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S T A T U T O R Y   I N S T R U M E N T S

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**2007 No. [ ]**

**FOOD, ENGLAND**

**The Meat (Official Controls Charges) (England) (No. 2)  
Regulations 2007**

<i>Made</i>	- - - -	2007
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>		2007
<i>Coming into force</i>		31st December 2007

The Secretary of State makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972(a).

The Secretary of State has been designated for the purposes of that section in relation to measures relating to food (including drink) including the primary production of food(b).

As required by Article 9 of Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety(c) there has been open and transparent public consultation during the preparation of the following Regulations.

**Title, application and commencement**

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Meat (Official Controls Charges) (England) (No. 2) Regulations 2007, apply in relation to England only and come into force on 31st December 2007.

**Interpretation**

2. In these Regulations —

“accounting period” means a period of less than a year determined by the Agency;

“the Agency” means the Food Standards Agency;

“agreed slaughterhouse staff costs” means, in respect of any slaughterhouse at which poultry or lagomorphs are slaughtered -

(a) the proportion (expressed as a sum of money) of the salaries (including overtime payments and employers’ pension and National Insurance contributions) paid to the staff at that slaughterhouse in respect of an accounting period that the Agency and the operator of the slaughterhouse may agree as being attributable to any such staff assisting with

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(a) 1972 c.68.

(b) S.I. 2003/2901.

(c) OJ No. L31, 1.2.2002, p.1, as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 575/2006 (OJ No. L100, 8.4.2006, p.3).

official controls by carrying out certain tasks there during that period under Article 5.6 of Regulation 854/2004; plus

(b) 25% of that sum;

“cutting plant” means an establishment which is used for boning and/or cutting up fresh meat for placing on the market and which —

(a) is approved or conditionally approved under Article 31.2 of Regulation 882/2004; or

(b) (although lacking the approval or conditional approval that it requires under Article 4.3 of Regulation 853/2004) was, on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2005, operating as licensed cutting premises under the Fresh Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995(a) or the Poultry Meat, Farmed Game Bird Meat and Rabbit Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995(b);

“cutting up” has the meaning that it bears in Regulation 853/2004 and “cut up” shall be construed accordingly;

“Regulation 178/2002”, “Regulation 852/2004”, “Regulation 853/2004”, “Regulation 854/2004” and “Regulation 882/2004” have the meanings respectively given to them in Schedule 1;

“domestic ungulates” has the meaning given to it in point 1.2 of Annex I to Regulation 853/2004;

“employers’ National Insurance contributions” means those social security contributions for which employers are liable under Part I of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992(c);

“establishment” has the meaning given to it in Article 2.1(c) of Regulation 852/2004;

“farmed game” has the meaning given to it in point 1.6 of Annex I to Regulation 853/2004;

“food business operator” has the meaning given to it in Article 3.3 of Regulation 178/2002;

“fresh meat” has the meaning given to it in point 1.10 of Annex I to Regulation 853/2004;

“game” has the meaning that it bears in Regulation 853/2004;

“game-handling establishment” means any establishment in which game and game meat obtained after hunting are prepared for placing on the market and which —

(a) is approved or conditionally approved under Article 31.2 of Regulation 882/2004; or

(b) (although lacking the approval or conditional approval that it requires under Article 4.3 of Regulation 853/2004) was, on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2005, operating as a licensed wild game processing facility under the Wild Game (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995(d);

“game meat” has the meaning that it bears in Regulation 853/2004;

“lagomorphs” has the meaning given to it in point 1.4 of Annex I to Regulation 853/2004;

“meat” has the meaning given to it in point 1.1 of Annex I to Regulation 853/2004;

“official controls” means the controls performed by the Agency under Regulation 854/2004—

(a) at slaughterhouses, game-handling establishments and cutting plants, for the verification of compliance with the provisions of Regulation 853/2004 in so far as they apply in relation to meat of domestic ungulates, meat from poultry and lagomorphs, meat of farmed game or as the case may be meat of wild game; and

(b) at slaughterhouses, for the verification of compliance with the provisions of the Welfare of Animals (Slaughter or Killing) Regulations 1995(e) insofar as they apply in relation to animals slaughtered for human consumption there;

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(a) S.I. 1995/539, revoked with effect from 1st January 2006 by S.I. 2005/2059

(b) S.I. 1995/540, revoked with effect from 1st January 2006 by S.I. 2005/2059.

(c) 1992 c. 4.

(d) S.I. 1995/2148, revoked with effect from 1st January 2006 by S.I. 2005/2059.

(e) S.I. 1995/731, amended by S.I. 1999/400, S.I. 1999/1820, S.I. 2000/656, S.I. 2000/3352, S.I. 2001/447, S.I. 2001/3830, S.I. 2003/3272, S.I. 2006/1200 and S.I. 2007/402.

“official controls charge” means the charge calculated in accordance with Schedule 2 and notified in accordance with regulation 3(1), (2) or (3);

“operator” means a food business operator who is carrying on the business of a slaughterhouse, game-handling establishment or cutting plant or his duly authorised representative;

“placing on the market” has the meaning given to it in Article 3.8 of Regulation 178/2002;

“poultry” has the meaning given to it in point 1.3 of Annex I to Regulation 853/2004;

“premises” means any slaughterhouse, game-handling establishment or cutting plant;

“slaughterhouse” means an establishment used for slaughtering and dressing animals, the meat of which is intended for human consumption and which —

(a) is approved or conditionally approved under Article 31.2 of Regulation 882/2004; or

(b) (although lacking the approval or conditional approval that it requires under Article 4.3 of Regulation 853/2004) was, on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2005, operating as a licensed slaughterhouse under the Fresh Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995 or the Poultry Meat, Farmed Game Bird Meat and Rabbit Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995;

“verification” means checking, by examination and provision of objective evidence; and

“wild game” has the meaning given to it in point 1.5 of Annex I to Regulation 853/2004.

## **Charges**

3.—(1) The Agency shall, subject to the following provisions of this regulation, notify the operator of each slaughterhouse, game-handling establishment and cutting plant in which official controls have been exercised in any accounting period of an official controls charge in respect of those official controls as soon as practicable after the end of that period.

(2) Where the Agency cannot comply with paragraph (1) because it has insufficient information available to it to enable it to calculate the official controls charge for any accounting period in respect of any such premises as are specified in that paragraph, it shall notify the operator of those premises of an interim charge, being such amount as the Agency estimates (having regard to the information it has) the official controls charge to be.

(3) Where the Agency has notified an operator of an interim charge in accordance with paragraph (2), and sufficient information becomes available to the Agency to calculate the official controls charge, it shall calculate that charge and —

(a) where it exceeds the interim charge, notify the operator of the final charge, being the amount by which the official controls charge exceeds the interim charge; or

(b) subject to paragraph (6), where it is less than the interim charge, credit to the operator the amount by which the interim charge exceeds the official controls charge.

(4) Any charge notified to an operator under paragraph (1), (2) or (3) shall be payable by him to the Agency on demand.

(5) Where any agreed slaughterhouse staff costs have been used to calculate a charge falling to be notified under paragraph (1), (2) or (3), those costs shall be set off against the amount of that charge in calculating the actual charge notified thereunder, provided that no refund shall be made to the relevant operator.

(6) Where under paragraph (3)(b) a sum is to be credited to an operator, the Agency may if it so determines pay such sum to the operator concerned instead of crediting it to him.

## **Withdrawal of official controls**

4. Where the Agency has had judgment entered against an operator of any premises for any sum which is payable to it under regulation 3(4) and the operator fails within a reasonable time thereafter to satisfy the judgment, the Agency may (regardless of any other legal remedy open to

it) refuse to exercise any further official controls at those premises until the judgment has been satisfied.

### **Information**

- 5.—(1) Any person shall, on demand being made by the Agency, supply —
- (a) such information as the Agency may reasonably require for the purpose of calculating the official controls charge or notifying an operator of it; and
  - (b) such evidence as the Agency may reasonably require to enable it to verify information supplied under sub-paragraph (a).
- (2) Any person who —
- (a) in purported compliance with paragraph (1), knowingly or recklessly furnishes information which is false or misleading in a material particular; or
  - (b) without reasonable excuse, fails to comply within a reasonable time with a demand made under that paragraph,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.

### **Revocation**

6. The Meat (Official Controls Charges) (England) Regulations 2007<sup>(a)</sup> are revoked.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Health

2007

Minister of State,  
Department of Health

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<sup>(a)</sup> S.I. 2007/492.

## DEFINITIONS OF COMMUNITY LEGISLATION

“Regulation 178/2002” means Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety;

“Regulation 852/2004” means Regulation (EC) No. 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the hygiene of foodstuffs(a) as read with Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2073/2005(b);

“Regulation 853/2004” means Regulation (EC) No. 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin(c) as read with Directive 2004/41/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council(d), Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1688/2005(e), Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2074/2005(f) and Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2076/2005(g);

“Regulation 854/2004” means Regulation (EC) No. 854/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down specific rules for the organisation of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption(h) as read with Directive 2004/41/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2074/2005, Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2075/2005(i) and Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2076/2005; and

“Regulation 882/2004” means Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules(j) as read with Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2074/2005 and Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2076/2005.

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- (a) OJ No. L139, 30.4.2004, p.1. The revised text of Regulation (EC) No. 852/2004 is now set out in a Corrigendum (OJ No. L226, 25.6.2004, p.3).
- (b) OJ No. L338, 22.12.2005, p.1, as read with the corrigenda at OJ No. L278, 10.10.2006, p.32 and OJ No. L283, 14.10.2006, p.62.
- (c) OJ No. L139, 30.4.2004, p.55. The revised text of Regulation (EC) No. 853/2004 is now set out in a Corrigendum (OJ No. L226, 25.6.2004, p.22) and that Regulation was last amended by Council Regulation (EC) No. 1791/2006 (OJ No. L363, 20.12.2006, p.1).
- (d) OJ No. L157, 30.4.2004, p.33. The revised text of Directive 2004/41/EC is now set out in a Corrigendum (OJ No. L195, 2.6.2004, p.12).
- (e) OJ No. L271, 15.10.2005, p.17.
- (f) OJ No. L338, 22.12.2005, p.27 (itself amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1664/2006 (OJ No. L320, 18.11.2006, p.13)).
- (g) OJ No. L338, 22.12.2005, p.83 (itself amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1666/2006 (OJ No. L320, 18.11.2006, p.47)).
- (h) OJ No. L139, 30.4.2004, p.206. The revised text of Regulation (EC) No. 854/2004 is now set out in a Corrigendum (OJ No. L226, 25.6.2004, p.83) and that Regulation was last amended by Council Regulation (EC) No. 1791/2006.
- (i) OJ No. L338, 22.12.2005, p.60 (itself amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1665/2006 (OJ No. L320, 18.11.2006, p.46)).
- (j) OJ No. L165, 30.4.2004, p.1. The revised text of Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004 is now set out in Corrigendum (OJ No. L191, 28.5.2004, p.1) and that Regulation was last amended by Council Regulation (EC) No. 1791/2006.

## CALCULATION OF THE OFFICIAL CONTROLS CHARGE

**The official controls charge**

1. Subject to paragraph 2, the official controls charge payable by the operator of any premises for any accounting period shall be the lower of —

- (a) the sum of —
  - (i) the standard charge incurred in relation to those premises for that period, and
  - (ii) any additional charge incurred in relation to those premises for that period by virtue of paragraph 6; and
- (b) the time costs generated by those premises for that period.

2.—(1) This paragraph applies where the official controls charge calculated under paragraph 1 for any accounting period (amount A), when added to the official controls charge payable in respect of all earlier accounting periods falling within the same financial period (amount B), produces a total (amount C) which is greater than the amount of the official controls charge which would be payable under paragraph 1 if those accounting periods were one accounting period (amount D).

(2) Where this paragraph applies, the official controls charge payable by an operator for an accounting period shall be the amount by which amount D exceeds amount B.

(3) In this paragraph “financial period” means—

- (a) the period commencing on 26th March 2007 and ending on 30th March 2008; and
- (b) thereafter, the period commencing on the Monday immediately following the last Sunday in March in any year and ending on the last Sunday in March in the following year.

**The standard charge**

3. The standard charge for any accounting period payable by the operator of a slaughterhouse shall be calculated by multiplying the rate specified in the following Table applicable to a given type of animal by the number of animals of that type slaughtered and/or dressed there in the period.

4. The standard charge for any accounting period payable by the operator of a game-handling establishment in respect of wild game dressed there during that period shall be calculated by multiplying the rate specified in the following Table applicable to a given type of animal that is categorised as wild game by the number of animals of that type dressed there in the period.

<i>Type of animal</i>	<i>Rate per type of animal in Pounds Sterling</i>
Bovine animals	
–aged less than 8 months at slaughter	1.7670
–aged 8 months or more at slaughter	3.3705
Solipeds and equidae	3.1099
Pigs	
–carcase weight less than 25 kg	0.3534
–carcase weight equal to or greater than 25 kg	0.9189
Sheep and goats	
–carcase weight less than 12 kg	0.1237
–carcase weight between 12 and 18 kg inclusive	0.2474
–carcase weight greater than 18 kg	0.3534
Poultry	
– all broilers; all cast hens; other poultry weighing less than 2 kg	0.0071
–poultry (not being broilers or cast hens) weighing at least 2 kg (except those which are adult and weigh at least 5 kg)	0.0142
–poultry (not being broilers or cast hens) being adult and weighing at least 5 kg	0.0282
Duck and geese	
–weighing less than 2 kg	0.0071
–weighing at least 2 kg (except those which are adult and weigh at least 5 kg)	0.0142
–adult and weighing at least 5 kg	0.0282
Turkeys	
–any weight (except those which are adult and weigh at least 5 kg)	0.0169
–adult and weighing at least 5 kg	0.0282
Farmed rabbits	
–weighing less than 2 kg	0.0071
–weighing at least 2 kg (except those which are adult and weigh at least 5 kg)	0.0142
–adult and weighing at least 5 kg	0.0282
Small game birds	
–weighing less than 2 kg	0.0071
–weighing at least 2 kg (except those which are adult and weigh at least 5 kg)	0.0142
–adult and weighing at least 5 kg	0.0282
Small ground game	
–weighing less than 2 kg	0.0071
–weighing at least 2 kg (except those which are adult and weigh at least 5 kg)	0.0142
–adult and weighing at least 5 kg	0.0282

<i>Type of animal</i>	<i>Rate per type of animal in Pounds Sterling</i>
Ratites	0.9189
Land mammals	
–boars	1.0112
–ruminants of carcase weight no more than 18 kg	0.3371
–ruminants of carcase weight greater than 18 kg	0.3534

5. The standard charge for any accounting period payable by the operator of a cutting plant or of a game-handling establishment in respect of meat brought into the plant or establishment during that period for the purposes of being cut up or boned there shall be calculated by multiplying by £2.1204 the number of tonnes of such meat.

6.—(1) Where in respect of an accounting period the Agency incurs increased costs because of inefficiency in the operation of premises, it may, in accordance with this paragraph, add an additional charge to the standard charge incurred in relation to the premises for that period.

(2) The additional charge shall be a sum equal to the time costs generated by the inefficiency for the accounting period concerned.

(3) The Agency may not make an additional charge in accordance with this paragraph unless it has notified the operator of its intention to do so.

(4) The notification referred to in sub-paragraph (3) shall be given as soon as is practicable after the Agency has concluded that it wishes to make an additional charge in accordance with this paragraph.

(5) For the purposes of this paragraph “inefficiency” means inefficiency on the part of the operator and shall include in particular —

- (a) delay in the start of slaughtering attributable to the operator;
- (b) mechanical breakdown caused by lack of maintenance;
- (c) enforcement action taken by the Agency or an official;
- (d) under-employment of inspectors caused by the operator’s failure to adhere to the working hours or working practices agreed for the purposes of this paragraph pursuant to sub-paragraph (6);
- (e) insufficient provision of slaughter staff caused by the operator’s failure to adhere to the working hours or working practices agreed for the purposes of this paragraph pursuant to sub-paragraph (6);
- (f) delays caused by risks to the health or safety of inspectors attributable to the operator; and
- (g) any change to the working hours or working practices agreed for the purposes of this paragraph pursuant to sub-paragraph (6) which is attributable to the operator.

(6) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (5)(d), (e) and (g), the Agency and the operator shall agree working hours and working practices and shall keep the working hours and working practices so agreed under review.

(7) Where, following any such review, it appears to the Agency and the operator that it is appropriate to do so, they may by further agreement vary any working hours or working practices agreed pursuant to sub-paragraph (6).

(8) Where any working hours or working practices have been varied pursuant to sub-paragraph (7) they shall be treated as having been agreed pursuant to sub-paragraph (6).

(9) No additional charge may be made in accordance with this paragraph in respect of any increased costs incurred because of any variation in working hours or working practices which does not alter the working hours or working practices which have been agreed in accordance with sub-paragraph (6).

7.—(1) An operator who does not agree that an additional charge is justified under paragraph 6 may request that the question be determined by a person nominated for the purpose pursuant to sub-paragraph (3)(a).

(2) A request under sub-paragraph (1) shall be made within 1 week of the Agency giving the operator notice under paragraph 6(3).

(3) Where an operator makes a request under sub-paragraph (1) —

- (a) the Agency shall nominate a person to determine the question from the list established under sub-paragraph (4);
- (b) the person so nominated shall give the operator and the Agency an opportunity to make representations on the question to be determined; and
- (c) the person so nominated shall, within 1 month of being nominated, decide whether an additional charge is payable and shall notify the operator and the Agency of his decision.

(4) The Agency shall establish and maintain a list of people who may be nominated for the purposes of this paragraph and shall consult those organisations appearing to represent operators before including any person on the list.

#### **Time costs**

8. The time costs generated by any premises in any accounting period shall (subject to paragraphs 9 and 10) be calculated by —

- (a) multiplying the time (expressed in hours and fractions of an hour) spent by each inspector exercising official controls at those premises in the period by the hourly rate applicable to that inspector determined or varied in accordance with paragraphs 11 to 13;
- (b) adding the results together; and
- (c) adding any agreed slaughterhouse staff costs for the period.

9. The time costs in respect of any official controls shall include any overtime payments or other similar allowances made to the inspector concerned under his contract of employment or contract for services for exercising those official controls.

10. In determining the total time spent in exercising official controls, any time spent by an inspector—

- (a) in travelling to or from premises at which he exercises official controls and for which he is paid under a contract of employment or contract for services;
- (b) at any premises to which he has gone for the purpose of exercising official controls and for which he is paid under a contract of employment or contract for services (regardless of whether or not he is able to exercise official controls there); and
- (c) at any other place—
  - (i) when he is available for exercising official controls but is not in fact exercising any such controls, and
  - (ii) for which he is paid under his contract of employment or contract for services,

shall be counted as if it were time when the inspector was exercising official controls.

11. The Agency shall determine the hourly rate applicable to inspectors, and may determine different rates for different inspectors or different classes of inspector, having regard to the level of qualifications and experience of different inspectors or classes of inspector and to the cost of exercising official controls by different inspectors or classes of inspector.

**12.** The hourly rate for any inspector or class of inspector shall be calculated so as to reflect such proportion of the costs of the items listed in Annex VI to Regulation 882/2004 incurred by that inspector or class of inspector in exercising official controls (excluding any additional costs taken into account pursuant to paragraph 9) as the Agency considers it proper to apportion to that hourly rate.

**13.** The Agency may vary any rate determined pursuant to paragraph 11 where, having regard to variations in the costs referred to in paragraph 12, it appears to it to be necessary to do so.

**14.** Prior to determining or varying hourly rates in accordance with paragraphs 11 to 13, the Agency shall consult such operators as are likely to be affected by those rates.

### **Definitions**

**15.** In this Schedule —

- (a) “official auxiliary” and “official veterinarian” have the meanings respectively given to them in Article 2.1(h) and (f) of Regulation 854/2004;
- (b) “inspector” means an official veterinarian or an official auxiliary;
- (c) “the standard charge” means the charge for any accounting period that is incurred in relation to a slaughterhouse, game-handling establishment or cutting plant and calculated in accordance with paragraph 3, 4 or 5, as the case may be;
- (d) “time costs” means, in relation to any establishment for any accounting period, the costs calculated in accordance with paragraphs 8 to 10; and
- (e) any other expression used both in this Schedule and in Regulation 882/2004 has the meaning that it bears in Regulation 882/2004.

## Introduction to draft Impact Assessment

### Introduction

This draft Impact Assessment considers proposals to:

- a. implement the throughput categories required by Regulation (EC) 882/2004 on Official Feed and Food Controls (OFFC Regulation);
- b. increase certain throughput fees applicable to hygiene official controls in approved meat establishments by the minimum amounts necessary to achieve compliance with the OFFC Regulation; and
- c. state all throughput rates in £ Sterling, instead of in Euros.

### 1. Comments requested

We would be grateful for comments/information on any aspects of the IA, but, in particular in respect of:

Para 14 – the number of cattle that are slaughtered between 6 weeks and 8 months of age that would be charged at the rate that currently applies to cattle aged less than 6 weeks at slaughter;

Para 15 - the impact of the proposed charge in increases for boars and “other” ruminants (mainly deer) on those slaughter houses that process these animals;

Paras 15 and 19 – views on whether to make the minimum changes to the charging structure for “other” ruminants, as is proposed, or whether to charge a single rate. We ask this because applying the minimum OFFC throughput fee for “other” ruminants requires us to charge that minimum (£0.3371) for all animals with a carcase weight of no more than 18kg (i.e. to amalgamate the “less than 12kg” and “12 – 18kg categories”). This leaves the current rate for animals over 18kg (£0.3534) only a little higher than the fee for the smaller animals.

In view of this, we could take the opportunity to move to a single rate, which we would propose to set at the OFFC minimum of £0.3371.

In considering this, we would be grateful if you would bear in mind that we will take the 31 December changes into account when setting throughput fees for 2008/09 (this will be the subject of a later consultation). Keeping two rates now would enable the differential between them to be reinstated to some extent.

Paras 16, 18 and 29 – the impact of the proposed charge increase for turkeys for which we have insufficient data to carry out a detailed analysis;

Para 19 – the impact of the proposed charge in increases for boars and “other” ruminants (mainly deer) processed by game-handling establishments for which we have insufficient data to carry out a detailed analysis;

Para 31 – we would appreciate information on typical numbers of animals processed by low throughput slaughterhouses and game handling establishments.

John Bush  
**Meat Hygiene Business Branch**  
**Meat Hygiene and Veterinary Division**

## Summary: Intervention & Options

Department /Agency:  
Food Standards Agency

Title:  
Impact Assessment of measures to implement minimum  
meat hygiene official control fees in approved meat  
establishments.

Stage: Consultation

Version: #1

Date: 18 July

Related Publications:

Available to view or download at:

<http://www.food.gov.uk/consultations/>

Contact for enquiries: Sandra Yeats

Telephone: 0207 276 8026

What is the problem under consideration? Why is government intervention necessary?

From 1 January 2008 Regulation (EC) 853/2004 on Official Feed and Food Controls (the EC OFFC Regulation) requires that minimum charges for stipulated throughput categories be made in all Member States for meat hygiene controls at approved meat establishments.

The regulations are required to achieve continued compliance with the EC OFFC requirement, by the due date. Not to do so would incur the risk of infraction proceedings being taken against the UK, would be contrary to Government policy regarding the implementation of EC law and would tend to undermine the purpose of the EC OFFC regulation insofar that it limits the variance of charging practices in Member States, which would be anti-competitive.

What are the policy objectives and the intended effects?

By 1 January 2008 to implement the throughput categories and to increase fees applicable to hygiene official controls in approved meat establishments by the minimum amount necessary to achieve continued compliance with the EC OFFC Regulation.

What policy options have been considered? Please justify any preferred option.

1. Do nothing.
  2. Implement throughput categories and to increase fees applicable to hygiene official controls in meat premises by the minimum amount necessary to achieve continued compliance with the EC OFFC Regulation by the due date.
  3. Implement the throughput categories and increase fees by more than the minimum necessary.
- Preferred option (no.2) would achieve continued compliance with EC law whilst limiting increases to charges to the minimum possible under EC law.

When will the policy be reviewed to establish the actual costs and benefits and the achievement of the desired effects?

June 2008.

**Ministerial/CE Sign-off:** for consultation stage Impact Assessments

*I have read the Impact Assessment and I am satisfied that, given the available evidence, it represents a reasonable view of the likely costs, benefits and impact of the leading options.*

Signed by the responsible Minister/Chief Executive\*



Date: 23 July 2007

\*for Impact Assessments undertaken by non-Ministerial Departments/Agencies and NOT being considered by Parliament

## Summary: Analysis & Evidence

**Policy Option: 2**

**Description: implement throughput categories and to increase meat hygiene official controls fees by the minimum amount required by EC law.**

<b>COSTS</b>	<b>ANNUAL COSTS</b>		Description and scale of <b>key monetised costs</b> by 'main affected groups'  Red meat establishments (bovines, "other" ruminants*, boars) £329k, Poultry establishments (turkeys) £46k, Game handling establishments ("other" ruminants*) £5.5k and (boars) £insignificant (GB data). * Mainly deer.
	<b>One-off</b> (Transition)	<b>Yrs</b>	
	<b>£ None</b>		
	<b>Average Annual Cost</b> (excluding one-off)		
<b>£ 380,500</b>		<b>Total Cost (PV)</b>	<b>£ 380,500</b>
Other <b>key non-monetised costs</b> by 'main affected groups'			

<b>BENEFITS</b>	<b>ANNUAL BENEFITS</b>		Description and scale of <b>key monetised benefits</b> by 'main affected groups'  Reduced cost to taxpayers.
	<b>One-off</b>	<b>Yrs</b>	
	<b>£ None</b>		
	<b>Average Annual Benefit</b> (excluding one-off)		
<b>£ 380,500</b>		<b>Total Benefit (PV)</b>	<b>£ 380,500</b>
Other <b>key non-monetised benefits</b> by 'main affected groups'			

**Key Assumptions/Sensitivities/Risks** IA based on actual throughput. Assumption that throughput will remain constant.

Price Base Year 2007	Time Period Years ongoing	<b>Net Benefit Range (NPV)</b> <b>£ 0 (costs transfer)</b>	<b>NET BENEFIT (NPV Best estimate)</b> <b>£ 0</b>	
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What is the geographic coverage of the policy/option?		UK		
On what date will the policy be implemented?		31/12/2007		
Which organisation(s) will enforce the policy?		FSA (MHS GB)/DARD (NI)		
What is the total annual cost of enforcement for these organisations?		£1.6m		
Does enforcement comply with Hampton principles?		Yes		
Will implementation go beyond minimum EU requirements?		N/A		
What is the value of the proposed offsetting measure per year?		£ N/A		
What is the value of changes in greenhouse gas emissions?		£ N/A		
Will the proposal have a significant impact on competition?		No		
Annual cost (£-£) per organisation (excluding one-off)	Micro £300	Small £450	Medium £3,200	Large £7,150
Are any of these organisations exempt?	No	No	N/A	N/A

<b>Impact on Admin Burdens Baseline</b> (2005 Prices)				(Increase - Decrease)
Increase	£ 0	Decrease	£ 0	<b>Net</b> £ 0

Key: Annual costs and benefits: Constant Prices (Net) Present Value

## Evidence Base (for summary sheets)

### Introduction

1. The proposal is for a Statutory Instrument titled: the Meat (Official Controls Charges) (England) (No.2) Regulations 2007. The objective of the proposed regulations is to implement in England the financing provisions of Regulation (EC) 882/2004 on Official Feed and Food Controls (the EC OFFC Regulation) that relate to the requirement to charge minimum fees, for specified throughput categories, for meat hygiene official controls at approved meat establishments by 1 January 2008. The proposed regulations will apply in England only. Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland will make similar legislation.
2. The charges to which this IA relates are currently implemented in England by the Meat (Official Controls Charges) (England) Regulations 2007 (current regulations) and by similar regulations in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. In Great Britain, these charges are paid by food business operators (FBOs) to the Meat Hygiene Service (MHS), an Executive Agency of the Food Standards Agency and the effects of the policy are assessed on a GB basis in this IA unless otherwise stated.
3. The current regulations make use of a transitional provision in the EC OFFC Regulation which permits Member States to retain the Community fees of Council Directive 85/73 until 1 January 2008, though from 1 January 2007 they became minima rather than standard amounts.
4. From 1 January 2008, the transitional arrangements of the EC OFFC will cease and amended domestic legislation is required to implement the EC OFFC throughput categories and to increase some of the current throughput rates so that at least the specified EC OFFC minima are charged. The majority of the current throughput rates applicable in England and the rest of the UK are above the OFFC minima and the proposed regulations would not increase these.
5. In implementing the EC OFFC throughput categories, the regulations will maintain the current charges structure (i.e. that derived from Council Directive 85/73) insofar as this is possible. This enables the regulations to continue to specify different throughput rates for different weights of animals (e.g. poultry) so that current differentials are maintained, as far as possible, to take into consideration the types of businesses concerned, as required by Article 27.5 of the EC OFFC Regulation. However, the OFFC throughput categories for cattle are not the same as the current ones. This will result in a small number of cattle being charged at a lower rate than hitherto.
6. The changes to the current regulations that are required to meet OFFC requirements from 1 January 2008 are set out on the table in the attached Annex. They will affect slaughterhouses that process cattle, boars and some ruminants (mainly deer), slaughterhouses that process turkeys and game handling establishments that process boars and/or ruminants (mainly deer).
7. All operators will continue to pay the lesser of time costs or throughput charges.
8. A draft statutory instrument to achieve this is ready to be issued for public consultation before the end of the month.
9. The MHS will remain responsible in GB for enforcement, sanctions and monitoring for the meat hygiene charging provisions set out in the Regulations. The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) will continue to have this responsibility in Northern Ireland.

## Options

10. The options considered to implement the EC OFFC Regulation requirements in England are:
  - i. Option 1 - do nothing;
  - ii. Option 2 - implement the throughput categories and increase fees applicable to hygiene official controls in meat premises by the minimum necessary to achieve continued compliance with the EC OFFC Regulation;
  - iii. Option 3 - implement the throughput categories and increase the fees applicable to hygiene official controls in meat establishments by more than the minimum necessary to ensure compliance with the EC OFFC Regulation.

## Analysis of options

11. The analysis is that:
  - i. Option 1 (doing nothing) would breach an EU obligation to apply the EC OFFC Regulation and leave the UK open to infraction proceedings by the Commission for failing to comply with the meat hygiene official controls charges requirements of the Regulation (which might have cost implications).
  - ii. Option 2 would ensure continuing compliance with EC law. There are no additional administrative costs, social or environmental impacts associated with this option.
  - iii. Option 3 would ensure continuing compliance with EC law. However, increasing the charges by more than is required by the EC OFFC Regulation to bring them closer to the recovery of official control costs is not proposed at this stage. The need to increase charges further will be considered for implementation from the start of the 2008/09 financial year.

Option 2 is proposed.

## Costing of options

### Impact on red meat slaughterhouses

12. Red meat slaughterhouses will be affected by a 6% increase in the throughput rate for adult bovines from £3.18 to £3.37 (at the current exchange rate<sup>20</sup>).
13. The total charge for the red meat slaughterhouse sector is estimated to increase by £329k per annum or 1.8%. The impact will be small on average, but will vary across plants depending on their degree of specialisation in the slaughter of cattle. In relative terms, large plants will be the least affected by implementation of the OFFC minima, which is explained by the fact that eighteen of them are charged time-costs. The absolute increase in charge affecting micro plants<sup>21</sup> will also be small on average (£23 per annum), although the

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<sup>20</sup> All throughput rates have been converted from Euros to Sterling at the exchange rate applicable to 2007, i.e. as published in the C Series of the Official Journal of the European Communities on 1 September 2006.

<sup>21</sup> The four size categories of plants are based on annual throughput quartiles. Micro plants process fewer than 895 Animal Units, small plants process between 895 and 6,561 Animal Units, medium-sized plants process between 6,562 and 32,613 Animal Units, and large plants process more than 32,613 Animal Units. The annual

impact may vary significantly across plants depending on their degree of specialisation in the slaughter of cattle.

14. The estimates do not take account of the fact that the OFFC throughput categories for bovines are not the same as the current ones. This change will result in cattle that are slaughtered between 6 weeks and 8 months of age being charged the throughput rate that currently applies to animals aged less than six weeks at slaughter. They will be charged £1.77 per animal rather than the current charge of £3.18, a reduction of 44%. It is not known how many cattle between these ages are slaughtered, though the number is relatively small.
15. In addition to the changes regarding cattle, slaughterhouses will be affected by increases in four of the OFFC rates:
  - i. the rate for “Boar” weighing less than 25 kg will increase from £0.3534 to £1.0112 (186%);
  - ii. the rate for “Boar” weighing 25 kg and more will increase from £0.9189 to £1.0112 (+10%).
  - iii. the rate for “Other Ruminants” weighing less than 12 kg will increase from £0.1237 to £0.3371 (+173%);
  - iv. the rate for “Other Ruminants” weighing between 12 and 18kg inclusive will increase from £0.2474 to £0.3371 (+36%);

Some red meat slaughterhouses also process a small number of Boars and Other Ruminants (less than 1500 in total). These businesses will be affected by increases in throughput charges for these categories. We estimate that the total increase in throughput charge on account of this is very small (less than £200). Furthermore, as some of the plants may be paying time costs, the overall increase in the final charge may be even less than £200 across all plants.

**Table 1: Increase in hygiene charges paid by red meat slaughterhouses in GB**

	Micro	Small	Medium	Large	All
Number of firms	74	74	74	74	296
<b>Pre-OFFC 2007/8 charge (annualized)</b>	54	407	2,672	15,398	18,531
Average per plant (£k)	0.7	5.5	36.1	208.1	62.6
Average per animal unit (£)	2.1	2.1	2.1	1.9	2.0
Number of plants charged time cost	0	0	0	18	18
<b>Post-OFFC 2007/8 charge (annualized)</b>	56	416	2,747	15,641	18,860
Average per plant (£k)	0.8	5.6	37.1	211.4	63.7
Average per animal unit (£)	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.0
Number of plants charged time cost	0	0	0	20	20
<b>Increase in total charge</b>					
Absolute (£k)	2	9	75	243	329
Relative (%)	3.1%	2.3%	2.8%	1.6%	1.8%

### Impact on poultry slaughterhouses

16. Implementation of the OFFC minima will only affect the poultry sector through the need for an increase in throughput rates for turkeys:

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cost estimates in the Summary on page 2 relate to the standard definitions of micro = up to 10 staff, small = 11–50 staff, medium = 51–250 staff and large = more than 250 staff.

- i. the rate for turkeys weighing less than 2kg will need to rise by 138% from £0.0071 to £0.0169.
- ii. the rate for young turkeys weighing more than 2kg and adult turkeys weighing 2-5kg will need to rise by 19% from £0.0142 to £0.0169.

Detailed analysis of the charge increase cannot be carried out from MHS data as throughput is currently not recorded separately for turkeys. However, it is clear that the first rate increase, while high in percentage terms, is almost irrelevant as the vast majority of turkeys weigh more than 2kg at slaughter<sup>22</sup>. The second rate increase is expected to apply to most of the turkeys slaughtered in GB, which should be in the range of 17 million birds.

- 17. The increase in charges paid by poultry slaughterhouses is estimated to be £46k per annum, or 1.5% of the current charge. This increase, in spite of the 19% increase in throughput rate, is explained by the fact that turkeys only account for 2% of all poultry slaughtered in GB.
- 18. Altogether, the economic impact on poultry slaughterhouses is expected to be small and comparable in magnitude to that described for red meat abattoirs. However, there could be a particularly adverse effect on plants specialising in the slaughter of turkeys.

### **Impact on Game-Handling Establishments**

- 19. Game-handling establishments will also be affected by increases in four of the OFFC rates:
  - i. the rate for “Other Ruminants” weighing less than 12 kg will increase from £0.1237 to £0.3371 (+173%);
  - ii. the rate for “Other Ruminants” weighing between 12kg and 18kg inclusive will increase from £0.2474 to £0.3371 (+36%);
  - iii. the rate for “Boars” weighing less than 25 kg will increase from £0.3534 to £1.0112 (186%);
  - iv. the rate for “Boars” weighing 25 kg and more will increase from £0.9189 to £1.0112 (+10%).

The assessment of impact on game-handling establishments is tentative as it relies on an MHS data set for the period December 2004 to November 2005. With that caveat, the total charge to game-handling establishments is estimated to increase by £5,488 (or 14.9%). However, establishments that concentrate on the processing of roe and fallow deer (the main types included in other ruminants weighing between 12 and 18kg inclusive) will be affected the most, as relatively few of the other categories of animals that are affected by increased throughput rates are processed. In particular, there are few boars existing in the wild in GB and very low numbers have been presented to game handling establishments for processing.

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<sup>22</sup> The average weight of a turkey at slaughter in the UK was 12.8 kg in 2006 according to DEFRA’s slaughter statistics.

**Table 2: Increase in hygiene charges paid by Game Handling Establishments in GB**

	Lower half of all plants <sup>23</sup>	Upper half of all plants	All plants
Number of establishments	23	24	47
<b>Pre-OFFC 2007/8 charge (annualised)</b>	1,161	35,587	36,748
Average per plant (£k)	50	1,483	782
Number of plants charged time cost	0	6	6
<b>Post-OFFC 2007/8 charge (annualised)</b>	1,202	41,034	42,235
Average per plant (£k)	52	1,710	899
Number of plants charged time cost	0	6	6
<b>Increase in total charge</b>			
Absolute (£k)	41	5,447	5,488
Relative (%)	3.5%	15.3%	14.9%

**Impact on individual businesses**

20. The impact of implementing the OFFC minimum throughput charges will vary between businesses depending on the type and numbers of the animals that they process. The following table gives examples of how the throughput rates will change and is provided to help FBOs assess the impact of the proposals on their business.

**Table 3: examples current and proposed charges per 100 animals**

	2007 charge £ per 100 animals	Proposed charge £ per 100 animals	Increase	
			£	%
<b>Bovine - adult</b>	<b>318.06</b>	<b>337.05</b>	<b>18.99</b>	<b>+6</b>
<b>Bovine - young</b>	<b>176.70</b>	<b>176.70</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Sheep less than 12kg</b>	<b>12.37</b>	<b>12.37</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Sheep 12 –18kg</b>	<b>24.74</b>	<b>24.74</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Sheep over 18kg</b>	<b>35.34</b>	<b>35.34</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Pigs less than 25kg</b>	<b>35.34</b>	<b>35.34</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Pigs 25kg or more</b>	<b>91.89</b>	<b>91.89</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Boar less than 25kg</b>	<b>35.34</b>	<b>101.12</b>	<b>65.78</b>	<b>+186</b>
<b>Boar 25kg or more</b>	<b>91.89</b>	<b>101.12</b>	<b>9.23</b>	<b>+10</b>
<b>Other ruminants less than 12kg</b>	<b>12.37</b>	<b>33.71</b>	<b>21.34</b>	<b>+173</b>
<b>Other ruminants 12 – 18kg</b>	<b>24.74</b>	<b>33.71</b>	<b>8.97</b>	<b>+36</b>
<b>Other ruminants 18kg or more</b>	<b>35.34</b>	<b>35.34</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>All broilers</b>	<b>0.71</b>	<b>0.71</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Turkey less than 2kg</b>	<b>0.71</b>	<b>1.69</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>+138</b>
<b>Turkey over 2kg, except as below</b>	<b>1.42</b>	<b>1.69</b>	<b>0.27</b>	<b>+19</b>
<b>Turkey – adult 5kg or more</b>	<b>2.82</b>	<b>2.82</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Nil</b>

<sup>23</sup> The lower half of all plants is equivalent to those with a throughput that is less than the median of 75.9 Livestock Units; the rest of the plants represent the upper half of all plants. We only consider two size categories here (as opposed to quartiles) due to the small number of plants.

## **Risk, uncertainty and unintended consequences**

21. Minimal risks are likely to arise from implementing the minimum throughput rates for meat hygiene official controls stipulated in the EC OFFC Regulation as these will apply throughout the UK and in all other Member States. Implementing will be done using current systems and the risk of unintended consequences is considered to be low.

## **Implementation**

22. The MHS will implement the proposal in GB (DARD in NI) in accordance with their usual procedures. This includes ensuring the FBOs are alerted to the increased throughput charges that may affect them.

## **Monitoring**

23. The MHS will monitor the delivery of the proposal in GB (DARD in NI) in accordance with their usual procedures. The policy will be reviewed in June 2008 to establish its actual costs and benefits and the achievement of its desired objectives.

## **Enforcement**

24. The proposal would implement the minimum throughput rates for meat hygiene official controls stipulated in the EC OFFC Regulation in accordance with Hampton Review principles. This applies, in particular, to the way that the regulations have been drafted, the information requirements that will be made of FBOs, the sanctions that may be applied and the easy availability of free advice about charges.

## **Sanctions**

25. No changes are being proposed to those contained in the current regulations, which are considered to be proportionate and the minimum needed to enable the policy to be implemented effectively.

## **Compensatory simplification**

26. The opportunity is being taken to clarify the regulations by specifying throughput rates in Sterling rather than in Euros as has been done hitherto.

## **Carbon Impact Assessment**

27. The proposal is unlikely to have any impact on emissions of greenhouse gases.

## **Competition Assessment**

28. The proposals are unlikely to significantly affect competition as the impact of the increased throughput fees will be small. Similar proposals have been made in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. All operators would continue to pay the lesser of time costs or throughput charges.

## **Annual cost per organisation by size**

29. See Table 1 and 2 for the estimated annual cost per red meat slaughterhouse and game handling establishment. Insufficient turkey data is available to estimate the effect per poultry slaughterhouse by size.

## **Admin burdens and Impact Assessment**

30. No changes to administrative burdens are proposed.

## Specific Impact tests

### Small Firms Impact Test

31. Operators of low throughput approved meat establishments are generally charged on the basis of their throughput and would be affected by the proposed increase in charges. We do not consider that the impact on small businesses in general will be significant.

**Table 4: examples of the effect of the proposed increase in charges per week for businesses with relatively low levels of throughput.**

	No of animals	2007 charge £	Proposed charge £	Increase £	Per cent
<b>Slaughterhouse (mixed species)</b>					
(a) Bovine adult	100	318.06	337.05	18.99	6%
Sheep less than 12kg	100	12.37	12.37	0	0%
Sheep 12 – 18kg	100	24.74	24.74	0	0%
Sheep over 18kg	500	176.70	176.70	0	0%
Pigs less than 25kg	500	176.70	176.70	0	0%
Pigs 25kg or more	1000	918.90	918.90	0	0%
Boars less than 25kg	100	35.34	101.12	65.78	186%
Boars 25kg or more	100	91.89	101.12	9.23	10%
Deer less than 12kg	50	6.19	16.86	10.67	173%
Deer 12 – 18kg	100	24.74	33.71	8.97	36%
Deer 18kg or more	200	70.68	70.68	0	0%
<b>Total charge</b>		<b>1856.31</b>	<b>1969.95</b>	<b>113.64</b>	<b>6%</b>
 (3) Poultry slaughterhouse					
Broilers	15000	106.50	106.50	0	0%
Turkeys less than 2kg	1000	7.10	16.90	9.80	138%
Turkey 2 - 5kg	10000	142.00	169.00	27.00	19%
Turkey 5kg or more	1000	28.20	28.20	0	0%
<b>Total charge</b>		<b>283.80</b>	<b>320.60</b>	<b>36.80</b>	<b>13%</b>
 <b>Game-handling establishment</b>					
(4) <b>Small game birds</b>	1000	7.10	7.10	0	0%
(5) <b>Small ground game</b>	200	1.42	1.42	0	0%
(6) Boars less than 25kg	10	3.53	10.11	6.58	186%
(7) Boars 25kg or more	10	9.19	10.11	0.92	10%
(8) <b>Deer less than 12kg</b>	50	6.19	16.85	10.67	173%
(9) <b>Deer 12 – 18kg</b>	100	24.74	33.71	8.97	36%
(10) <b>Deer 18kg or more</b>	100	35.34	35.34	0	0%
(11) <b>Total charge</b>		<b>87.51</b>	<b>114.64</b>	<b>27.14</b>	<b>31%</b>
(12)					
(13) Cutting plant	<b>Tonnes</b>				
All Meat	100	212.04	212.04	0	0%

**Sustainable development/environmental/health**

32. The proposal would have little if any impact on the delivery of the Government's five principles of sustainable development, on the environment or in relation to public health.

**Race/disability/gender equality**

33. No impact.

**Human rights**

34. No impact.

**Rural proofing**

35. Slaughterhouses and game handling establishments are integral to the rural economy on which the proposal would have little if any impact.

## Specific Impact Tests: Checklist

Use the table below to demonstrate how broadly you have considered the potential impacts of your policy options.

**Ensure that the results of any tests that impact on the cost-benefit analysis are contained within the main evidence base; other results may be annexed.**

Type of testing undertaken	<i>Results in Evidence Base?</i>	<i>Results annexed?</i>
Competition Assessment	Yes	No
Small Firms Impact Test	Yes	No
Legal Aid	No	No
Sustainable Development	Yes	No
Carbon Assessment	No	No
Other Environment	No	No
Health Impact Assessment	No	No
Race Equality	Yes	No
Disability Equality	Yes	No
Gender Equality	Yes	No
Human Rights	Yes	No
Rural Proofing	Yes	No

## Annexes

### Changes to Throughput Charge Rates from 31 December 2007

Slaughterhouses and game-handling establishments					
Directive 85/73 categories	Current	OFFC categories	EC min	Proposed UK categories	Proposed
Type of animal	Rate £	Type of animal	Rate £	Type of animal	Rate £
<b>Bovine animals</b>		<b>Bovine animals</b>		<b>Bovine animals</b>	
- aged less than 6 weeks at slaughter	1.7670	- young bovine animals:	1.3482	- aged less than 8 months at slaughter	1.7670
- <b>aged 6 weeks or more at slaughter</b>	<b>3.1806</b>	- adult bovine animals:	<b>3.3705</b>	- aged 8 months or more at slaughter	<b>3.3705</b>
Wild boar <b>of a carcass weight</b>		- boar	1.0112	- boars	<b>1.0112</b>
- less than 25kg	<b>0.3534</b>				
- greater than or equal to 25 kg	<b>0.9189</b>				
<b>Ruminants</b> of a carcass weight		- ruminants	0.3371	- ruminants of a carcass weight	
- less than 12 kg	0.1237			- less than or equal to 18kg	<b>0.3371</b>
- between 12 and 18 kg inclusive	0.2474				
- greater than 18 kg	0.3534			- greater than 18 kg	0.3534
<b>Turkeys</b>		<b>Turkeys</b>	0.0169	- <b>Turkeys</b>	
- weighing less than 2 kg	0.0071			- any weight (except those which are adult and weight at least 5 kg)	<b>0.0169</b>
- weighing at least 2 kg (except those which are adult and weigh at least 5 kg)	0.0142				
- all being adult and weighing at least 5 kg	0.0282			- adult and weighing at least 5 kg	0.0282

#### Notes:

1. Rates converted to sterling at the currently applicable €/£ exchange rate.
2. Rates in bold are as they will be increased from the current charge to the OFFC minima.