

# Calves at market

## Animal Health Act 1981

**The Welfare Of Animals At Markets Order 1990 (As Amended)  
The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006  
The Cattle Identification Regulations 2007**

## Welfare

### Unfit calves:

Unfit calves are defined as infirm, diseased, ill, injured, fatigued, lame, emaciated, deformed, weak or exhausted;

- OR calves under seven days of age, with or without dam;
- OR calves with unhealed navels;
- OR calves less than ten days of age - unless they are transported less than 100km (62 miles) to the market.

*These must not be admitted to market.*

### Injury or suffering

Injury or suffering must not be caused by any means.

### Handling

Calves must not be lifted or dragged by the head, neck, ears, horns, legs, tail or by cord tied around their necks. The use of goads is prohibited.

### Bedding

Bedding must be provided in the market and during transit.

### Pens

There must be **no overcrowding** in market and transit.  
Calves must all be able to lie down at the same time.

### Documents

#### Cattle passports -

No calf under 12 weeks old shall be brought to a market more than twice in the previous 28 days.

No person shall move any calf onto or off a market premise **UNLESS** the calf is accompanied by a **VALID** cattle passport (DOC CPP13).

### Note

From 6th April 2007, it is no longer permitted to move a calf on a "calf passport"  
(these no longer exist).

***The auctioneers cannot accept any calf for sale without a valid cattle passport.***

Reference to '**valid**', in relation to a cattle passport, means one that has been correctly completed and signed in the appropriate place by **each** keeper of the animal, and where the identification number and description of the animal in the passport correlate to the ear tags and the animal.

***Failure to comply can lead to a fine of up to £5,000.***

**Please note**

This leaflet is not an authoritative interpretation of the law and is intended only for guidance.

For further information, please contact **Environmental Protection, Animal Health Section, Swindon Borough Council, Premier House, Station Road, SN1 1TZ**

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