Emma Rose

The Alliance to Save our Antibiotics

56-64 Leonard St

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Dear Emma,

Thank you for your letter dated 16th September regarding antibiotics in animal food production. David Potts has asked that I reply on his behalf.

The growing issue around resistance to antibiotics in the human population is complex and we recognise the role that livestock farming has in tackling this problem. Morrisons has been working with industry and suppliers for a number of years to ensure a responsible approach that recognises the need to protect animal well being while developing strategies to ensure both responsible use and reduced use in our livestock sectors.

All our fresh beef, pork, lamb, chicken, eggs and dairy must be Red Tractor assured. Red Tractor as you are aware is an independent third party certified scheme. The standards cover all areas of livestock production including the responsible use of antibiotics.

The farming industry has made considerable progress with examples such as The British Poultry Council’s Antibiotic Stewardship Scheme and the Pig Industry Antibiotic Stewardship Programme that covers key issues around responsible use, prophylactic use and CIA’s. We work with our suppliers to ensure implementation of these programmes.

Last year we instigated a dairy herd health report with one of our milk suppliers, Arla Foods. The report published in March this year, focuses on dairy farm management practices to promote healthy herds and limited use of medicines including antibiotics.

While progress has been made, we have a comprehensive programme going forward, working with industry and our supply chains, to ensure we continue to build on these improvements.

Kind regards

David Evans

Head of Agriculture