

26 July 2021

Dear Recipient/Annwyl,

Re: Export Health Certification Requirements – Captive birds

As you may be aware the EU's new [Animal Health Regulation \(AHR\) 2016/429](#) applied in the EU from 21 April 2021 and from 20 August 2021 exporters will be required to use new Export Health Certification (EHC) for exports/movements to the EU/NI from GB. This regulation repealed Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 139/2013 and Council Directive 92/65/EEC ('Balai') in the EU.

This letter contains information which may be relevant for your organisation/membership in relation to registered bodies, institutes and/or centres wishing to export/move captive birds to the EU/NI from GB.

Exports/Movements to the EU and/or NI

Since 21 April 2021, captive birds that are transported to the EU or NI from GB are subject to 3rd country animal health import conditions set out in [Regulation \(EU\) 2020/692](#). The AHR (Article 4) defines 'captive birds' as any birds other than poultry that are kept in captivity for any reason, including those that are kept for shows, races, exhibitions, competitions, breeding or selling.

It will not be possible to export/move captive birds to the EU or NI unless the establishment is approved – registered premises cannot trade/move these animals to the EU and/or NI after 21 August 2021. Therefore, to export/move captive birds to the EU and/or NI, premises will need to be approved by the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) as an 'approved establishment' in accordance with Article 56 of [Regulation \(EU\) 2020/692](#) and listed as such. The requirements are set out in the Annex to this letter.

What we have asked current approved premises to do

APHA have written to 'Balai' approved bodies/institutes or centres that may wish to export/move captive birds to the EU/NI from GB asking them to confirm that they meet these new requirements in order to list their establishment for the purposes of exporting/moving captive birds to the EU and/or NI.

APHA have asked for confirmation by email by **27 July** for those wishing to export/move captive birds to the EU/NI upon which an email confirmation of approval will be issued. Inspections will then be arranged later in the year as usual. This will allow exports/movements to commence using the new EHC from 21 August.

It is important that establishments do this as otherwise they will be not be included in the list of approved establishments for export of captive birds to the EU and/or NI. This list is to be provided to the EU and Official Veterinarians will refer to this list when completing the EHC that accompanies consignments.

Establishments may, however, apply for approval at any time, at which point APHA will carry out an inspection for a new approval against these new requirements.

Please note that this is separate exercise to that being carried out to approve 'breeding establishments' as these premises will have to be inspected by APHA before being approved.

Imports/movements from EU/NI and other Third Countries

Current Balai approval arrangements remain in place as a national regime and for import purposes.

The animal health requirements for the move/import of captive birds from NI/EU and other Third Countries is reflected in the following Import Information Notes:

[Captive Birds \(IIN CBTC/2\)](#)

[Birds and hatching eggs for conservation onto Balai approved premises \(IIN BTC/2\)](#)



Emma Biggs

Head of International Trade and the Customer Service Centre Network

APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy

Mae APHA yn un o Asiantaethau Gweithredol Adran yr Amgylchedd, Bwyd a Materion Gwledig ac mae hefyd yn gweithio ar ran Llywodraeth yr Alban, Llywodraeth Cymru a'r Asiantaeth Safonau Bwyd i ddiogelu iechyd anifeiliaid a phlanhigion er budd pobl, yr amgylchedd a'r economi

Annex

Requirements for approval of captive birds establishments set out in Annex XIX of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692.

Biosecurity measures

- Only birds coming from other approved establishments may be introduced into the establishment.
- Birds may be introduced into the establishment from sources other than approved establishments if approved by the competent authority, provided that such birds are isolated for at least 30 days before being added to the collection of birds in the establishment.

Animal health requirements

- The establishment must be clearly demarcated and separated from its surroundings.
- The establishment must have adequate means for catching, confining and isolating animals and have available adequate approved quarantine facilities and approved procedures for animals coming from establishments that have not been approved.
- The establishment must either have suitable arrangements or on-site facilities and equipment for the appropriate disposal of the bodies of animals which die of a disease or are euthanised.

Record keeping

The operator must keep up-to-date records indicating:

- the number and identity (namely the age, sex, species and individual identification number where practical) of the animals of each species present in the establishment;
- the number and identity (namely the age, sex, species and individual identification number where practical) of animals arriving in the establishment or leaving it, together with information on their origin or destination, the transport from or to the establishment and the animal health status;
- the results of blood tests or any other diagnostic procedures;
- cases of disease and, where appropriate, the treatment administered;
- the results of the post-mortem examinations on animals that have died in the establishment, including still-born animals; and
- observations made during any isolation or quarantine period.

These records must be retained for at least 10 years, starting from the date of approval.

Personnel

The person responsible for the establishment must have adequate ability and knowledge.

The operator must secure, by contract or other legal instrument, the services of an approved veterinarian who ensures that appropriate disease surveillance and control measures are in place:

- An annual disease surveillance programme including appropriate zoonoses control of the animals.
- Clinical, laboratory and post-mortem testing of animals suspected to be affected by diseases.
- Vaccination of susceptible animals against diseases as appropriate, in conformity with the Terrestrial Animal Health Code and the Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals of the OIE.
- Suspect deaths or the presence of any other symptoms indicative of highly pathogenic avian influenza, infection with Newcastle disease virus or avian chlamydiosis is notified without delay to the competent authority.
- That animals entering the establishment have been isolated as necessary and in accordance with any instructions given by the competent authority.

Health status

- The establishment must be free from highly pathogenic avian influenza, infection with Newcastle disease virus and in the case of Psittacidae, avian chlamydiosis.
- The operator must either have an arrangement with a laboratory to perform post-mortem examinations or have one or more appropriate premises where such examinations may be performed by a competent person under the authority of an approved veterinarian.