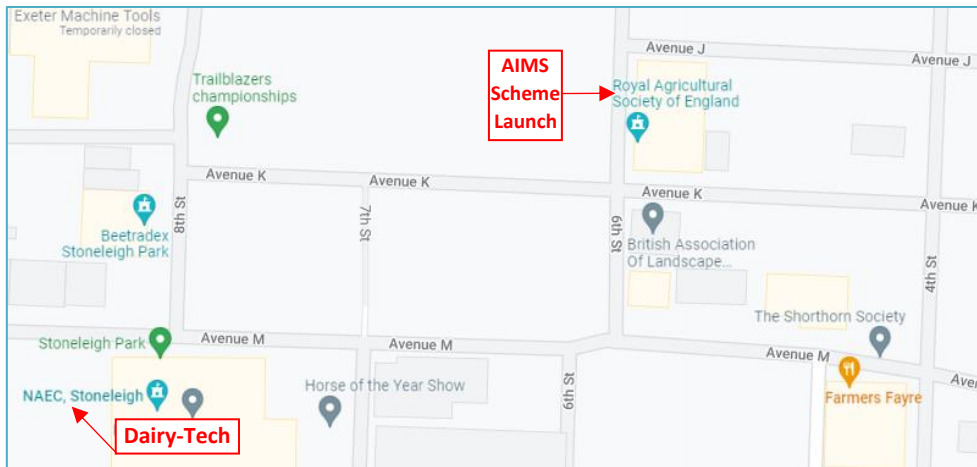


Further information :

For more information, queries and/or to request details regarding membership, please contact the relevant member of the AIMS Management Committee or Ian Wakeling (by phone at 020 7025 0545 or by email at iwakeling@dairyuk.org).

Notes;

- The scheme has been developed by the industry with administrative support being provided by Dairy UK
- The scheme is the intellectual property of Dairy UK
- Members of the scheme are responsible for the cost of their annual audit and the proportional running cost of the scheme
- Members of the scheme do not need to be members of Dairy UK



Invitation to AIMS Scheme Launch

1st February 2023



Please come and visit us at the Council Chamber in the Arthur Rank Centre at Dairy-Tech, Stoneleigh Park anytime between 11am and 2pm to meet members of the Management Committee and discuss the Scheme whilst enjoying a scone and clotted cream

[Assured Integrated Milk Supplier \(AIMS\) Scheme](#)

[Website: aimsdairy.co.uk](http://aimsdairy.co.uk)

(the website will be available to coincide with the launch on 1 February)

Summary and Overview:

Milk is often supplied between dairy companies as a commercial arrangement which can take various forms. Typically, this can be;

- Direct purchases / sales (traded) on a regular or ad-hoc basis
- Integrated haulage arrangements and
- Swaps between parties

These arrangements are primarily for commercial benefit with transport savings, fulfilling processing requirements and capacity utilisation, however they often provide secondary operational and environmental benefits.

The transactions are normally underpinned by contracts and documented agreements against raw milk delivery specifications to ensure the milk supplied is of a good quality; together with requirements such as being Red Tractor and Dairy Transport Assurance Scheme (DTAS) Assured, along with working knowledge between parties being relied on for quality assurance of the milk being supplied.

However, there are inherent weaknesses in being solely reliant on these safeguards as, although traceability is maintained, these are not immediately transparent and so undermines the provenance. For example, a load being supplied to a dairy from a third-party could actually be sourced from another party as part of a swap unbeknown to the business purchasing the milk.

The purpose of the scheme (AIMS) is to create a status of Assured Supplier for the participating dairies (scheme members) so, when trading milk, scheme membership assures that the supplier's responsibilities and provenance are being fulfilled to the receiving dairy. Ideally, members of the scheme would seek that 100% of their non-direct sourced milk would be from AIMS Assured Suppliers, however membership would not preclude additional trading with non-AIMS members or having additional directly agreed bi-lateral arrangements.

The framework of the scheme is deliberately very simple and it is not intended that all companies manage their milk supplies in the same way but that each company has relevant policies, processes and systems in place. However, should members of the scheme choose to share good practice and knowledge between them in a non-competitive commercial way they are free to do so.

As a brief overview;

- The scheme is operated by a members' Management Committee as a Dairy UK Committee
- All members of the scheme sign up to a Code of Practice
- Each member is audited against the Code of Practice
- The findings of the audits are reported to the Management Committee in the form of a proficiency scheme so retaining confidentiality.

In addition, the scheme administration collates and compares key statistical KPI, again to present as a confidential proficiency report to the Management Committee.

The Scheme is effective from January 2023 and launched at Dairy-Tech, Stoneleigh Park on the 1st February. The inaugural year is operated on a pilot basis before going fully live from January 2024.