

# The welfare of livestock on-farm: beyond the five freedoms



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# Five freedoms ([www.fawc.org.uk](http://www.fawc.org.uk))

- **Freedom from  
hunger and thirst**
- **Freedom from  
discomfort**
- **Freedom from  
pain, injury and disease**
- **Freedom to  
express normal behaviour**
- **Freedom from  
fear and distress**

# Five freedoms ([www.fawc.org.uk](http://www.fawc.org.uk))

## Outcomes

- **Freedom from hunger and thirst**
- **Freedom from discomfort**
- **Freedom from pain, injury and disease**
- **Freedom to express normal behaviour**
- **Freedom from fear and distress**

## Inputs

by ready access to water and a diet to maintain health and vigour

by providing an appropriate environment

by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment

by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and appropriate company of the animal's own kind

by ensuring conditions and treatment to avoid mental suffering

# Five freedoms ([www.fawc.org.uk](http://www.fawc.org.uk))

Outcomes



Inputs





**Farm Animal Welfare  
in Great Britain:  
Past, Present and Future**

October 2009

# Legal minimum standard of welfare – beyond the Five Freedoms

- Freedom from ...
- UK Animal Welfare Act 2006
  - duty to protect welfare by taking steps to ensure that the needs of an animal are met
- Positive aspects of welfare



Keeling, Uppsala:  
Reward, positive  
emotions and animal  
welfare

# Quality of life

Good welfare



**A good life**

**A life worth  
living**

**A life not  
worth living**



Poor welfare



# Quality of life

- All farm animals should have a life worth living and a growing number should have a good life
- Proposed legal minimum standard of welfare: a life worth living



# The welfare of livestock on-farm



# International action

- EU
  - Animal Welfare Action Plan

# EU Animal Welfare Action Plan 2006

1. Upgrading minimum standards
2. Researching the risks to raise awareness
3. and create a greater consensus on animal welfare, including engaging with developing countries to explore trade opportunities
4. Introducing standardised indicators
5. Continuing to support and initiate further based on welfare friendly production systems.

# International action

- EU
  - Animal Welfare Action Plan
- Intergovernmental organizations
  - International Finance Corporation

# International Finance Corporation

[www.ifc.org](http://www.ifc.org)

*Quick Note*

**Creating Business  
Opportunity  
through Improved  
Animal Welfare**



*Good Practice Note*

**Animal Welfare in  
Livestock  
Operations**



# International action

- EU
  - Animal Welfare Action Plan
- Intergovernmental organizations
  - International Finance Corporation
  - UN's Food & Agriculture Org.
    - Good Agricultural Practices
    - Capacity building
    - Information portal
  - OIE (World Animal Health Org.)
    - Animal welfare guidelines



Integrated  
assessment

Guidelines



# **FAWC recommendations for a legal minimum standard of welfare**

- Government as guardian of farm animal welfare
- Standards for minimum welfare and a good life defined by quality of life
- Stockmen educated and trained to high standard

# **FAWC recommendations for a legal minimum standard of welfare**

- Citizens educated about food and farming
- Animal products labelled according to welfare
- Welfare claims on farm and in food supply chain audited



# **The welfare of livestock on-farm: beyond the Five Freedoms**

- From cure to prevention
- From negative to positive
- From inputs to outcomes (and inputs)
- From design to performance

# Animal management

Animal neglect

negative effects

Animal care

positive effects

Climate change  
& sustainability

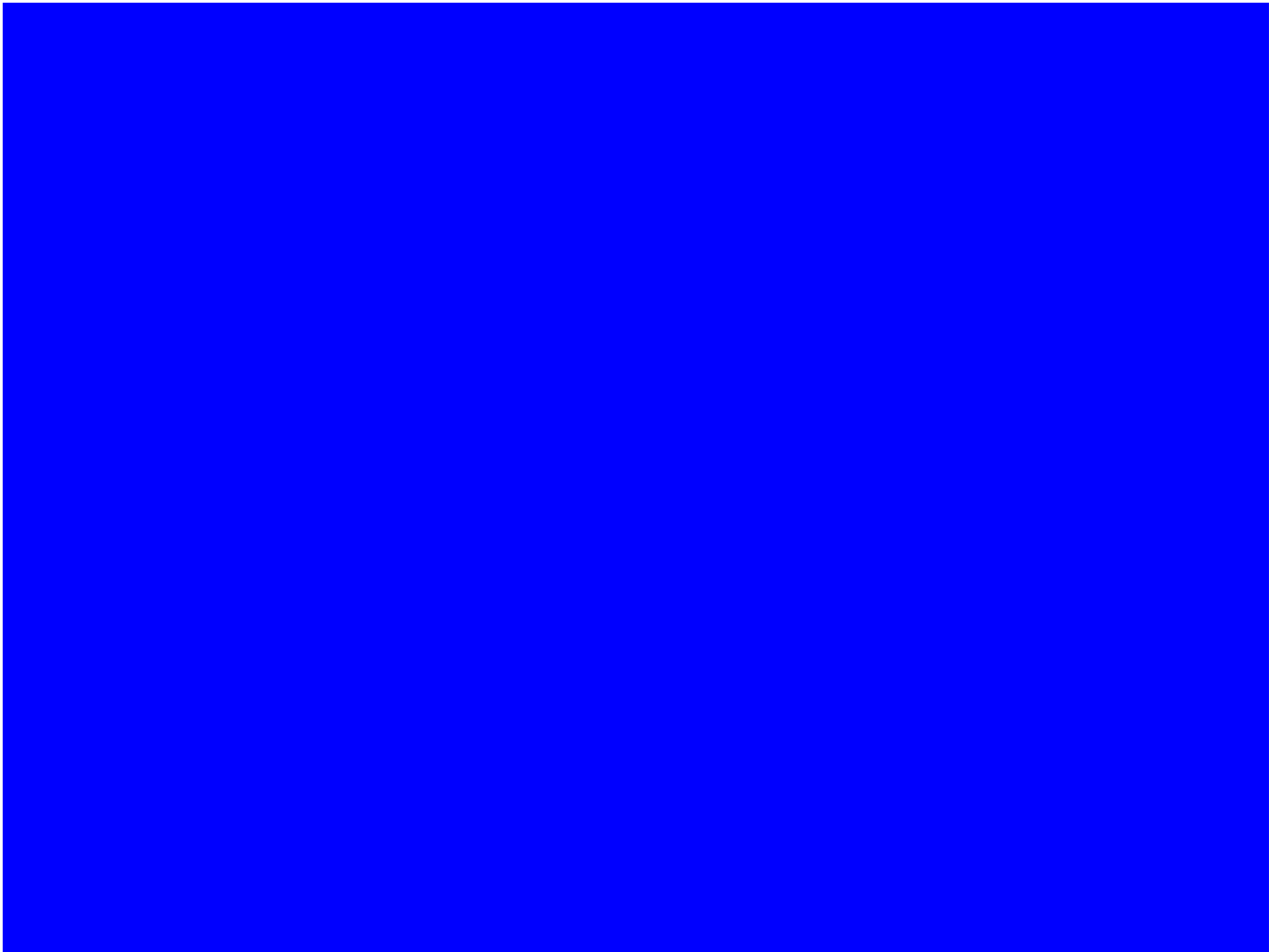
Poverty &  
hunger reduction

Disaster  
management

Social  
development

Human health





# Good Welfare

## Quality of Life



Balance of good and poor welfare	Banner principles met	Label	Needs and wants met	Policy intention	Public concern and demand
Good substantially outweighs poor welfare	All	Good quality of life	All vital needs, all mental needs and most wants	Clearly beyond minimum legal standard	Little concern and some demand
Good outweighs poor welfare	All	Minimum UK standards	All vital needs, most mental needs and many wants	Minimum legal standard	Expectation
Poor to bad welfare	Not all	Unlawful	Vital needs only, few, if any, want	Avoidance of unwarranted suffering	Great concern, no demand

# Poor Welfare