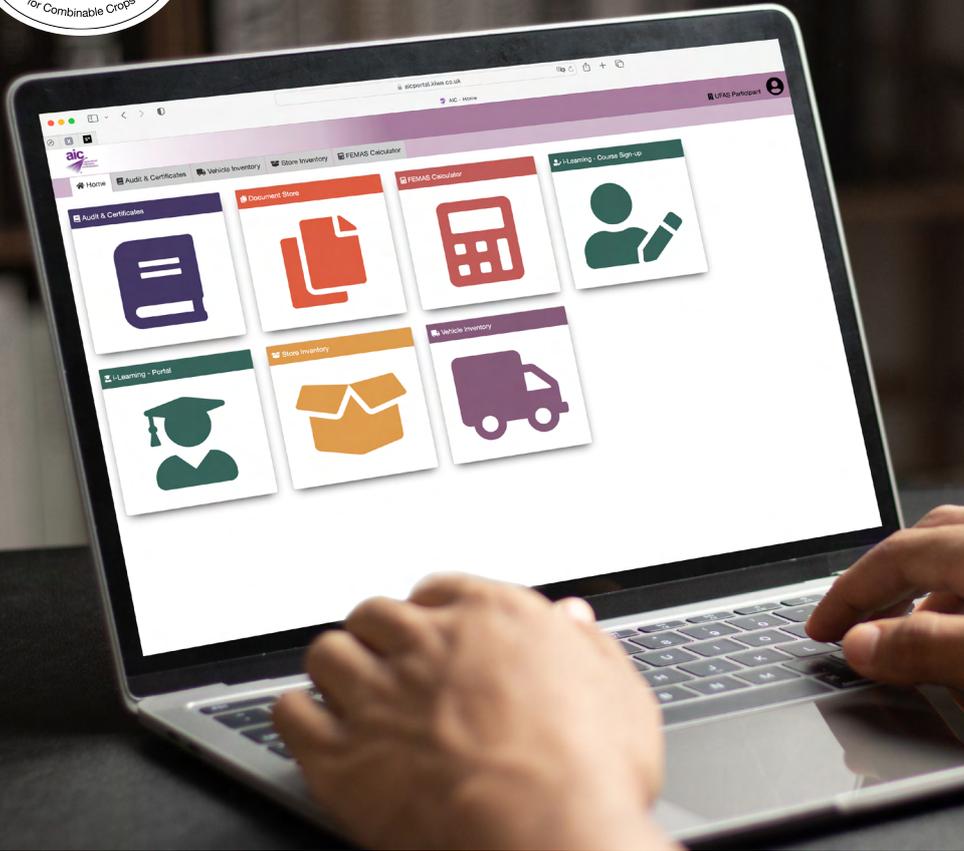


# T A S C C f o r c e

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TRADE ASSURANCE SCHEME FOR COMBINABLE CROPS



## Welcome

Welcome to TASCCforce. In this edition, we explore the benefits of AIC's portal to help the smooth flow of audit information.

We welcome Marie Beasley the new Scheme Manager for TASCC and FIAS, share a reminder of the changes to load securing and sheeting for bulk tippers, and much more.

As ever, we welcome all feedback from Members and Participants. If you have any questions or suggestions of topics you would like to see covered, please get in touch. AIC is always open to hearing your views and is here to help make your voice be heard.



**Gill Barrow**  
Technical Manager

## AIC Portal usage and benefits

AIC's Portal enables Participants to upload documentation prior to an audit, view findings reports and certificates, and includes the vehicle inventory along with access to the i-learning portal.

The Portal can be used as a document library and documents can be added as and when a change or review has been made. If a non-conformance is raised during an audit, the easiest way to submit your corrective action evidence is via the portal. This allows the technical reviewer to match the evidence to the non-conformance with greater accuracy and speeds up the process of the report reaching final review and certification.

A helpful user guide and video can be found on [AIC's website](#)

## Short notice audits

Additional short notice hygiene and traceability audits were introduced from 1 April. These will be carried out once in a three-year period and participants will receive 24-hours' notice of an audit.

If your scope includes Storage and Merchanting, you will only receive a short notice hygiene audit.



## Welcome to Marie Beasley

Last October Marie joined Kiwa as the Scheme Manager for the TASCC and FIAS Schemes.

Marie has a Quality Manager background in the food industry and hopes to bring her skills and experience into the food, feed, and fertiliser sectors.

Marie says: "Since joining I have gained knowledge and experience within the food/feed industry, and I am now qualified as a TASCC Technical Reviewer. Over the past few months I have been actively shadowing audits and witness assessments with various assessors and I am very much enjoying this new career opportunity."

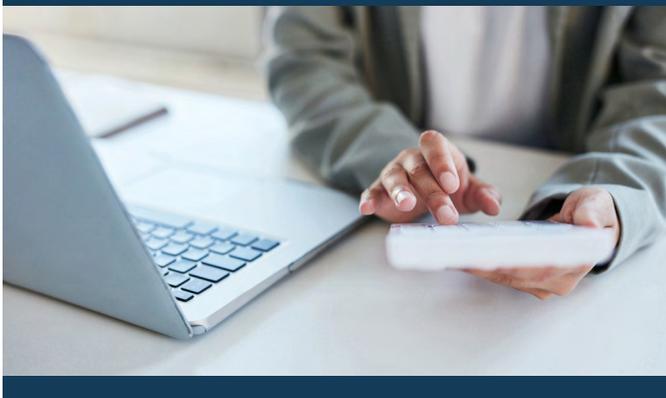


**Marie Beasley**  
Kiwa Scheme Manager  
for TASCC and FIAS

## Scheme owners audit

In March, AIC carried out an audit of Kiwa at its office in Harrogate, with TASCC Working Group Chair Cecilia Pryce joining the auditing team. The purpose of the audit was to review the processes, systems, and management of the scheme.

Traceability assessments were carried out on a range of types of audits and scopes, reviewing the process in relation to the TASCC Participant experience and interaction with the Certification Body. The audit demonstrated the robust systems and processes in place and the knowledge and expertise of the Kiwa team.



## AHDB Analyst Training Modules

These AHDB Modules are an invaluable resource for training personnel and for complying to the TASCC Testing Code of Practice.

There are a range of modules available for wheat, barley, peas, beans, and more, which have been written by industry experts and are available on the AHDB website.

A new maize module will be available later this year. Go to the [AHDB website](#) to register and access the modules. All courses can be viewed prior to registration.

There is now an option to print or receive modules via email. For further information, contact: [gill.barrow@agindustries.org.uk](mailto:gill.barrow@agindustries.org.uk)



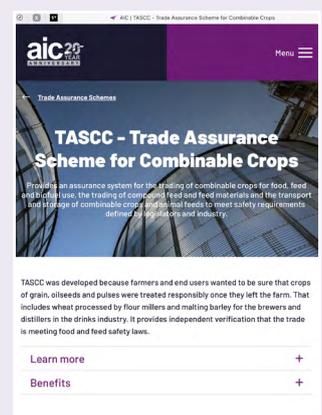
## How to find TASCC documents on AIC's website

You can find a range of supporting documents on AIC's website by visiting the TASCC page.

The documents can be edited and altered to suit your quality management system or adopted as they are, as a controlled document.

Scroll down on the TASCC page to the section "In this scheme" and click on the relevant links, which include checklists, forms, and templates.

A user guide is available on [AIC's website](#)



# Bulk Tippers – changes to load securing and sheeting

May 2022 saw a change to the load securing and sheeting requirements of bulk tippers by the DVSA.

Due to the change in security of load requirements for bulk tippers, all loads must be sheeted if goods are loaded above the body of the vehicle/trailer. A rigid cover or a rated sheet must completely cover and secure the load without any gaps.

Failure to do so is an offence and drivers will receive a fixed penalty fine of £300. All loads must meet the load securing requirements as detailed in the current DVSA Categorisation of Defects (IM19 Security of Body, Containers and Crane Support Legs, page 51-55).

The DVSA document can be viewed on the [GOV.UK website](https://www.gov.uk)

It is important to ensure that all loads are secured to meet current enforcement requirements as set out by the DVSA to avoid prohibitions, fixed penalty fines, and the possibility of the Traffic Commissioner taking action against your Operator Licence.

It is a requirement of the TASCC Code of Practice for Road Haulage that trailers are sheeted (see below).

Clause Ref	Requirement	Guidance
H12.1	As a legal requirement and integral for load security and food/feed safety, vehicles must be kept sheeted/ covered at all times except when loading or sampling is taking place.	Sheeting is necessary even when empty, as this is best practice. However, due to company policy or infrastructure, it may not be possible to fully implement this requirement at some delivery sites.  After using unsheeted vehicles, customers may require additional sanitising as per International Database for Transport of <a href="#">Feed (IDTF)</a> <a href="#">(see Appendix 4)</a>

## Control of birds on site

A guidance note for the control of birds on site is available as a TASCC Appendix (no. 11). Birds can be carriers of salmonellae and other pathogens which are harmful to both livestock and humans.

Precautions need to be taken to exclude birds from areas where goods are produced, handled, stored, or consumed. The document, which is available on [AIC's website](#), details how to deter birds and the control measures to implement.



## Exclusion and Sensitive List Material – TASCC trailers



If you are in any doubt about whether a material can be carried please contact AIC or Kiwa for clarification [uk.feed@kiwa.com](mailto:uk.feed@kiwa.com) or [enquiries@agindustries.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@agindustries.org.uk)

Please obtain a Product Specification Sheet detailing the product and its content and source. This information is essential to determine if the material is safe to be carried without compromising food or feed safety.

Carrying material which is not suitable can result in trailers being removed from the TASCC scheme.



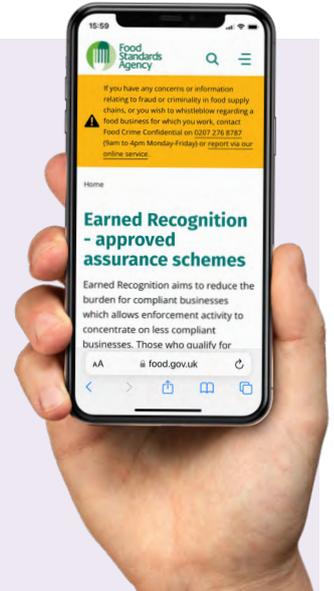
## Earned Recognition

TASCC has a valuable Earned Recognition agreement with the Food Standards Agency (FSA), and AIC schemes remain the only non-farm-based schemes to retain their approval.

Earned Recognition means that businesses which demonstrate consistent compliance with legislation are subsequently visited less frequently by the authorities.

The best way to demonstrate compliance is by being certified by a scheme that is recognised by those authorities. The Earned Recognition Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is currently undergoing a detailed review to demonstrate that TASCC still meets the required standards, but also to align the contents with the farm assurance schemes that qualify as well.

The revised MoU should provide a better flow of information between AIC and the authorities. In turn, this will ultimately assist Participants in achieving compliance and build on the strong working relationship.



## Auditor Training

In addition to the auditor training day shared in the previous edition, Kiwa organised an afternoon of training specifically for TASCC auditors in February.

The training was carried out remotely and included an update from AIC on the Joint Scheme Development project, a guest speaker from a pest management consultancy, an auditing update, and technical review feedback.

It was also an opportunity for questions and answers, as well as open discussion between the auditors.



## Top 5 non-conformances across the TASCC Scheme

Clause Ref	Clause
G9.1b.Mi	All relevant food/feed legislation must be reviewed annually.
G6.4.Mi	As a minimum, a designated person must complete the relevant AIC i-learning modules or equivalent training package.
G21.2d.Mi	A traceability exercise must be completed by Merchants, Storekeepers and Hauliers.
G15.1.Mi	Records of registration under feed must be kept to show that applications have been made/or responses received from the local council or competent authority.
G6.3a.Mi	Training records must be maintained for all relevant personnel.
G21.1.Mi	Internal Audit must be carried out ensuring all relevant activities are covered.



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