



22 March 2019

**Preparation for a new inspection regime.  
Be audit-ready ahead of dairy and poultry implementation from April.**

Poultry and dairy farmers are being reminded that the new risk-based inspection regime will be rolled out to their sectors in April.

This follows implementation in the pig sector since last November.

Red Tractor calculates the risk rating of a business through an internal system based on the nature and number of non-conformances found during routine inspections.

The criteria is not known by the assessor who remains completely independent. Farms categorised as high risk following routine assessments will now receive a follow-up visit from an assessor without prior warning to ensure the scheme's standards are being upheld.

Farmers are informed that they will receive an unannounced inspection which takes the form of a spot check rather than full audit. If standards haven't improved, those farms could be suspended.

Red Tractor says a high-risk classification does not make a bad farm - it means extra work is required to ensure compliance with standards which is vital to protect the reputation of the scheme and all its members.

Addressing non-conformances found during a routine inspection – either at the time of the inspection or within 28 days – will not change a farm's risk rating, a point which Red Tractor says is important for producers to be aware of.

Appeals relating to audits are handled by certification bodies and risk rating appeals by Red Tractor. A guide to appeals can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/y4kmuacf>

Read the scheme rules for risk- based inspections at <https://tinyurl.com/y5nc5szm>