

Rural Payments Agency

Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Non-qualifying regulatory provision assurance statement: confirmed

The Regulatory Policy Committee (RPC) is content that, on the basis of the summary information provided, none of the measures or activities presented in the summary document should be considered as a qualifying regulatory provision for the purposes of the business impact target. The RPC has not been asked to provide a detailed view on any specific activity in this statement or comment on any activities not covered in either this summary document or a separate qualifying regulatory provision assessment.

Comments on the non-qualifying regulatory provision summary

The RPC will expect to see the guidance relating to reporting livestock, which has now been removed from the RPA's NQRP summary, appraised as a qualifying regulatory provision.

The Regulator does not give a comparison of its casework relative to previous years however it confirms that "EU regulations specify the percentage of control population that must be selected for inspection each year as well as the rates of risk based and random selections".

Michael Gibbons CBE, Chairman

Rural Payments Agency	We have carried out 23,000 farm inspections (including BPS, cross compliance and livestock inspections) during this period, of which 100% are required by EU Regulations, none of which go beyond the regulatory requirements or introduce any gold plating. We also carried out 25,000 checks in wholesale and retail outlets. No activities listed in this section represent a change in the burden of regulation placed on business. The EU regulations specify the percentage of control population that must be selected for inspection each year as well as the rates of risk based and random selections; the selection rates differ between schemes. Risk selection can be based on non-compliance found during the previous inspections in the same, or a different scheme.	Casework
Rural Payments Agency	On 12 January 2016 we published information to enable farmers to understand who will inspect their farms, what they're looking for and any penalties that may be issued. None of the material produced creates a new regulatory standard that businesses will be expected to follow.	Education, communications and promotion