



## Appendix AH.9

### Unmarketable (Bobby) Calf Policy

All options should be considered to maintain the life of calves born on the farm however, it is recognised that in some cases it may be necessary to dispose of calves shortly after birth. These are often referred to as 'Bobby Calves'.

**In the event that no viable alternative to rearing the calves is available, the following policy must be adhered to.**

1. Bobby calves must be humanely destroyed as soon as possible after birth.
2. All births and deaths must be recorded in the farm's herd register / movement records.
3. In accordance with the Cattle Identification Regulations 2007, calves over 36 hours of age must be tagged, with BCMS notified subsequently of the death.
4. Until the time of dispatch all calves must be treated with due care and attention to ensure their welfare is not compromised.
5. All calves must have adequate nutrition in the form of colostrum, a milk based diet and water.
6. All calves must be kept in safe, clean and dry bedded pens which are constructed and sited to allow each calf to see and touch other calves wherever possible, in accordance with the requirements of the Welfare of Farm Animals Regulations.
7. All calves must be inspected at least twice a day for signs of illness/injury or distress and treated appropriately.
8. Calf carcasses must be disposed of legally in accordance with Animal By-Products Regulations 2005.