning on	
			land which is more than 1ha in	
			size but no greater than 5ha of	
			land.	
			High: evidence of burning on	
			land which is greater than 5ha in	
			size.	

## Heather and grass burning:

These rules reinforce the Heather and Grass Burning (Wales) etc. Regulations 2008 (as amended). If you are compliant with the Regulations, you will already be meeting the requirements. You must not burn heather, rough grass, bracken, gorse or vaccinium in breach of the Regulations. Burning within SSSIs will normally require the written consent of Natural Resources Wales.

Burning should take place only on or between the following dates:

- 1 November 15 March in all areas
- 1 October 31 March in Uplands

#### Main requirements:

- Complete all burning within the permitted period;
- Comply with national legal requirements and restrictions together with local by laws;
- Ensure a burning management plan has been prepared and that any proposed burning is done in accordance with the provisions of that plan;
- Ensure sufficient persons or equipment to control and regulate the burning are in place during the entire period of the burn;
- Prior to commencing the burn, and during the entire period of the operation, ensure all reasonable precautions are made to prevent injury or damage to any adjacent property;
- Do not create hazards to road users and the public.

You must not burn heather, rough grass, bracken, gorse and vaccinium (for example, bilberry, cowberry, and cloudberry) outside the burning seasons.

	Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
6.2	Burning has been carried out on land within closed periods.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Low: evidence of burning on land up to and including 1ha.  Medium: evidence of burning on land which is more than 1ha in size but no greater than 5ha of land.  High: evidence of burning on	
			land which is greater than 5ha in size.	

You must ensure that a burning management plan has been prepared and that any proposed burning is done in accordance with the provisions of that plan.

	Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
6.3	Burning carried out without or not in accordance with a suitable Burning Management plan.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Low: evidence of burning on land up to and including 1ha.  Medium: evidence of burning on land which is more than 1ha in size but no greater than 5ha of land.  High: evidence of burning on land which is greater than 5ha in size.	Rectifiable or Permanent

#### **Environmental Impact Assessment:**

1. Environmental Impact Assessment (Agriculture) Regulations

This standard reinforces The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) (Agriculture) (Wales) Regulations 2017 (as amended or replaced), which control the agricultural intensification of semi-natural areas and the restructure of rural land holdings or areas of agricultural land.

#### **Semi Natural Land**

If you intend to carry out an agricultural intensification project on any semi natural land, you must apply for and receive a Screening Decision from the Welsh Government (WG) before you proceed.

- 'Semi Natural land' is any area containing less than 25% of improved agricultural species (e.g. Perennial Ryegrass and/or White Clover)
- An 'Agricultural Intensification Project' is any farming operation undertaken to increase the agricultural productivity from semi natural land that significantly changes:
- the way the land is farmed so that it is used more intensively
- the species composition of the surface vegetation over the longer term

#### **Examples of projects include:**

- Cultivations (e.g. ploughing, rotovating, harrowing, discing etc)
- Reseeding (e.g. broadcasting, direct drilling, overseeding etc)
- Clearing scrub or other vegetation in preparation for reseeding
- New drainage works (e.g. pipe drains, open ditches, mole drainage)
- Herbicide application in preparation for re-seeding

#### You must not:

- Begin or carry out an agricultural intensification project on semi natural land unless you have received a screening decision from the Welsh Government permitting the project to proceed.
- Begin or continue the project if you have received a screening decision that the project is likely to have significant environmental effects, unless you have applied for and received EIA Consent permitting the project to proceed.
- Carry out any other projects not authorized in the Consent or breach any requirements or conditions of the Consent.
- Breach a Stop and/or Remediation Notice, or any requirement of the Notice that has been served under the Regulations.

### **Rural Restructuring**

Rural Restructuring Projects are any large-scale physical operations which give significantly different physical structure to one or more agricultural land holdings or areas of agricultural land. This part of the Regulations applies to all types of land (including improved grassland). If you intend to carry out a large-scale restructuring project you must apply for and receive a Screening Decision from the Welsh Government before you proceed.

A restructuring project is considered large scale if it is equal or exceeds one or more of the following thresholds:

- Changes to 4km or more of field boundaries/2km or more in a Sensitive Area\*
- Movements of 10,000m3 or more of earth or rock/5,000m3 or more in a Sensitive Area
- Restructuring an area of 100ha or more/50ha or more in a Sensitive Area
- \* A Sensitive Area is an area of land that has an environmental designation (e.g. National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty SSSI, SAC, SAM etc)

#### You must not:

- Begin or carry out a large-scale Rural Restructuring project unless you have received a screening decision from the Welsh Government permitting the project to proceed.
- Begin or carry out a rural restructuring project unless you have applied for and received EIA Consent permitting the project to proceed.
- Begin or continue the project if you have received a screening decision that the project is likely to have significant environmental effects, unless you have applied for and received EIA Consent permitting the project to proceed.
- Carry out any other projects not authorised in the Consent or breach any requirements or conditions of the Consent.
- Breach a Remediation and/or Stop Notice, or any requirement of the Notice that has been served under the Regulations.

#### 2 EIA (Forestry) Regulations

These rules reinforce The Environmental Impact Assessment (Forestry) (England and Wales) Regulations 1999. They apply to projects for afforestation, deforestation, forest road works and forest quarry works.

#### You must not:

- Begin or carry out a project unless you have obtained permission from Natural Resources Wales;
- Carry out any work outside the conditions set out in a consent given by Natural Resources Wales;
- Continue any work on a project if you have received an enforcement notice which requires you to discontinue work; or
- Fail to carry out any other work required by an enforcement notice.

	Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
6.4	The farmer has begun or carried out, a) an agricultural intensification land project on semi natural land, or b) a large scale rural restructuring project, without obtaining i) a screening decision, or ii) consent for the project; and/or in the case of obtaining either i) or ii), has not complied with their requirements, including failure to comply with a Stop Notice or Remediation Notice that has been served under the regulations.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Low: up to but not including 1ha of land where the farmer has carried out a project.  Medium: between 1ha and 5ha of land where the farmer has carried out a project.  High: more than 5ha of land where the farmer has carried out a project. or Failure to comply with a Stop/Remediation Notice or conditions of a consent Notice.	Rectifiable or Permanent

	Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
6.5	The farmer has begun or carried out an afforestation/ deforestation project, without obtaining i) a screening decision, or ii) consent for the project, and/or in the case of obtaining either i) or ii), has not complied with their requirements, including failure to comply with a Stop Notice or Remediation Notice that has been served under the regulations.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Low: up to but not including 1ha of land where the farmer has carried out a project.  Medium: between 1ha and 5ha of land where the farmer has carried out a project.  High: more than 5ha of land where the farmer has carried out a project. or Failure to comply with a Stop/Remediation Notice or	Rectifiable or Permanent
6.5	afforestation/ deforestation project, without obtaining i) a screening decision, or ii) consent for the project, and/or in the case of obtaining either i) or ii), has not complied with their requirements, including failure to comply with a Stop Notice or Remediation Notice that has been served under the	or	of land where the farmer has carried out a project.  Medium: between 1ha and 5ha of land where the farmer has carried out a project.  High: more than 5ha of land where the farmer has carried out a project. or  Failure to comply with a	

## **GAEC 7: Maintenance of Landscape Features (scheduled monuments, ditches and trees)**

You must not fill in any ditches on the holding.

	Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
7.1	The farmer has filled in a ditch on the holding. Note: Any culverting of a ditch or watercourse requires land drainage consent from Natural Resources Wales (under Section 23 of the Land Drainage Act 1991).	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Low: where lengths have been breached within one parcel.  Medium: where lengths have been breached within 2-6 parcels.  High: where lengths have been breached in more than 6 parcels.	Rectifiable or Permanent

This standard reinforces existing rules on scheduled monuments under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 1979 (as amended by the Historic Environment (Wales) Act, 2016).

It is your responsibility as the claimant to identify the location and extent of all scheduled monuments on your farm holding. You should have been notified of any such monuments when they were scheduled or when you took possession of the land, however, the location and extent of Scheduled Ancient Monuments can be found on Cof Cymru. If you are unsure, you should contact CADW.

The rules are as follows:

- Unless you have been authorised to do so by CADW, you must not carry out any of the following operations:
  - i) any operations resulting in the demolition or destruction of, and or damage to, a scheduled monument;
  - ii) any operations for the purpose of removing or repairing a scheduled monument (or any part of one);
  - iii) any operation making alterations or additions to a scheduled monument (or any part of one); or
  - iv) any flooding or tipping operations on land in, on or under which there is a scheduled monument.
- Where you have been authorised to carry out an operation, you must comply with any conditions attached to the authorisation.

You will not be penalised for breaching the rules above if you can prove that:

- In the case of (i), you took all reasonable precautions, and exercised all due diligence, to prevent any damage to the monument;
- In the case of (i) and (iv), you did not know, and you had no reason to believe, that the monument was in an area affected by the works, or that the monument was scheduled. For all the above rules, the works were urgently necessary in the interests of health and safety, and you had given notice of the need for works as soon as you reasonably could.

	Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
7.2	A scheduled monument has been damaged,	On-farm effect	Low: damage caused but does	Rectifiable or Permanent
	demolished or destroyed.	or	not affect integrity of feature and	
		Off-farm effect	can be rectified.	
			Medium: permanent Damage	
			caused but does not affect	
			integrity of feature.	
			High: damage affected the	
			integrity of the feature.	

	Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
7.3	A farmer has carried out work/operations on a scheduled monument without the necessary authorisation or failed to comply with conditions attached to any authorisation.  This includes any of the following operations:	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	Low: no damage.  Medium: damage does not affect integrity of feature.  High: damage affected the integrity of the feature.	Rectifiable or Permanent
	i)any operations for the purpose of removing or repairing a scheduled monument; ii)any operation making alterations or additions to a scheduled monument; iii)any flooding or tipping operations on land in, on or under a scheduled monument; or iv)any other unauthorised operation.			

## Felling of trees:

The applicant must not have felled a tree without a licence, where such a licence was required. They must not have failed to comply with a restocking notice or other conditions or directions served under the Forestry Act, unless as a result of a lawful reason.

	Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
7.4	The farmer has felled a licensable tree or	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
	trees without the necessary Felling Licence.	or	High: cases of rare species or	
		Off-farm effect	ancient woodland.	

	Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
7.5	The farmer has failed to comply with the	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable or Permanent
	conditions of a Felling Licence or failure to	or	High: cases of rare species or	
	comply with a felling direction.	Off-farm effect	ancient woodland.	

Tree Preservation Orders. The applicant must not have breached any Tree Preservation Order (TPO). Must not cut down, wilfully damage or destroy, uproot, top or lop a tree protected by a TPO without the consent of the local planning authority.

	Description of breach	Extent	Severity	Permanence
7.6	The farmer has cut down or is destroying a tree covered by a Tree Preservation Order.	On-farm effect or Off-farm effect	High	Permanent
7.7	The farmer has failed to replace a protected tree as a condition of permission to fell a protected tree.	On-farm effect	Medium	Rectifiable

7.8	The farmer has failed to replant following a	On-farm effect	High	Rectifiable
	breach of an Order.			