

Animal Welfare Policy

Operational Owner	Sam Foster		
Trustee Owner	Julia Aglionby		
Effective date:	30/09/22		
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Related documents	Environmental policy		

Approval History

Version	Reviewed by	Amendment History	Approved by	Date
1.0	Martin Ellmore	First Draft	Management Committee	30/3/21
1.1	Emma Hughes	Staffing changes	Julia Aglionby	30/09/22

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Susan's Farm understands its responsibility towards preventing misuse and/or the ill-treatment of animals in accordance with the Animal Welfare Act 2006. It outlines how Susan's Farm will meet the five basic animal welfare needs of:

- 1. Freedom from thirst, hunger and malnutrition
- 2. Freedom from discomfort
- 3. Freedom from pain, injury or disease
- 4. Freedom to express normal behaviour
- 5. Freedom from fear and distress.

Scope

All staff, volunteers, beneficiaries or other associated personnel who undertake activities with animals on behalf of Susan's Farm.

Policy Statement

The Animal Welfare Act requires that anyone responsible for an animal has a legal duty to meet the five basic welfare needs described above. Good animal husbandry also helps to reduce the likelihood of people contracting infections that can be passed from animals (zoonoses).

To achieve our responsibilities to animal welfare we meet the five basic welfare needs as follows:

Freedom from Hunger and Thirst

By providing ready access to fresh water and diet to maintain health and vigour.

Freedom from Discomfort

By providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area, underpinned by sound animal management procedures.

Freedom from Pain, Injury or Disease

By treating animals with respect and dignity thoughout their lives, and when necessary, providing a humane death and by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment.

Freedom to Express Normal Behaviour

By providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animal's own kind and by studying farmed and wild animals in their natural habitat.

Freedom from Fear and Distress

By ensuring conditions and treatment avoid mental suffering, in particluar during trasnportation and handling.

In acknowledging these freedoms, Susan's Farm will:

- Ensure we have a caring and responsible planning and management system to manage our herd, flocks and gaggle.
- Ensure we work collaboratively with veterinary surgeons to prevent, monitor and respond to existing or emerging farm animal welfare concerns.
- Ensure we have a skilled, knowledgeable and conscientious stockmanship, including a record and stock-keeping system.
- Ensure we use appropriate environmental and welfare design principles
- Ensure we provide up to date staff training regarding animal welfare and their environment.
- Ensure we educate those who use or visit our farm on our expectations for animal welfare and ensure that any interactions do not increase the stress levels or cause unnecessary disturbance to animals.
- Ensure that accommodation for animals is environmentally enriched and that attention is given to alleviating boredom (where appropriate).
- Ensure we use reputable establishments for humane slaughter.