



Borders Bulletin

26 February, 2024



Message from Cabinet Office

✉ Dear Stakeholders, it has now been three weeks since the introduction of the requirement for health certification on imports of medium-risk animal products, plants, plant products and high-risk food (and feed) of non-animal origin from the EU.

We would like to thank you for all your hard work and support in the successful implementation of this first key Border Target Operating (BTOM) milestone. The UK Government has continued to engage extensively with businesses in the UK and the EU since the 31st January milestone and is delighted with the positive feedback that has been received.

We will continue to build on this success as we look forward to the next key BTOM milestone on 30 April which will see the introduction of documentary and risk-based identity and physical checks on medium-risk animal products, plants, plant products and high-risk food (and feed) of non-animal origin from the EU. We will continue to provide support for businesses in the lead up to this milestone by engaging directly and providing relevant materials in this Bulletin and other sources.

Updates inside

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Customs Declaration Service (CDS): Update on Air Locations

Declarants using inventory linked air locations can begin to submit export declarations through the Customs Declaration Service (CDS) from 19 February 2024. The only exception is if there is a chance that goods could be rerouted to an inventory linked maritime location.

Export declarations for goods submitted through inventory linked maritime locations will be submitted through the CDS from early March 2024. At this point, all export declarants should be able to start submitting declarations through the CDS.

Most businesses will be able to move their export declarations by 30 March 2024. Businesses that may not be able to fully migrate before the deadline will have three months from when HMRC tells them they can migrate to do so.

HMRC will be in touch with businesses submitting export declarations with further details of timelines.

If businesses have not already done so, they should follow the steps in the [declarant checklist for CDS exports](#) to ensure they have taken all the actions needed to prepare to use the CDS.

HMRC will continue to provide support for businesses making export declarations through CDS.



Changes for goods moving from the island of Ireland to Great Britain

As of 31 January 2024, some goods face full customs controls when moved from Irish ports to Great Britain.

Goods need to complete import processes if they are imported directly from Ireland into Great Britain.

Goods moving from Northern Ireland to Great Britain through Irish ports also have to complete import processes if they are:

- non-qualifying Northern Ireland goods;
- excise goods (alcohol, tobacco, and energy products), weapons of mass destruction related goods (such as certain fissionable material) or endangered species (further details are available in the [Public Notice](#));
- goods which do not move directly to an Irish port once they have left Northern Ireland for example, goods which are held in storage in Ireland.

Traders can find out more by using the [step by step guide for importing goods](#) on GOV.UK. If you have any questions, visit [Imports and Exports: general enquiries](#).

Updates from the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra)

Translated BTOM Guidance Leaflets have now been published.

Leaflets including detailed information to help businesses prepare for a new approach to importing goods to Great Britain under the Border Target Operating Model were published in 2023. [Border Target Operating Model: information leaflets for businesses - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

These information leaflets have been translated into the following languages:

 **Welsh** - [Model Gweithredu Targed y Ffin \(BTOM\): taflenni gwybodaeth i fusnesau - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

 **German** - [Border Target Operating Model: Merkblätter für Unternehmen - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

 **Spanish** - [Modelo Operativo de Objetivos Fronterizos \(BTOM\): folletos informativos para empresas - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

 French - [Border Target Operating Model \(Modèle opérationnel cible des frontières\) : dépliants d'information pour les professionnels du commerce - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

 Italian - [Border Target Operating Model: opuscoli informativi per le imprese - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

 Dutch - [Border Target Operating Model: informatie voor bedrijven - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

 Polish - [Border Target Operating Model, czyli docelowy model operacyjny dla funkcjonowania przejść granicznych: ulotki informacyjne dla podmiotów gospodarczych - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

BTOM SPS Controls webinars

 You can now sign up on Eventbrite for Defra's BTOM webinars to guide you through the 30 April 2024 milestone [here](#).

'Clone a Certificate' for live animals is now live

'Clone a Certificate' is a digital service that allows the direct cloning of Digital Export Health Certificates from exporting countries where the capability is available, as set out in the BTOM.

This functionality has now launched and is available for the import of live animals from EU Member States that use TRACES.

Using the 'Clone a Certificate' function will reduce the time taken to complete a CHED import notification and reduce manual data entry errors. It will automatically attach a digitally signed, tamper-proof PDF of the health certificate directly from TRACES to the CHED.

You can find information about 'Clone a Certificate' [here](#).

Authorised Operator Status Expression of Interest Deadline Approaching

You can now submit your applications for the Authorised Operator Status (AOS) Pilot - don't miss your chance to apply!

Businesses must meet specific criteria to take part. This includes being a UK-established business for customs purposes and being a Control Point designated premises or in the last stages of the designation process.

Eligible businesses can submit an Expression of Interest by [completing the application form](#) and emailing to either:

- AOSImports@apha.gov.uk (for traders based in England and Wales)
- BCPScotland@gov.scot, entering 'AOS Request'; in the subject header (for traders based in Scotland)

Businesses have until midday, 8 March 2024 to submit their Expression of Interest.

You can [watch a recording of the AOS pilot online session](#) which outlines eligibility criteria as well as roles and responsibilities.

More information about AOS can be found [here](#).

If you have any feedback or queries about the application process, please get in touch at AOSImports@apha.gov.uk.

Pre-notification in IPAFFS:

- [Click here](#) to watch the webinar recording for Importing HRFNAO (High-Risk Food and Feed Not of Animal Origin) via the EU to GB: the new CHED Part 1 notification
- [Click here](#) to watch the webinar recording for Importing animal products from the EU to GB: New CHED Part 1 notification or read our [guidance](#) in Import Notifications

Risk Categories and Export Health Certificates (EHCs)

1. Know your risk-category – [use the online guidance to find the risk category of your commodity](#)
2. Ensure that your EU supply chain is preparing to provide you with health certificates and/or [phytosanitary certificates](#).



Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA) Contact info

When?	Who?	How?
For urgent BTOM/import queries for plants and plant products	Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA)	Email (priority route): phsi-importers@apha.gov.uk Tel (secondary route): 03000 200 301
For urgent BTOM/import queries for animals and animal products	Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA)	Email (priority route): imports@apha.gov.uk Tel (secondary route): 03000 200 301

Helplines

Here is the list of helplines you may find useful. We have added hyperlinks that will take you to pages that provide extra information such as the opening hours for the helpline all of which have sufficient capacity to support businesses.

- HMRC Customs & International Trade Helpline - 0300 322 9434
- [HMRC Imports and Exports General Enquiries](#) (including GVMS) - 0300 322 9434 • **New**
- [Computerised Transit System](#) - 0300 322 7095
- [DVLA Contact Centre](#) - 0300 790 6802
- [DVSA](#):
 - Vehicle Operator Licensing Enquiries - 0300 123 9000
 - International Road Haulage Permits - 0330 678 1117
- [The Office for Product Safety and Standards](#) - 0121 345 1201
- [MHRA Customer Service Centre](#) - 020 3080 6000
- [National Supply Disruption Centre](#) - 0800 915 9964
- [Rural Payments Agency \(RPA\) Trader team](#) - 0330 041 6500
- [Animal, Plant and Health Agency \(APHA\)](#) - 0300 100 0313
 - IPAFFS general - 0300 100 0313
 - IPAFFS technical - 0330 041 6999
 - PEACH - 0345 607 3224

Helplines (continued)

- [Defra Rural Services](#) - 0300 020 0301
- [Environment Agency England](#) - 03708 506 506
- [Forestry Commission](#) - 0300 067 4000
- [Fish Exports Helpline](#) - 0330 159 1989
- [The Intellectual Property Office](#) - 0300 300 2000
- [Citizen Advice Consumer Helpline](#) - 0808 223 1133
- [Department for Education Helpline](#) - 0370 000 2288
- [Home Office - UK Visas & Immigration Helpline](#) - 0300 790 6268
- [Home Office - EU Settlement Scheme Application Resolution Centre](#) - 0300 123 7379

Import and Export Guidance

- Import/export general enquiries can be made directly to HMRC via:

Telephone - 0300 322 9434

Textphone - 0300 200 3719

You can also [speak to an adviser online](#) about general import and export queries.

DEFRA also provides guidance regarding commodity codes [here](#). If you would like to contact DEFRA, they have a number of helplines which can be found [here](#).
