



## COVID-19: UPDATED Position on Red Tractor Meat & Poultry Processor Members and Licensees

We're facing the greatest health crisis in a generation. During the next few months, the core foundations that hold the UK together will be tested – food production being one of them.

Shoppers are relying on farmers, food companies and the wider industry to continue as normal wherever possible and, at the time of writing, that is what Red Tractor intends to do.

Red Tractor policy throughout this time has and will continue to follow Government guidelines.

We continue to work closely with our certification bodies and from **00.01 Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March**, we will be suspending all physical Red Tractor Meat and Poultry Processing inspections and traceability challenges (TC) until further notice.

In order to maintain certification to the Red Tractor Meat and Poultry Processing Scheme and/or to maintain a Red Tractor Licence, the certification body will, in accordance with UKAS requirements and in line with BRCGS, require that an announced remote assessment/TC takes place.

Delaying a remote assessment/TC due to cost purposes will not be accepted.

For meat and poultry processing members, the certification body will issue a self-assessment which must be completed and returned to them in reasonable time prior to the commencement of the remote assessment.

As a minimum, the remote assessment/TC will include:

- An opening meeting – in addition to the normal considerations at the start of an audit and to explain the remote audit process
- A video check of the lairage, stunning and slaughter process (where applicable) either through live stream or through randomly selected (by the assessor) recordings of CCTV footage
- A live video check of the manufacturing process, fabrication and hygiene of the site
- Discussions with relevant staff
- A traceability challenge and mass balance (where applicable) and challenge of key procedures, plus any specific areas of concern
- Challenge of specific aspects of concern identified through review of the self-assessment (where applicable)
- A closing meeting – similar to the closing meeting at a physical audit.

If you have any questions, please contact your certification body who will continue to manage your Red Tractor certification on your behalf.

See separate position relevant to Red Tractor farming members.

### Certification Body contacts:

NSF Certification	07775575836
SAI Global	01908 249973
Lloyds Register	0131 335 6651 (for technical enquiries) 0131 335 6621 (for scheduling enquiries)
NIFCC	028 9263 301