



01 March 2024

To whom it may concern:

RE: Torriad Farms Ltd, Torriad Farm Bowling Bank, Wrexham, LL13 9RT

I am a veterinary surgeon at Sandstone Vet Group who since 2021 has provided veterinary care to the cattle owned by Torriad Farms Ltd. Over this period Sandstone Vet Group has worked closely with [redacted] and their team to farm their herd to the highest possible levels of health and welfare. The milk produced from this herd is used to supply the Tesco Sustainable Dairy Group who place a high emphasis on animal health and welfare as demanded by the consumer.

Whilst health and welfare is currently very good, Torriad Farms Ltd. continue to focus on improving this further where at all possible. There are currently three main drivers that bring health and welfare into focus at this time:

Firstly, the currently facility is somewhat dated and since the time of construction, significant developments have been made in the industry's understanding of dairy cow health and welfare. Furthermore, through improvements in genetics and breeding, the average size of dairy cows has increased significantly over this time. The resulting impact of these facts is that nowadays, the individual cow should be provided with significantly more space than was accepted at the time of the construction of the current facility.

Secondly, as a consequence of third party acquisition of infrastructure that is currently rented by Torriad Farms Ltd., available space will shortly be reduced significantly. This not surprisingly will put significant pressure on the health and welfare of the herd.

Thirdly, due to the ongoing bovine TB issues and risk together with TB control Regulations, it is extremely difficult to come up with a solution to enable the business to produce high quality food to high welfare standards whilst working within the current TB Regulations framework. In fact, in the absence of additional housing at Torriad, in the future there is a significant risk that we could reach a scenario where animals that are accommodated away from Torriad will be destroyed as an indirect consequence of movement restrictions. Ethically this would be particularly unpalatable in my view.



SANDSTONE
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In summary, in my professional opinion, the proposed housing will enhance the health and welfare of the animals currently on site and will enable the youngstock that are currently housed at sub-standard rented accommodation to be brought back to the herd.

Please contact me via the details below should you require further information.

Yours Sincerely

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