

Certification Process Producers



Key to RSPCA Certified is a robust certification process that includes frequent, comprehensive on-site assessments. These assessments are coordinated by the RSPCA Certification Body and conducted by specially trained RSPCA Assessors.

1 Producers looking to achieve certification must first read our animal welfare standard that relates to their business. Then make an application to the RSPCA Certification Body.

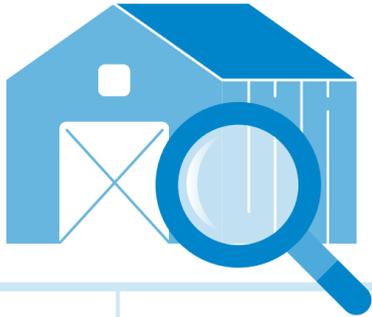
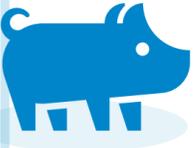


2 As part of the application process the Producer will enter into a Producer Agreement with RSPCA Certified.

3 The Certification Body will review the application and then get in touch to organise an initial on site assessment.



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As part of a typical assessment, a RSPCA Assessor will evaluate all areas of the site where there will be animals raised or slaughtered to the standard. Assessors check animal behaviour, the conditions where they are kept and how they are managed, all against the relevant standard.

Depending on the size of the site, this can take from a couple of hours to a couple of days. Assessors also review documentation and records which are required as part of certification, and where relevant CCTV, for example in abattoirs.

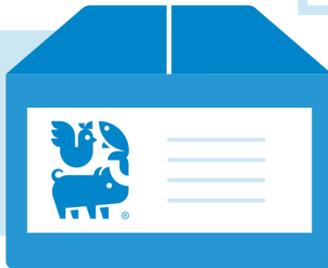
5 After conducting their assessment, the Assessor will provide their report to the Producer and the Certification Body.



6 The Certification Body reviews the report, and if the requirements of the standard have been met the Producer will receive an approved certification status.



7 When a Producer achieves an approved certification status they can supply brands with RSPCA Certified product.

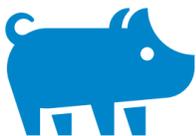


8 Once a Producer has applied and successfully achieved certification, they are then regularly assessed against the standards as part of the ongoing certification process.



LAYER HENS, MEAT CHICKENS AND TURKEYS

New farms are assessed four times in the first year. Following a good record of conformance with the standard, this may reduce to two or three assessments each year.



PIGS

Farms are assessed twice a year.

ABATTOIRS

Abattoirs are assessed annually.

9 For each assessment, the Certification Body receives an assessment report from the Assessor. A Certification Coordinator will then evaluate this report and if any issues have been raised, they will consult with the Assessor and work with the Producer to resolve them.



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Once the evaluation has been completed, another Certification Coordinator will review the assessment to make sure that all policies and procedures were followed before making a certification decision.



This multi-layered approach is a feature of world's-best practice in audit and certification.

