

BVA food procurement policy

The veterinary profession's first responsibility is to advocate for the best interests of animals and ensure as many animals as possible have a good life and a humane death.

We recognise the importance of markets, informed and concerned consumers, and socially responsible retailers and caterers in creating demand and financial viability for higher standards of animal welfare in food production.

We also recognise good animal welfare as an essential element and objective of sustainable development.

We support these principles through the following procurement commitments:

Animal welfare

- Eggs – British *and* free range (RSPCA Assured whenever possible)
- Beef and lamb – British (Red Tractor)
- Chicken – British (Red Tractor) *and* free range *and/or* RSPCA Assured
- Pork and other meat from pigs – British (Red Tractor) *and* either free range, outdoor reared, or outdoor bred (all RSPCA Assured whenever possible).
- Farmed fish – British *and* RSPCA Assured
- Milk/dairy – British (Red Tractor; RSPCA Assured when available)

As well as assuring higher welfare standards during an animal's life, the principles above ensure that animals are stunned before slaughter, which is essential to ensure a humane death.

Sustainable harvest

- Fish (if not farmed) – Marine Stewardship Council assured

Other sustainability objectives

Food sourced in accordance with the following principles and assured by the following schemes is sought whenever possible:

- Seasonal and local
- Tea, coffee, sugar, chocolate, fruit – Rainforest Alliance or Fairtrade

We also minimise and recycle waste whenever possible.