

Animal Welfare Policy

LIBERTY.

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Overview

At Liberty, we take steps to ensure that all the products we sell and procure have been produced in an ethical and sustainable manner. We believe that no animals should be bred or slaughtered solely for purposes other than food production.

This policy sets out how we strive to safeguard animal welfare within our supply chains. We are committed to seeking continuous improvement in our approach to ensure that no animal suffers in the name of fashion.

This document is complementary to Liberty's other ethical trading policies, which can be found in our [Corporate Social Responsibility hub](#).

General Principles

1. This policy applies to the entire animal sourcing supply chain including catching, maintaining, breeding, raising, transporting, handling and slaughtering. We believe that all of these processes must be undertaken in compliance with the law and relevant standards such as those developed by the [World Organisation for Animal Health](#) (WOAH). They should also follow the decisions and guidelines of the [Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora](#) (CITES).
2. All animals involved in Liberty's supply chains should benefit from The Five Freedoms of animal welfare included in the UK Animal Welfare Act 2006:
 - a. **freedom from hunger and thirst**, by ready access to fresh water and a diet for full health and vigour;
 - b. **freedom from discomfort**, by providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area;
 - c. **freedom from pain, injury, or disease**, by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment;
 - d. **freedom to express normal behaviour**, by providing sufficient space, proper facilities, and company of the animal's own kind;
 - e. **freedom from fear and distress**, by providing conditions and treatment that avoid mental suffering.
3. Liberty does not permit animal testing for cosmetics or beauty products sold in our store or website.
4. This policy must be communicated to all our suppliers who we request to familiarise themselves with it and uphold the principles enshrined in it throughout their supply chains.
5. We acknowledge that ensuring animal welfare can be hindered by lack of visibility of upstream supply chains. Therefore, we work towards increasing traceability in our supply network by, amongst other things, working closely with our suppliers, engaging external experts and participating in multi-stakeholder initiatives, such as the Ethical Trading Initiative.

Specific Guidance

6. **Fur** – We do not allow the use of fur or pelts in the products we sell. We are signatories to the Free Fur Retailers scheme run by Respect for Animals.
7. **Exotic skins** – We do not allow the use of exotic skins, such as alligator, crocodile, lizard, python, in the products we sell unless these come from certified farms with a valid Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) permit, which ensures that wild flora and fauna in international trade are not exploited.
8. **Angora** – We do not allow the use of hair of Angora or other species of rabbits due to the methods used to harvest rabbit hair.
9. **Down and feathers** – Feathers and down used in the products we sell cannot be a by-product of foie gras production and must come from producers with good animal husbandry. Feathers and down must not be harvested from live animals.