

STATEMENT TO WELSH LAMB AND BEEF PRODUCER MEMBERS

WELSH LAMB AND BEEF PRODUCERS SECURES RECOGNITION FOR FARM ASSURED WELSH LIVESTOCK (FAWL) ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE REVIEW.

Welsh Lamb and Beef Producers (WLBP) is pleased to announce, following detailed discussions with Welsh Government, agreement has been reached for earned recognition of the FAWL Annual Livestock Health and Welfare Review against the Animal Health Improvement Cycle (AHIC). This means reduced duplication for FAWL members.

*The **Animal Health Improvement Cycle (AHIC)** is one of the requirements of Universal Action 12 of the Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS).*

This is an important development for FAWL members participating in the SFS. It recognises that the established FAWL Animal Health and Welfare Review, which is carried out with the farm's veterinary surgeon, can deliver equivalent animal health, welfare and continuous-improvement outcomes to those required through the AHIC.

What does this mean for FAWL members in 2026?

Farmers who are members of the Farm Assured Welsh Livestock (FAWL) scheme will not need to complete separate Animal Health Improvement Cycle (AHIC) 'measure' and 'plan' requirements for the 2026 Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS). To benefit from this recognition, please ensure that you click "I am a member of a Farm Assurance Scheme" on your RPW Dashboard.

Members who have joined the SFS must, however, continue to meet all other UA12 requirements, including:

- the Biosecurity Assessment for Incoming Stock (BAIS) with your vet; and
- the relevant animal welfare proficiency and scoring requirements.

This is an **important and practical benefit for farmers**. As an independently accredited farm assurance scheme, we are committed to delivering equivalent outcomes and ensuring that farmers receive recognition for the work they are already undertaking. If you have already incurred costs in relation to the AHIC already but would have met the new requirements without incurring those costs, then you may wish to contact RPW via the online enquiry form and provide details of the costs incurred to see if you are entitled to compensation.

Need further clarification?

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please contact the WLBP team.

E-mail: info@wlbp.co.uk Phone: 01970 636 688

Click for Further Reading on this: <https://www.gov.wales/new-arrangements-reduceduplication-sustainable-farming-scheme-farmers>