

Introduction and Objectives

Nationwide Hygiene Group is committed to ensuring that the highest standards of animal welfare are followed in all the Group's supply chains.

The Group's Animal Policy sets out its approach to animal welfare issues and aims to provide its member companies, suppliers and customers with guidance on these issues.

Scope of Application

The Group will take account of this policy throughout the organisation including within:

- Policies & procedures
- Administration of the supply of products from suppliers
- Distribution of hygiene products
- Management of the Group's Chesterfield facilities

Related Policies

Corporate Social Responsibility Policy

Code of Conduct

Ethical and Environmental Procurement Policy

Supply Chain Policy

Policy guidelines

General Principles

In considering the welfare of domestic or captive animals due regard should be given to the principles (known as the 5 freedoms) that the animals must be accorded:

- Freedom from hunger and thirst - by ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigour
- Freedom from discomfort - by providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area
- Freedom from pain, injury or disease - by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment
- Freedom to express normal behaviour - by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and the company of an animal of its own kind
- Freedom from fear and distress - by ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering

Not Controlled if Printed

The Company reserves the right to amend, change or withdraw any part of this document at any time.

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In all other circumstances, persons having responsibility for the management of the habitat which impinges on the welfare of any animal involved, directly or indirectly, should observe recognised acceptable good practices.

Legislative Obligations

The Group will ensure that, so far as it falls within its powers, the requirements of all legislation relating to animals and animal welfare will be rigorously enforced.

Animal welfare will be a routine consideration in all relationships with appropriate business partners. The policy and appendices will be periodically reviewed and updated, so that amendments to legislation or further developments in animal welfare can be embodied in the policy.

The Animal Health and Welfare Act 2006 places a duty of care on pet owners and others responsible for animals to ensure that the welfare needs of their animals are met.

The new Act:

- Makes it an offence to fail to take reasonable steps to ensure the welfare of a protected animal
- Makes it an offence to cause a protected animal unnecessary suffering
- Prohibits using animals as prizes
- Raises the age limit for buying animals
- Increases the penalties for animal abuse
- Allows the courts to disqualify a person from owning, keeping or being in charge of animals
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Ownership, Approval Process, Changes and Deviations

This Policy was approved by the Board of Directors of Nationwide Hygiene Group and is reviewed annually. The policy is owned by the Chief Executive, and all updates, changes, deviations and supplements will be authorised by this role.



Darren Broad
Chief Executive Officer

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