**ANIMAL WELFARE OBLIGATIONS FOR PAINFUL HUSBANDRY PROCEDURES IN CATTLE**

**CASTRATION**
- Pain relief MUST be used if animals are over six months old
- Use correct size of rubber ring
  - Ring above testes and below teats
  - If using high tension band then anaesthetic must be used (any age)

**RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICE**
- Always use pain relief for any age
- If using surgery, work hygienically
- Seek veterinary advice on best methods

**GENERAL INFORMATION**
- Apply rubber rings to neck of scrotum between 1-4 weeks of age
- No rubber rings after four months of age

**DISBUDDING OR DEHORNING**
- Local anaesthetic authorised by a vet MUST be used on animals of all ages when disbudding or dehorning.
- Disbudding
  - Thermal cauterising or chemical techniques must not damage animal tissue beyond the bud
- Dehorning
  - Method must minimise pain, distress and risk of infection

**RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICE**
- Animals should be disbudded in preference to being dehorned
- Use pain relief for any age when disbudding or dehorning
- Use wound dressings to prevent blood loss when dehorning
- Inspect animals during healing period after dehorning and treat infected wounds
- If in doubt, seek veterinary advice on best methods