



Biosecurity - Prohibited pig feed

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Management of the biosecurity risk

The purpose of this procedure is to outline prohibited pig feed ban monitoring, compliance, awareness and reporting activities in New South Wales (NSW) and how to assess pig enterprises at risk for feeding of prohibited pig feed to pigs.

The feeding of prohibited pig feed to pigs (swill feeding) is well recognised as a significant risk factor for the introduction of many emergency animal diseases to Australia, including foot-and-mouth disease. Effective swill feeding legislation is important in the management of this risk.

This procedure is to be read in conjunction with the 'Australian Prohibited Pig Feed (Swill) Compliance National Uniform Guidelines' ('the Guidelines'), available at <https://www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/what-we-do/biosecurity-services/prohibited-pig-feed-swill-compliance-awareness-project/>.

The Guidelines form the basis for increasing the consistency of the national approach to prohibited pig feed ban compliance, awareness and reporting activities.

Scope

The *Biosecurity Act 2015* (the Act) promotes biosecurity as a shared responsibility between government, industry and the community. This procedure is a State Priority for NSW and should be read in conjunction with the policy '[Prohibited matter – Exotic Pests and Diseases of Animals](#)'.

The procedure applies to the NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI), an office within the NSW Department of Industry, and in their role as authorised officers under the Act.

Biosecurity legislation summary

The feeding of pigs is regulated under part 2 (mandatory measures), division 9, clauses 36 and 37 of the Biosecurity Regulation 2017 (the Regulation). This means that a person must not feed food containing a mammal product to a pig, unless the feeding of the mammal product is in accordance with the Regulation. Also, a person must not allow or direct another person to feed food containing a mammal product to a pig, or allow a pig to have access to the food.

The feeding of prohibited pig feed to pigs meets the definition of a *biosecurity event* under section 39 of the Act. This means that the owner or person in charge of pigs who is aware of swill feeding, or a person such as a veterinarian who in their professional capacity becomes aware of swill feeding, has a biosecurity duty to immediately notify an authorised officer in accordance with part 6 of the Regulation.

The collection, use and disclosure of information in accordance with this procedure, including any internal or external discussion or distribution of information, must be in compliance with the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998* or be exempted by the operation of section 387 of the Act.

Section 387 (2) of the Act provides authority for the disclosure of information about a person, without the consent of the person: to a public sector agency, or to any other person, but only if the disclosure is reasonably necessary for the purpose of exercising a biosecurity risk function.

Work health and safety

The *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* places an obligation on the agency (NSW DPI and LLS) as a person conducting a business or undertaking and workers to provide a safe and healthy workplace. Safe Work Method Statements that support activities included in this procedure must be used in identifying, assessing and controlling risks.

NSW DPI and LLS will work together to create a safe and supportive work environment when undertaking any activities for this procedure.

Authorised officers from LLS must inspect pig enterprises in pairs for workplace health and safety reasons.

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Prohibited pig feed procedure

1. Roles and responsibilities

1.1 NSW Department of Primary Industries (Animal Biosecurity and Welfare)

- liaise with other key stakeholder groups e.g. Game Licensing Unit, Local Government regarding surveillance and feral pig risks on strategic and policy matters
- educate LLS staff and pig producers about emergency animal disease recognition
- provide communications to increase community awareness regarding NSW prohibited pig feed regulation, including general biosecurity duty responsibilities
- educate private veterinarians regarding prohibited pig feed regulation, including general biosecurity duty responsibilities
- provide Strategic Animal Biosecurity Alliance (SABA) reports as required
- provide training and education material to authorised officers in regard to prohibited pig feed regulation
- provide access to extension material in different languages on the Australian Pork Limited (APL) website from a dedicated prohibited pig feed web page
- collate all compliance and awareness activity reports in the previous financial year and submit to Animal Health Australia (AHA) by 31 July annually
- comment on relevant Department of Agriculture & Water Resources biosecurity import risk assessments.

1.2 NSW Department of Primary Industries (Biosecurity and Food Safety Compliance)

- carry out scheduled compliance inspections on a risk-based sample of food outlets (e.g. restaurants, cafes, bakeries, supermarkets) annually
- assist authorised officers from LLS with non-compliance investigations on request, especially more complex cases or those where the chain of events and evidence extends across more than one LLS region.

1.3 Local Land Services

- carry out scheduled compliance inspections on pig enterprises assessed at risk for feeding of prohibited pig feed to pigs at least every four years
- carry out emergency animal disease exclusion testing activities when indicated by the clinical picture and available epidemiological information
- investigate all alleged or suspected incidents of feeding of prohibited pig feed to pigs as soon as practicable
- instigate corrective and/or legislative action when non-compliance is detected
- in cooperation with Local Government, inspect all assessed high risk waste facilities at least every four years for feral pig activity
- provide advice in regard to general biosecurity duty responsibilities and, if required, issue a general biosecurity direction to Local Government when remedial measures are indicated to exclude feral pigs from waste facilities
- liaise with other key stakeholder groups e.g. Game Licensing Unit, pest controllers, pig hunter associations regarding surveillance and feral pig risks on operational issues
- encourage pig producers to participate in feral pig control programs
- educate LLS staff, pig producers and pig hunters about emergency animal disease recognition
- provide communications to increase community awareness regarding NSW prohibited pig feed regulation, including general biosecurity duty responsibilities e.g. boundary fencing to exclude feral pigs and other management tools
- educate private veterinarians regarding NSW prohibited pig feed regulation, including general biosecurity duty responsibilities

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- ensure appropriate data is entered on data systems in order to provide SABA reports, and other as required.

2. Monitoring

LLS will identify pig producers through:

- land and stock returns
- special identifier requests
- saleyard brand and ear tag inspections
- National Livestock Identification System property visits
- local knowledge e.g. contacting private veterinarians, small farmer networks, produce stores (such as sellers of pig feed and rodenticides)
- collaboration with APL
- private/ internet sales (such as Gumtree).

3. Pig enterprise risk assessment

Pig enterprises should be assessed at risk for feeding of prohibited pig feed to pigs if one or more of the following applies:

- previous non-compliance incident/s
- feeding a non-commercial diet to pigs
- no awareness of risks of feeding of prohibited pig feed to pigs
- non-English speaking background
- use of special identifiers
- private/internet based sales
- smallholder or hobby/pig keeper enterprise
- concurrent ownership of other stock (such as cattle, sheep, goats)
- no regular private veterinarian visits
- no quality assurance program
- no herd health program
- poor on-farm biosecurity.

4. Compliance inspections

All pig enterprises assessed as at risk for feeding of prohibited pig feed to pigs should be inspected at least every four years, based on risk factors as identified in section 3 of this procedure.

The swill feeding property inspection checklist, Appendix 2, should be used for compliance inspections on pig enterprises. Additional questions required by individual LLS can be added to this checklist.

Where a telephone call is being made to a pig enterprise the swill feeding desk inspection checklist, Appendix 3, should be used. Additional questions required by individual LLS can be added to this checklist. If used, it is necessary to talk to the person who is responsible for managing and/or feeding the pigs.

Swill feeding property inspection checklists, and when applicable swill feeding desk inspection checklists, are to be added as attachments in the Biosecurity Information System (BIS) when recording a compliance event activity in accordance with the Livestock Health Management System (LHMS) prohibited pig feed standard operating procedure, Appendix 4.

5. Compliance investigations

All alleged or suspected incidents of feeding of prohibited pig feed to pigs are to be promptly investigated by an authorised officer as soon as practicable with a view to prosecution.

Suspected incidents will be investigated by an authorised officer and enforcement action will be determined in line with NSW DPI compliance and enforcement policies.

Evidence should be collected at the time of investigation to support prosecution of offenders. A penalty notice may be appropriate in minor cases only. Warning letters are not sufficient.

Regulatory control will be required even if there is no clinical disease in animals on a pig enterprise in non-compliance cases.

If there is an assessed risk of an emergency animal disease, an authorised officer should:

- accept a biosecurity undertaking from, or give a biosecurity direction to, the owner or person-in-charge of animals on the premises to prevent pigs from further access to prohibited pig feed, and
- accept a biosecurity undertaking from, or give a biosecurity direction to, the owner or person-in-charge of animals on the premises for all foot-and-mouth disease-susceptible (FMD-susceptible) species to remain on the property for 21 days, and
- advise the owner or person-in-charge of animals on the premises why non-compliance with prohibited pig feed regulation is so important.

A district veterinarian must inspect all FMD-susceptible species 21 days after the last potential or confirmed consumption of prohibited pig feed for clinical signs suggestive of infection with FMD or other prohibited matter animal diseases.

6. Targeted publicity

6.1 NSW Department of Primary Industries

- use social media to increase community awareness regarding NSW prohibited pig feed regulation, including general biosecurity duty responsibilities
- provide extension material to private veterinarians regarding NSW prohibited pig feed regulation, including general biosecurity duty responsibilities (such as reporting requirements) via Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) collaboration and Boardtalk
- maintain a dedicated prohibited pig feed web page on the NSW DPI external website.

6.2 Local Land Services

- produce media releases and extension material e.g. newsletters, at field days etc. to increase community awareness regarding NSW prohibited pig feed regulation, including general biosecurity duty responsibilities
- provide extension material to private veterinarians regarding NSW prohibited pig feed regulation, including general biosecurity duty responsibilities (such as reporting requirements) via email messages and/or attendance at local AVA meetings
- deliver prohibited pig feed regulation presentations at private veterinarian emergency animal disease workshops
- provide extension material to local groups, such as salami night.

7. Definitions and acronyms

AHA	Animal Health Australia
APL	Australian Pork Limited
AVA	Australian Veterinary Association
BIS	Biosecurity Information System
Commercial pig enterprise	> 50 sows and/or produces, trades or sells live, or to slaughter, 1001 or more pigs in a financial year
CVO	Chief Veterinary Officer
DAWR	Department of Agriculture and Water Resources
Hobby/pig keeper	< 8 sows
Jurisdictional permit	A permit issued by the NSW DPI Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) or a person holding an equivalent position in another Australian jurisdiction
LHMS	Livestock Health Management System
LLS	Local Land Services

Mammal	Warm-blooded vertebrate animal of a class that is distinguished by the possession of hair or fur, females that secrete milk for the nourishment of the young, and (typically) the birth of live young, but does not include human
Mammal product	Any part of a mammal or anything produced by a mammal
NSW DPI	NSW Department of Primary Industries
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
Prohibited pig feed	Any mammal, mammal product or anything that has had direct contact with a mammal product
SABA	Strategic Animal Biosecurity Alliance
Smallholder pig enterprise	Between 8 and 50 sows and/or produces, trades or sells live, or to slaughter, up to 1000 pigs in a financial year

8. Documentation

Primefact: Prohibited pig feed

Policy - [Prohibited matter – exotic pests and diseases of animals](#)

Policy - [Biosecurity, Collection, use and disclosure of information](#)

Policy - Records Management (IND-I-177)

Policy - Information Security (IND-I-197)

Policy - Classified Information (IND-I-196)

Policy - Government Information (Public Access) (IND-I-178)

Procedure - [Biosecurity Collection, use and disclosure of information](#)

9. Records

All compliance and awareness activities are to be recorded in the BIS in accordance with the LHMS prohibited pig feed standard operating procedure as soon as practicable. Create a new Compliance document in the LHMS – see Appendix 4.

The National Animal Health Information System will be the database for storage of NSW prohibited pig feed compliance information.

AHA will report national results to the Animal Health Committee (AHC) and SAFEMEAT annually.

Records relating to properties placed under biosecurity restrictions must be maintained for at least ten years.

10. Revision history

Version	Date issued	Notes	By
1	5/5/2002	New procedure	Animal Biosecurity
2	28/8/2012	Reflects amended Stock Diseases Regulation and new structure of livestock health and pest authorities (LHPAs)	Animal Biosecurity
3	01/07/2017	Complete revision of all sections, in response to the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> .	Animal Biosecurity and Welfare
3.1	7/12/2017	Amendment to reference correct clauses of Biosecurity Regulation 2017 Insertion of 21 day inspection requirement by district veterinarian of FMD-susceptible species Amendment to detention of 'FMD-susceptible species' instead of animals	Animal Biosecurity and Welfare

11. Contact

Biosecurity NSW – General Enquires
1800 808 095
biosecurity@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Appendix 1: Prohibited pig feed section of the Biosecurity Regulation 2017

Definition

In this Division:

feed particular food to an animal includes:

- (a) allowing or directing another person to feed the food to the animal, or
- (b) allowing an animal to have access to the food.

Prohibited pig feed

- (1) A person must not feed stock food to a pig if the stock food contains a mammal product unless the feeding of the mammal product to the pig is otherwise authorised by this clause.
- (2) A mammal product may be fed to a pig if the mammal product:
 - (a) has been rendered in accordance with the relevant Australian Standard dealing with the rendering of animal products, or
 - Note.** See AS 5008—2007, *Hygienic rendering of animal products* (or any standard that replaces that standard).
 - (b) has been cooked using a process that ensured that the mammal product had, during the cooking process, an internal temperature of at least 70 degrees Celsius for at least 30 minutes and the cooking was carried out under a jurisdictional permit, or
 - (c) has been treated using a process that has been approved by the Animal Health Committee and that process is carried out under a jurisdictional permit, or
 - (d) is identified in a permit issued by the Chief Veterinary Officer that authorises the mammal product to be fed to a pig for the purposes of research or baiting during the period specified in the permit.
- (3) Milk (including milk products and by-products) may be fed to a pig if the milk is of Australian provenance or it has been lawfully imported into Australia for stock food use.
- (4) Cooking oil or fat may be fed to a pig if the oil or fat:
 - (a) has been used in Australia for cooking, and
 - (b) has been treated in accordance with the *National Standard for Recycling of Used Cooking Fats and Oils Intended for Animal Feeds* and published on the website of the Australian Renderers Association.
- (5) Any part of a domestic pig may be fed to another pig on a property if:
 - (a) the domestic pig was born on and spent its entire life on the property, and
 - (b) the feeding occurs as part of a therapeutic process in accordance with the written instructions of a registered veterinary practitioner.
- (6) A person must not possess (which includes collecting or storing) stock food containing a mammal product on a property on which a pig is kept unless the feeding of the stock food to the pig is authorised by this clause or the stock food is intended to be consumed by an animal other than a pig.
- (7) A person must not supply stock food containing a mammal product to another person knowing or reasonably suspecting that it is to be fed to a pig unless the feeding of the mammal product to a pig is authorised by this clause.
- (8) This clause applies to something that has had direct contact with a mammal product in the same way it applies to the mammal product.
- (9) In this clause:

Animal Health Committee means the Animal Health Committee of the National Biosecurity Committee established under the Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity.

jurisdictional permit means a permit issued by the CVO or a person holding an equivalent position in another Australian jurisdiction.

mammal does not include human.

mammal product means any part of a mammal or anything produced by a mammal.

Appendix 2: Swill feeding property inspection checklist

Property name	Property Identification Code (PIC)
Swine brand	GPS coordinates (specify standard used)
Property address	Postal address (if different to property address)
Property owner	Pig owner
Phone	Phone
Mobile	Mobile
Email address	Email address
First language	APIQ [✓] ® certified?

Details of stock

Type of enterprise (**see explanatory note*): Commercial Smallholder Hobby/pig keeper

Pig housing type: Indoor/housed Semi-housed Free-range (access to outdoors)

Approximate number of pigs (on day of visit)	Breeders
	Progeny

Number of other livestock on property

Cattle	Sheep	Goats	Poultry	Other

Feeding of the pigs

Who is responsible for deciding what is fed to the pigs?

Name:

Phone:

Email:

The following three questions are to be answered by the person responsible for deciding what is fed to the pigs.

Note: If you have suspicion of swill feeding after inspection of the pig enterprise, you must caution before proceeding with the questions below.

1. What are the pigs fed? (*fill in table below*)

Feed	Yes/No	If yes, supplier details	Comments
Meat meal			
Milled feed (purchased or home mix)			
Grain			
Milk, milk products or milk by-products (<i>**see explanatory note</i>)			

If YES, details of action to be carried out:

Action date:

Outcomes of follow up:

*Explanatory note

Type of pig enterprise is based on APIQ✓® categories:

Commercial pig enterprise: > 50 sows and/or produces, trades or sells live, or to slaughter, 1001 or more pigs in a financial year

Hobby/pig keeper: < 8 sows

Smallholder pig enterprise: between 8 and 50 sows and/or produces, trades or sells live, or to slaughter, up to 1000 pigs in a financial year

Vegetable or chip waste from processor			
Waste from restaurants, hotels, etc <i>(if yes, then ask what type)</i>			
Waste from supermarkets <i>(if yes, then ask what type)</i>			
Table scraps/kitchen waste /bakery waste <i>(if yes, then ask what type and whether it contains meat or has been in contact with meat)</i>			
Abattoir waste			
Manufactured dog and cat food			
Unfiltered cooking oil			
Other			

****Milk exclusion - milk, milk products or milk by-products either of Australian origin or legally imported for stockfeed use into Australia**

2. Can you tell me what swill is? Correct answer given? YES NO

3. Are you aware of the risks of swill feeding to pigs? YES NO

Other comments:

Assessment: No risk Low risk High risk

Follow up required? YES NO

If YES, details of action to be carried out:

Action date:

Outcomes of follow up:

Authorised officer/caller:

Date/Time:

*Explanatory note

Type of pig enterprise is based on APIQ[✓]® categories:

Commercial pig enterprise: > 50 sows and/or produces, trades or sells live, or to slaughter, 1001 or more pigs in a financial year

Hobby/pig keeper: < 8 sows

Smallholder pig enterprise: between 8 and 50 sows and/or produces, trades or sells live, or to slaughter, up to 1000 pigs in a financial year

Appendix 4: LHMS prohibited pig feed standard operating procedure



1. Create a new compliance event

The screenshot shows the LHMS interface. At the top left is the NSW Government logo and 'Livestock Health Management System'. At the top right, it says 'Welcome, Jamy Somerville' and 'Last logged in: Wednesday, 29 October 2014 11:17 AM'. Below this is a navigation bar with 'Contact', 'Programs', 'Reports', and 'Admin'. The main content area has a 'Home >>' link and two search boxes: 'Search PIC' and 'Search Event'. Below these are three sections: 'My Task List' (empty), 'My Open Events' (empty), and 'District Property Status Alerts' (empty). On the right, a 'Create Event' dropdown menu is open, showing options like 'Advisory', 'Cattle Tick Notification', 'Program Status', 'Tracing', 'Compliance', 'Vaccination', 'Destruction', 'Disposal', and 'Valuation'. The 'Compliance' option is highlighted with a blue circle labeled '1'. The 'Add' button at the top of the dropdown is also highlighted with a blue circle labeled '2'.

Create a new event

- 1.1. Choose 'Compliance' from the pick list
- 1.2. Click 'Add'

2. Enter the compliance details

Home >> Programs >> [Compliance Search](#) >> Compliance

Please select one of the listed entities

Select PIC/PIC Contact :

Select Non-PIC Contact :

Compliance Details

Program * :

Project :

Species :

Method :

Date/Time * :

Vet/Ranger * :

PIC information

2.1 Select the PIC or enter a 'Non-PIC contact'

Compliance details

2.2 Program: Prohibited pig feeding (swill feeding)

2.3 Species: Pig

2.4 Method: Piggery inspection

2.5 Date/Time: The date and time of the inspection

2.6 Select the name of the officer who conducted the inspection

Click 'Save'

3. Compliance findings - Pens

Compliance Findings

	Pens Inspected	Total Pens In Sale	Non-Compliant Pens				% Compliant
			NVD	Identifiers	Health Statements	Total Non Compliant	
Pens	1	0	0	0	0	0	100%

	Stock In Inspected Pens	Total Stock In Sale	Total Uploaded By Database	% Uploaded	# Special Identifiers Sold
Stock Numbers	1	0	0	NaN%	0

Disease Detections Summary	Total Pens With Lice	Total Pens With VFR	Total Pens With Welfare Issues
	% Lice Affected	% VFR Affected	% Welfare Issues

- Pens inspected** 3.1 The total number of pens inspected during this compliance event
- Total non-compliant** 3.2 The number of non-compliant pens found during the compliance event
NOTE: if no non-compliant pens are identified, this field should show '0'

4. Compliance – Stock numbers

Compliance Findings

	Pens Inspected	Total Pens In Sale	Non-Compliant Pens				% Compliant
			NVD	Identifiers	Health Statements	Total Non Compliant	
Pens	1	0	0	0	0	0	100%

	Stock In Inspected Pens	Total Stock In Sale	Total Uploaded By Database	% Uploaded	# Special Identifiers Sold
Stock Numbers	1	0	0	NaN%	0

Disease Detections Summary	Total Pens With Lice	Total Pens With VFR	Total Pens With Welfare Issues
	% Lice Affected	% VFR Affected	% Welfare Issues

- Stock in inspected pens** 4.1 Number of pigs inspected
- Total stock in sale** 4.2 Total number of pigs on the property

5. Notes and attachments

Notes :

Font Name S...

Design Preview

Attachments

Add New Attachment

There are no items to be displayed.

Actions

Cancel Save

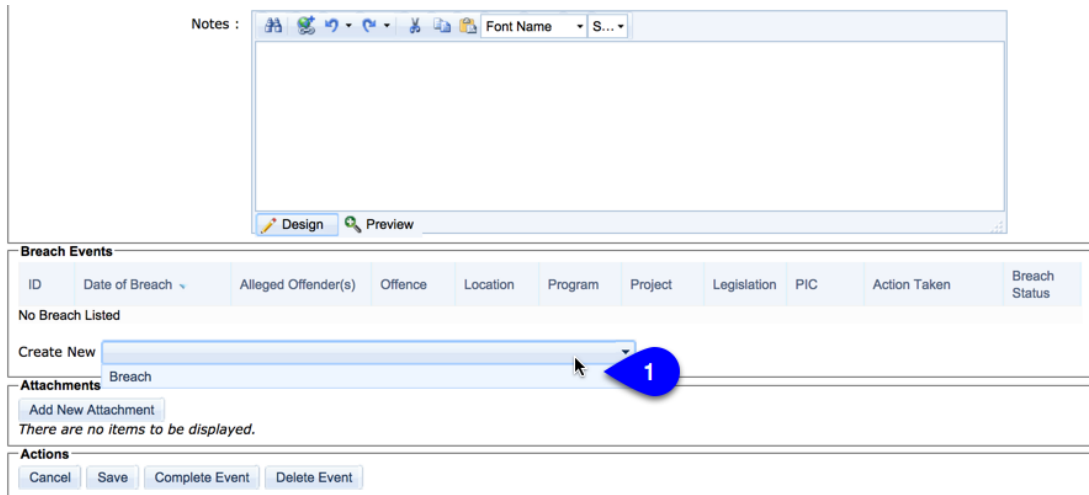
Notes 5.1 Add relevant notes

Attachments 5.2 Attach the swill feeding property inspection checklist or the swill feeding desk inspection checklist

Actions 5.3 Save the event

If any non-compliant pens were recorded, new screen options will appear after you save the compliance event. You are required to complete a breach event for non-compliant pens.

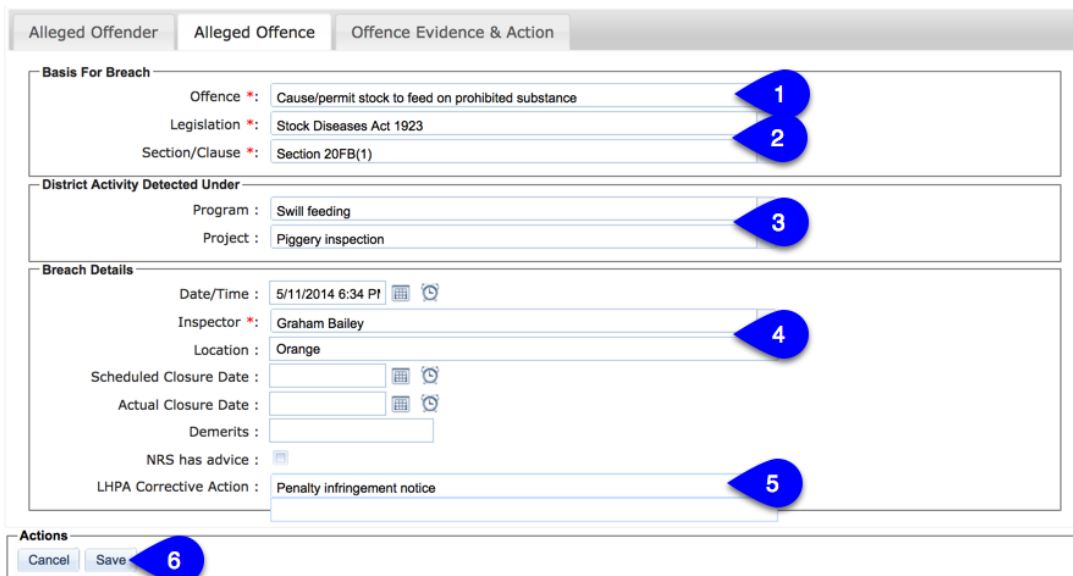
6. Create a breach event



Create new

6.1. Choose 'Breach' from the pick list

7. Add details of the alleged offence



Alleged offence

- 7.1 Enter 'Cause/permit stock to feed on prohibited substance' or 'Feed prohibited substance' whichever is correct
- 7.2 The system will choose the response based on your selection at 7.1
- 7.3 Select the program 'Prohibited pig feeding (swill feeding)' and the project 'Piggery inspection'
- 7.4 Select the officer who conducted the breach event and the name of the nearest town to the breach
- 7.5 Select the corrective action

7.6 Save the event

8. Complete offence evidence and action

The screenshot shows a software interface with three tabs: 'Alleged Offender', 'Alleged Offence', and 'Offence Evidence & Action'. The 'Offence Evidence & Action' tab is active and contains two main sections:

- Elements Of Offence:** A table with columns 'Element' and 'Evidence/Proof'. It lists 'Time and Place', 'Action', and 'Procedural Correctness', each with a red 'X' and a trash icon. An 'Add Element' button is at the bottom.
- Action Taken:** A dropdown menu with the text 'Please Select Action Taken', a 'Notification Date' field, and a 'Notes' text area with a rich text editor toolbar.

Three blue callout bubbles are present: '1' points to the 'Offence Evidence & Action' tab, '2' points to the 'Action Taken' dropdown, and '3' points to the 'Notes' text area.

Action taken

8.2 Refer to "Breach actions" table below

Notes

8.3 Provide a summary of the investigation and evidence to support the action taken

Click 'Save'

Breach actions

	First offence	Subsequent offences
Proven swill feeding	Regulatory action	Prosecution
Unproven swill feeding	Unproven no further action	