

# Farmer's Guide to the Abattoir Service

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States   
of Jersey

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## **Introduction**

This document provides information for users of the States of Jersey abattoir (the abattoir) service, correct at the time of writing. It is intended as a guide only, and whilst every effort has been made to cover the major aspects of the service, please let us know if you feel that something has been missed out, which would be of benefit to all.

For the purposes of this document, the term ‘farmer’ includes stockmen or others employed by the keeper of the animal to transport and deliver animals to the abattoir.

This guide supersedes any previously issued guidance.

All abattoir forms are available online at the States of Jersey website, [www.gov.je](http://www.gov.je) (see footnotes for links), or upon request.

## **Contact information**

Abattoir and Animal By-Products  
Operational Services  
Department for Infrastructure  
PO Box 412  
Beresford House  
Bellozanne Road  
St Helier  
JE4 8UY

**Abattoir enquiries**  
**Abattoir**

Telephone: 448548/448528  
Email: [abp@gov.je](mailto:abp@gov.je)

## The Abattoir

### 1.1 Species accepted at the abattoir

- Cattle
- Pigs
- Sheep
- Goats

**N.B.** Cattle born prior to 01 August 1996 cannot be presented at the abattoir. If this happens, even by mistake, and the animal enters the lairage, it will be destroyed as Specified Risk Material (SRM).

### 1.2 Booking an animal in to the abattoir for human consumption

Bookings can be made using the booking form, 'FORM A – Booking Request & Confirmation'<sup>1</sup> (issued March 2014), (**'FORM A'**), Appendix 1

Complete 'FORM A' and send it to us using one of the following methods:

- Email: [abp@gov.je](mailto:abp@gov.je)
- Fax: 448570
- Posted to Dfl– ABP, PO Box 412, States Offices, South Hill, St Helier, JE4 8UY

By prior arrangement only, booking forms may be delivered in person to Operational Services Reception, Gate 2, Bellozanne Valley, St Helier.

The booking form must be received by 11am on the Wednesday before your requested week of slaughter. Booking requests received after this deadline cannot be guaranteed.

You must indicate on the form the week you wish the animals to be processed. We cannot guarantee the week of choice, but will try to meet your requirements.

Your booking confirmation will be sent to you either by email, fax or post, depending on how you contacted us.

**N.B.** There may be times during the year when the abattoir has to close due to training requirements or planned maintenance. We will give you as much notice as possible of closures unless the circumstances are exceptional, e.g. in the event of an emergency.

#### 1.2.1 Booking cancellation

The latest bookings can be cancelled without incurring costs is 12 noon on the Monday before the slaughter day, or in the case of the Monday being a Bank Holiday, by 12 noon on the Friday before slaughter day. Notification must be made by email to [abp@gov.je](mailto:abp@gov.je) , by fax or by telephone on 448548.

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<sup>1</sup> FORM A – Booking Request & Confirmation. Available online at: <http://gov.je/FORM A - Abattoir Booking Request and Confirmation>

### 1.3 Required condition of the animal

- **Pigs** – Clean (free of mud and debris), healthy, fit to travel and free of drugs.
- **Sheep/Goats** – Clean<sup>2</sup>, dry, fit to travel, healthy and free of drugs. Must not be bedded on wood shavings or sawdust.
- **Cattle (including steers)** - Clean<sup>3</sup>, dry, fit to travel, healthy and drug withdrawal periods must be adhered to. Must not be bedded on sawdust.

**Lactating cows** – **must** be milked prior to transport.

**Bulls over 10 months of age** – **must** have a nose ring and wear a halter<sup>4</sup>, (if the horns have been removed a neck chain/strong rope must be fitted). These animals must be accompanied by two stockmen who are used to handling the specific animal. The Abattoir management reserves the right to refuse unloading if appropriate measures are not in place.

Please refer to 1.4 Transporting/Trailers and 1.5 Preparation of stock prior to transport to the abattoir.

### 1.4 Transporting/Trailers

Trailers used for transporting livestock must have been cleaned, inside and out, to ensure that faeces from previous loads are not present.

Sufficient bedding is to be placed on the floor to minimise the risk of animals slipping, and from becoming dirty during travel from faeces and urine.

The following must **not** be used:

- **Cattle** – sawdust.
- **Sheep** – sawdust or wood shavings.

All trailers must have adequate ramps to include tailgates to enable the safe loading and unloading of stock.

### 1.5 Preparation of stock prior to transport to the abattoir

It is the responsibility of everyone, throughout the meat supply chain, to ensure that only clean animals are presented for slaughter.

The abattoir adheres to a 'Clean Livestock Policy', and therefore will not permit entry of any dirty livestock or animals transported in dirty trailers. Charges may be incurred if animals presented for slaughter are rejected because they are dirty.

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<sup>2</sup> Clean Sheep for slaughter – A Guide for producers [Online] <http://multimedia.food.gov.uk/multimedia/pdfs/publication/cleansheep0507.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Clean Beef Cattle for slaughter - A Guide for producers [Online] <http://multimedia.food.gov.uk/multimedia/pdfs/publication/cleanbeefsaf1007.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> HSE information sheet – Agriculture Information Sheet No 35 (Rev 1)(10/12) [Online] <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns-ais35.pdf>

### **1.5.1 Management/production system to produce clean livestock**

The following is in addition to general farm animal health requirements.

#### *Diet & animal health*

The following dietary issues should be considered with respect to animal cleanliness:

- High dry matter diets produce cleaner animals than low dry matter diets.
- Diet change to reduce the moisture content of faeces should be done gradually to prevent scouring.
- Silage-based diets produce the greatest likelihood of dirtiness because they result in large quantities of wet dung. Supplementing silages with cereals increases dirtiness.
- Mineral/salt intake should be controlled.

Good standards of general animal health should be maintained by:

- Adhering to an animal health plan for the farm with effective veterinary regimes to reduce pathogenic infection.
- Appropriate husbandry and therapy to prevent endoparasite and ectoparasite<sup>5</sup> infection.

#### *Immediately prior to transport*

Though preventing animals from becoming visibly contaminated is preferable, the following can be used to clean-up animals:

- Bring livestock indoors onto dry bedding.
- Withdrawal of feed prior to transport to decrease gut-fill and reduce overall faecal contamination.
- Clipping to remove gross contamination from the underside, i.e. brisket and abdomen, legs, rump and tail (timed to prevent recontamination closer to the skin).
- The transport trailer must be clean prior to loading.
- If animals have previously been washed, they must be completely dry prior to loading.

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<sup>5</sup> Endoparasites live inside the host (e.g. tapeworms and roundworms), and ectoparasites live outside (e.g. ticks and mites)

## 1.6 Paperwork to accompany the animal

You must bring the following documents with you:

### 1.6.1 CATTLE

- **Original registration document note:** reverse signed. Full adherence to Regulation 6 (1), (2) and (3) of European Communities Legislation (Implementation) (Cattle Identification) (Jersey) Regulations 2002<sup>6</sup> as shown in the following Box 1:

#### 6 Eartags missing at a slaughterhouse

(1) The operator of the slaughterhouse must not, except with the approval of the Minister, slaughter for human consumption an animal that should, in accordance with these Regulations, be tagged with 2 eartags if it has only one eartag.

(2) The operator of the slaughterhouse must not slaughter for human consumption an animal that should, in accordance with these Regulations, be tagged with 1 or 2 eartags if it has no eartags.

(3) The operator must instead seek the directions of the Minister and then act in accordance with those directions.

**Box 1 Regulation 6 (1), (2) and (3) of European Communities Legislation (Implementation) (Cattle Identification) (Jersey) Regulations 2002.**

- **FORM B Abattoir Delivery Note – CATTLE, (FORM B)**<sup>7</sup>, Appendix 2 – this must be completed prior to arrival at the abattoir and presented to the lairage officer.

### 1.6.2 PIGS, SHEEP & GOATS

- **FORM B Abattoir Delivery Note – PIG or SHEEP (or GOAT)**<sup>8</sup>, Appendix 3 – this must be completed prior to arrival at the abattoir and presented to the lairage officer.
- Food Chain Information paperwork is to be completed, i.e. production site details, consignor information etc.

**Please note:** Since April 2008 all pigs, sheep and goats are required to have a slap mark or ID Tag number.

Animals will not be accepted if the paperwork is not complete and correct.

**Note: Food Chain Information Declaration Form**, Appendix 4, must be completed and presented to the lairage officer if an animal (cattle, sheep or pig) shows any signs of injury or abnormality or if medicines have been administered without the full withdrawal period elapsing.

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<sup>6</sup> European Communities Legislation (Implementation) (Cattle Identification) (Jersey) Regulations 2002. Available [online] at: [http://www.jerseylaw.ie/law/display.aspx?url=lawsinforce/consolidated/17/17.245.90\\_EuropeanCommunitiesLegn\(CattleIdent\)Regs\\_RevisionEdition2002\\_1January2006.htm](http://www.jerseylaw.ie/law/display.aspx?url=lawsinforce/consolidated/17/17.245.90_EuropeanCommunitiesLegn(CattleIdent)Regs_RevisionEdition2002_1January2006.htm)

<sup>7</sup> FORM B – Abattoir Delivery Note – CATTLE. Available online at: <http://www.gov.je/SiteCollectionDocuments/Industry%20and%20finance/F%20Cattle%20Abattoir%20Delivery%20Note%2020130603%20DP.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> FORM B Abattoir Delivery Note – PIG or SHEEP. Available online at: <http://www.gov.je/SiteCollectionDocuments/Environment%20and%20greener%20living/F%20Abattoir%20Delivery%20Note%20Pigs%20Sheep%20040210%20DER.pdf>

### **1.7 Procedure on arrival at the abattoir**

Drive into the appropriate lane for the species you are carrying, i.e. Cattle or sheep/goats/pigs. (If you are carrying more than one species, head for the lane denoting the species which is closest to the tailgate or unloading ramp).

Your paperwork and load will be inspected to ensure that the agreed number, general health and cleanliness of the stock (including the trailer) are acceptable.

It is your responsibility to:

- Warn abattoir staff of any fractious or aggressive animals, and to supply enough competent staff to handle them safely.
- Ensure that the gates of the reception pen are securely fastened to the sides of your trailer, and that the gaps between the gates and the trailer are too small to allow the species you are carrying to escape.
- Wait until you receive the go-ahead, before beginning to unload animals.
- Ensure that different species or sexes that are transported in the same trailer are held securely within their compartment or section until they are unloaded, and that any animals remaining in the trailer can do so safely, without risk of escape or injury to themselves, other animals or persons. If necessary, close up and secure the trailer ramp between batches.

#### **1.7.1 Bull Handling**

- When bulls (including rigs<sup>9</sup>) are brought to the abattoir for slaughter, enough experienced and competent persons must be made available by the consignor to ensure that these animals can be moved in a safe and controlled manner from the trailer to the stun box.
- Everyone handling bulls should be able to work calmly, with a minimum of impatience, shouting or unnecessary force.
- Bull handlers must use poles/ropes/chains of sufficient length (and strength) to allow a safe distance between them and the animal, but not so long as to make control difficult.
- Nose rings must be checked prior to transport, and must be replaced or doubled up if they are worn or it is known that the bull has a 'hard nose'.

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<sup>9</sup> A rig is a bull that has one descended testicle, has been partially castrated or has only one testicle.



### **1.7.2 Health and Safety Executive gives the following advice<sup>10</sup> in relation to controlling bulls out of their pens:**

When a stock bull has to leave the pen, you must use suitable equipment to secure and lead him. Consider breed, past handling and temperament to decide which of the following methods to use:

- Two people, one using a bullpole attached to the bull's nose and the other using a rope or chain attached to the halter or head chain via the nose ring.
- Two people, both using ropes or chains, one rope or chain attached to a halter, the other either attached directly to the nose ring or via the nose ring to the halter.
- One person using a bullpole attached to the bull's nose ring and a rope or chain attached to the halter or head chain via the nose ring. Make sure there is a competent person standing by to help control the bull if necessary.

If the bull has not been ringed, ensure you have another equally effective means of handling, e.g. a halter and a rope around the base of the bull's horns.

Bull handlers should:

- Hold the bullpole, rope or chain firmly without exerting unnecessary pressure.
- Keep the bull under observation.
- Walk at a steady, slow pace slightly ahead of the bull; and keep the bull's head up at all times.

Farmers arriving at the abattoir with bulls for slaughter will be dealt with as soon as possible after arrival. However, depending on the age/size/temperament of the animal, may be required to move away from the reception pen to a quiet area, to wait until the previous batch of animals has been processed.

**Note:** Responsibility for the animal(s) remains with the farmer until they are safely penned, either within the lairage or in the case of bulls, the stun box.

### **1.8 Vehicle cleaning prior to leaving the abattoir**

After animals have been unloaded and penned, the farmer is required to clean out the trailer (a skip is provided for the disposal of all debris), and pressure-clean the trailer and vehicle on the wash-bay provided, before leaving the site.

This is recommended as a precautionary measure to reduce the risk of disease transmission between livestock areas and premises.

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<sup>10</sup> HSE information sheet – Agriculture Information Sheet No 35 (Rev 1) (10/12).  
Available at: [On-line] <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/ais35.pdf>

## 1.9 Collection of dressed carcase(s) and offal

Carcases and offal are dispatched on the Thursday following slaughter 6.30 - 10am.

The first available date for collection will be indicated on 'FORM A' which will be returned to you via email, fax or post with the details of the booking.

Meat must be collected on the indicated date unless prior arrangement to hang has been made. A hanging charge will be incurred. This will not be reduced if less than a whole carcase is hung, i.e. if only one side of a carcase is left to hang.

## 2.0 Payment method

The keeper of the animal(s) will receive an invoice from the States Treasury.

**Note:** It is the keeper's responsibility to invoice other parties as required.

## 2.1 Charges

Charges are reviewed annually, and available via the link below<sup>11</sup>, or go to [www.gov.je](http://www.gov.je).

Please note that the full charge will be incurred for non-attendance or animals that are not compliant for acceptance (Clean Animal Policy), or if the meat is deemed unfit for human consumption.

### 2.1.1 Chiller space and costs (hanging charges)

If carcase(s)/ offal are not collected on the indicated date you will be charged for storage.

Please be aware that chiller space is limited and is not guaranteed. Failure to collect carcasses may result in the meat being destroyed.

## 2.2 Animal Welfare in Transit

Legislation aimed at protecting welfare of animals during transport is enacted in Jersey, and under the Animal Welfare (Jersey) Law 2004<sup>12</sup> it is an offence for any person to:

(a) Convey or carry any animal in such a manner or position as to cause it unnecessary suffering or;

(b) Omit to supply an animal with proper and sufficient:

- food
- water
- shelter

Care must be taken by the conveyor of an animal to the abattoir to ensure that ill, infirm or lame animals are not transported and that all animals are transported in suitable vehicles which will not cause unnecessary suffering in transit.

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<sup>11</sup> Abattoir Charges. Available at: <http://www.gov.je/Industry/FarmingFishing/FarmingLivestock/Abattoir/Pages/AbattoirForms.aspx>

<sup>12</sup> Animal Welfare (Jersey) Law 2004. Available online at: [http://www.jerseylaw.je/law/display.aspx?url=lawsinforce/consolidated/02/02.050\\_AnimalWelfareLaw2004\\_RevisedEdition\\_1January2008.htm](http://www.jerseylaw.je/law/display.aspx?url=lawsinforce/consolidated/02/02.050_AnimalWelfareLaw2004_RevisedEdition_1January2008.htm)

In addition, if animals are confined for any length of time e.g. overnight in the vehicles in which they are to be transported, you must ensure that:

- Suitable water is available at all times.
- Good ventilation is provided.
- The animals are not subjected to extremes of temperature.

### **2.2.1 The Department of the Environment issued the following advice<sup>13</sup> in March 2014:**

If you transport farm livestock, horses or poultry as part of an economic activity, you are advised to familiarise yourselves with the rules to ensure animal welfare is protected and you do not commit an offence:

- Animals must be fit to travel.
- The vehicle and its loading and unloading facilities are designed, constructed and maintained to avoid injury and suffering.
- Those handling animals are trained and competent.
- Animals shall not be tied by the horns, nose rings or by the legs tied together.
- When animals need to be tied, the ropes, tethers or halters are strong enough not to break and designed to eliminate danger of strangulation or injury and to allow quick release.
- Transport sexually mature males separately from females.
- Transport tied and untied animals separately.

**By working together, we can ensure the welfare of animals and that they are treated with care and respect as they move from field to fork.**


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<sup>13</sup> Welfare of Animals During Transport - Advice for farmers, hauliers and transporters of horses, farm livestock and poultry (Dept. of the Environment, March 2014)

**Appendix 1 FORM A – Abattoir Booking Request & Booking Confirmation Form (March 2014)**

**FORM A – Abattoir Booking Request and Booking Confirmation**

Please complete in block capitals, then forward to Animal By-Products, allowing as much notice as possible to ensure your preferred date

Name of Keeper		Holding No		0	3	0				Contact Details		
Postal Address		Post Code								 Animal By Products Department for Infrastructure P O Box 412, South Hill, St Helier JE4 8UY		
Contact No	Fax	Mobile								D Patterson 01534 448548 L Wagstaffe 01534 448528/07797 727450		
Email address										Email: abp@gov.je		
One week per form please	Quantity			Preferred Week of Slaughter	Completed by TTS & returned to Farmer							
					Confirmed Animal Delivery Times							
CATTLE	Bull	Cow	Steer	DD/MM/YY	Day	Date	Time	<b>COLLECTION DATES &amp; TIMES</b>  <b>FOR OFFICE USE ONLY</b> Day      Date      Time Thurs           06.30-10.00 hrs				
Under 30 months												
Over 30 months												
<b>NB The maximum live weight limit for any animal delivered for processing is 1000kg (1 tonne). Slaughter charges will be applied to any animals rejected for not complying with the Department's "Clean Animal Policy" (Copies are available on request)</b>												
PIGS	Quantity		Indicate if you require carcasses		Day	Date	Time					
			Whole	Split								
Under 100kg								Please Note: The above date is the earliest that carcasses can be collected. Hanging charges will be incurred if carcasses are not collected on this date.  By prior arrangement hanging carcasses can be collected the following; Monday 07.45-08.15 hrs.				
Over 100kg												
Sucklers												
SHEEP	Quantity											
Under 12 months												
Over 12 months												
Number of trips required to transport these animals safely to adhere to welfare and transport requirements												
Special requirements or comments regarding any of these animals, eg 0300## ## #01 flighty, 0300## ## #02 aggressive					Which animals can travel together		No of pens					
Keeper's Signature					Date							

PLEASE NOTE: This form supersedes any previous versions of FORM A with immediate effect. Previous versions of FORM A will not be accepted from 2 April 2014

**Appendix 2 FORM B – Abattoir Delivery Note – CATTLE**

**FORM B ABATTOIR DELIVERY NOTE - CATTLE**

**THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO ARRIVAL AT THE ABATTOIR AND PRESENTED TO THE OFFICER ON DUTY WITH THE APPROPRIATE ORIGINAL REGISTRATION DOCUMENT**

<b>Name of Keeper:</b>		<b>Holding Number:</b>	0	3				
<b>Name of Haulier :</b>								

*Please insert number of animals into box next to category)*

< 30 m		> 30 m	
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<b>Carcass to be collected by</b> <i>PRINT NAME</i>	
--	--

Ear Tag Number										Date of Birth DD/MM/YY	
0	3										
0	3										
0	3										
0	3										
0	3										
0	3										

I declare that the animal(s) registered below is/are free from any veterinary medicine residues in accordance with the relevant withdrawal period for such medicines administered. I understand that random samples will be taken from time to time.

To the best of my knowledge the animals are not showing signs of any disease or condition that may affect the safety of meat derived from them.

No analysis of samples taken from animals on the holding or other samples has shown that the animals in this consignment may have been exposed to any disease or condition that may affect the safety of meat or to substances likely to result in residues in meat.

**PRINT NAME:**

**SIGNED:**

**DATE:**

**Appendix 3 FORM B – Abattoir Delivery Note – PIG or SHEEP (or GOAT)**

**FORM B ABATTOIR DELIVERY NOTE - PIGS / SHEEP**  
**THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO ARRIVAL AT THE ABATTOIR**  
**AND PRESENTED TO THE OFFICER ON DUTY**

Name of Keeper:		Holding Number:	0	3				
Name of Haulier:								

**PIGS** (please insert number of pigs into box next to category)

Over 100 Kg (*Category A)		Under 100 Kg (*Category B)		Sucklers (*Category C)	
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**SHEEP** (please insert number of sheep into box next to category)

Over 12 months *(Category D)		Under 12 months *(Category E)	
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Products to be collected by <i>PRINT NAME</i>	
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Have any analysis of samples shown that any animal may have been exposed to substances likely to result in residues in meat? If "yes", please provide details on additional document.	YES	NO
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I declare that the animal(s) registered below is/are free from any veterinary medicine residues in accordance with the relevant withdrawal period for such medicines administered. I understand that random samples will be taken from time to time. To the best of my knowledge the animals are not showing signs of any disease or condition that may affect the safety of meat derived from them. PRINT NAME:	
SIGNED	DATE

Identification Mark (If specific carcass/offal to be collected by nominated person)	Category *see above	Identification Mark (If specific carcass/offal to be collected by nominated person)	Category *see above

**Appendix 4 Food Chain Information Declaration form**

**States of Jersey - Abattoir  
Food Chain Information Declaration**



**This form is to be completed and accompany any animal presented for slaughter, that is known or suspected to be injured or showing signs of abnormality.**

Holding Number:	
Owner's name, address:	
Owner's email:	
Production site address and holding number (if different):	
<b>Identification details</b> Ear Tag number: Breed: Age: Sex:	
Describe the <b>injury</b> the animal has suffered or <b>abnormality</b> it is showing, or if a veterinary surgeon has examined the animal his/her diagnosis:	
Record all <b>veterinary medicinal products or other treatments</b> administered to the animal within the last 6 months, dates of administration and withdrawal periods:	
Have any analyses shown that the animal may have been exposed to food-borne zoonoses or substances likely to result in residues in meat? <b>If YES, attach a copy of the analysis</b>	YES/NO ( <i>Circle to indicate which</i> )
Name, address and contact details of the owner's veterinary surgeon:	
Signature:	
Print Name:	
Status ( <i>e.g. owner, manager, stockman</i> ):	
Time and date:	.....am/pm / / (dd/mm/yy)

Updated April 2014