



## Foyle Food Group

# SOY SOURCING POLICY

### **Introduction**

Foyle Food Group are a family-owned business with over 40 years of expertise in beef processing. We are dedicated to operating as a sustainable business and committed to doing that well. While we are a UK-based Beef processing company, we have customers around the world, and we embrace our responsibility to help address global issues where we can.

All the soy within our footprint is embedded soy in the beef cattle we purchase. Our indirect soy footprint is centred on the use of soy as an ingredient in livestock feed. Farming and agriculture are central to our business, whilst we do not source animal feed or soy directly, we recognise the need to work with all stakeholders to ensure a transition to sustainably sourced soy in our beef supply chains. Our beef cattle are sourced in the UK and Ireland where grass is the primary component of the diet.

### **Commitment and Objectives**

The Foyle Food Group is committed to ensuring that any soy used in our supply chains in Ireland and the UK is deforestation and conversion free (DCF) \* by 2025. \*cut-off date for deforestation and conversion is January 2020.

We are committed to reporting and communicating our policy objective to our suppliers to raise awareness and assist in the transition to deforestation and conversion free (DCF) feed within our Beef Supply Chain.

### **Completed Actions**

In 2020 Foyle Food Group commenced action to address unsustainable soya feed in our supply chain. We recognise that this feed ingredient can be sourced from deforested regions as well as sustainable regions. For our beef suppliers, that have a low reliance on soya as a feed ingredient, it is difficult to identify which soya is harming biodiversity, so we took long term and short-term actions to address this:

#### Short-term

We annually report progress to our customers through platforms such as 3Keel.

We have published annually our animal nutrition masterclass with leading experts to improve animal health and farm efficiency. In doing so we promote soya free cattle diets that are equally as effective but eliminate deforestation risk.

In 2023, we continued to seek alternative protein to soya for animal feed and sharing this knowledge with our suppliers. We engaged with supplying farmers at our animal nutrition discussion forums with focus on how to utilise alternative protein sources to soya. A strong focus is also placed on grass quality to achieve high protein and energy levels in the diet to reduce the need for protein supplementation from concentrate feed.

#### Long-term

In 2022 we became members of the UK Soy Manifesto to engage at national level and support the industry step change in the transparent sourcing of sustainable DCF soy in UK food supply chains. This collaborative industry approach to work together to ensure all physical shipments of soy to the UK are deforestation and conversion free (DCF)\* by 2025 is essential in liaising with traders and shippers of soy and the broader animal feed industry to drive change at scale for the whole of the UK industry.

## **Our Soy Action Plan**

Foyle Food Group are committed to enabling our beef producers to source sustainable DCF free soy by helping to improve the traceability of soy used in livestock feed and supporting more transparent soy reporting across the supply chain.

- Through our sustainable farming group meetings educate, engage and support farmers on soy sourcing
- Further the advice to our farmers on the use of alternative protein sources.
- Through our Foyle farms of excellence complete trials on protein alternatives in beef cattle diets
- Engage with Industry stakeholders and the UK Soy Manifesto on the UK Soy Footprint and Verification of sustainable sourcing.

Signed



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Wayne Acheson

Agriculture & Procurement Director