



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

OFFICIAL

Trader Readiness for the 1st Border Target Operating Model Milestone - 31 January 2024

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The Border Target Operating Model (BTOM)



The BTOM will **minimise trader burdens** and **maintain border security** while remaining **aligned with international standards**. For Sanitary and Phytosanitary controls, our approach under the new model will have the following **three key elements**:

1 A new global
risk-based
approach

2 Simplified and
digitised health
certificates

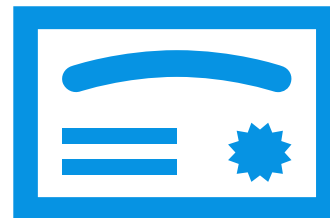
3 Trusted
Trader
Schemes



The three components of import health controls systems are:



Pre-notification



Health Certification



**Identity and Physical
Checks**

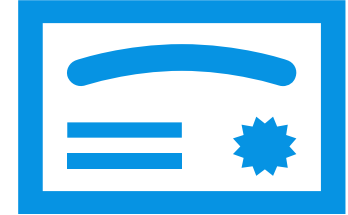
BTOM Milestones



BTOM Milestone: 31 January 2024



Introduction of **health certification** on imports from the EU/EFTA of **medium risk animal products** and the EU, Lichtenstein and Switzerland of **medium risk plants and plant products**.



Introduction of **health certification** on imports from the EU/EFTA of **high-risk food and feed of non-animal origin**



The introduction of import **prenotification & health certification when moving Irish SPS goods to GB – to align with the rest of the EU**

How to be prepared for the 1st Milestone



1 KNOW YOUR RISK CATEGORY

The import risk category is assigned to a product based on the inherent risk that a product poses to animal health, food safety, biosecurity and public health, **alongside** the risks specific to the country of origin, e.g. the prevalence of pests/diseases and the standard of official health controls.



You **will need to** know the risk category to make sure you follow the correct import process, as the UK Government applies SPS controls to products proportionately, **based upon their import risk category.**

LOW RISK GOODS

only require pre-notification(except low-risk plant and plant products) and entry via a point with an appropriately designated BCP or Control Point, but they require no certification or checks on a routine basis

MEDIUM RISK GOODS

require pre-notification, health certification(EHC/PC) and proportionate levels of checks at a BCP

HIGH RISK GOODS

subject to pre-notification, health certification and, generally 100% checks

HOW TO DETERMINE RISK CATEGORIES



Step 1. Find out the commodity code of your product

Trade Tariff: look up commodity codes, duty and VAT rates

Use this service to find a commodity code for goods you're importing to or exporting from the UK.

You can also use the service to:

- check if there's duty or VAT to pay
- find out about suspensions or reductions

You'll need a commodity code when you fill in a customs declaration form, so you pay the correct amount of tax and duties.

Start now >

[Trade Tariff: look up commodity codes, duty and VAT rates - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/trade-tariff)

Step 2. Check the risk category of your product on gov.uk

All Risk Categories (EU/Non-EU – All Commodity Types)

[Import risk categories for animals, animal products, plants and plant products - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/import-risk-categories)

Plant and Plant Products Risk Categories for EU Countries

[TOM risk categorisations - UK Plant Health Information Portal \(defra.gov.uk\)](https://defra.gov.uk/tom-risk-categorisations)

Animals and Animal Products Risk Categories for EU Countries

[Check import risk categories and related rules for animals and animal products imported from the EU to Great Britain, from 31 January 2024 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/check-import-risk-categories)

Animals and Animal Products Risk Categories for EU Countries: Searchable List with Commodity Codes

[Import risk categories for animal and animal product imports from the EU to Great Britain: searchable list with commodity codes](https://www.gov.uk/import-risk-categories)

How to be prepared for the 1st Milestone



Animal Products

2 Be Ready for Health Certificates

Imported goods may carry risks that need to be controlled to protect the biosecurity of Great Britain and the United Kingdom.

- The risk varies across commodities. For permitted imports that require a Health Certificate, the certificate sets out the requirements to mitigate the risk.

Failure to produce an EHC or notify authorities in advance of the consignment's arrival, could result in action being taken by the authorities and lead to the consignment from EU/EFTA countries being rejected and destroyed with no compensation.

- Sometimes the consignment may be returned if the exporting country allows it.

LOW RISK ANIMAL PRODUCTS

will not require an EHC

MEDIUM RISK ANIMAL PRODUCTS

will start to require an EHC
from 31 January 2024

GERMINAL PRODUCTS = HIGH RISK GOODS

will continue to require
an EHC

Digital Certification

Animal Products



From 31 January 2024



GB authorities encourage the use of a **digitally signed and verifiable GB export health certificate** (EHC) in place of the paper version of the certificate. We will accept verifiable PDF certificates from TRACES and [other EU/EFTA MS systems listed on GOV UK](#).

Steps to Take

The exporter:

-  must create the EHC in the system, ensure it has been digitally signed by the competent authority in the exporting country and download the EHC as a PDF format document.
-  needs to send the PDF to the person submitting the import notification so that it can be attached to the notification.

Where a verifiable PDF certificate cannot be provided by the EU or EFTA country exporting the goods, and a paper copy is used, a scanned copy must be uploaded to IPAFFS and the competent authority must send the original paper certificate to accompany the consignment.

Additional Support for Traders Getting Health Certificates

Animal Products

Export Health Certificate Leaflet



This leaflet is for businesses:

- in Great Britain that import live animals and animal products from the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland
- in the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland that export live animals and animal products to Great Britain

It explains:

- what a health certificate is
- how to get one
- what you need to do with it

Guidance on how to complete a health certificate

[How to complete a health certificate to export animals and animal products to Great Britain - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/how-to-complete-a-health-certificate-to-export-animals-and-animal-products-to-great-britain)

Model health certificates for Animals and Animal Products

[Model health certificates for exports of live animals and animal products to Great Britain - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/model-health-certificates-for-exports-of-live-animals-and-animal-products-to-great-britain)

Join Defra Online Training Sessions

[The BTOM: What are the SPS Border Controls? | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-btom-what-are-the-sps-border-controls?aff=defra)

[Health Certificate LATEST VERSION \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/publications/health-certificates)

How to be prepared for the 1st Milestone

Plant Products

2 Be Ready for Phytosanitary Certificates(PCs)

A PC is a **certificate** from an exporting country's **competent authority (CA)** that shows the plants or plant products has been **officially inspected and meets the import phytosanitary requirements for entry into GB**. We are currently in the process of rolling out of ePhyto for EU MS.

Steps to Take

Step 1: Clarify CA Process

Each CA has different requirements for how to obtain a PC so you will need to check your country's process.

You can find out who your CA is by visiting the IPPC website (International Plant Protection Convention) - Countries - International Plant Protection Convention (ippc.int)

Step 2: Getting the PC signed by CA

The CA will sign the PC if:

- has been officially inspected
- Meets import requirements for entry into GB
- Free from pests and diseases

LOW RISK PLANTS AND PLANT PRODUCTS

will continue to not require a Phytosanitary Certificate

MEDIUM RISK PLANTS AND PLANT PRODUCTS

Will require a Phytosanitary Certificate and pre-notification from 31 January 2024

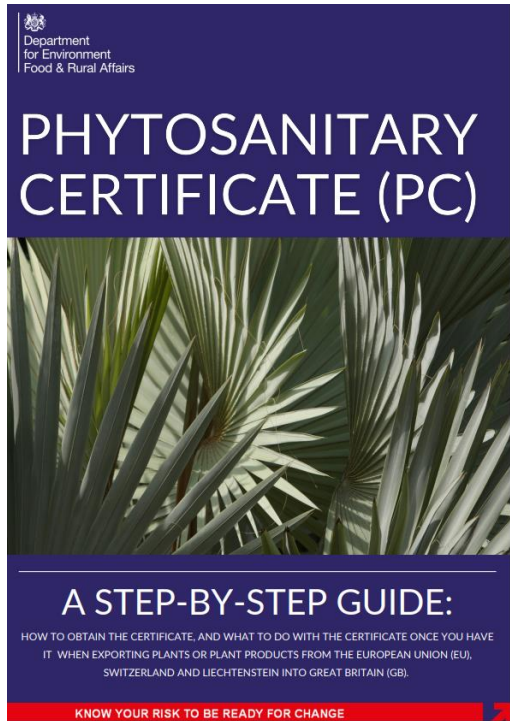
HIGH RISK PLANTS AND PLANT PRODUCTS

will continue to require Phytosanitary Certificate and pre-notification from 31 January 2024

Additional Support for Traders Getting Health Certificates

Plant Products

Phytosanitary Certificate Leaflet



This leaflet is for businesses that export plants and plant products from the EU, Liechtenstein and Switzerland to Great Britain.

It explains:

- what a phytosanitary certificate is
- how to get one
- what you need to do with it

[PC leaflet \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

Guidance on gov.uk

[Import plants and plant products from the EU to Great Britain - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

BTOM Plants Q/A

[TOM online session recordings and Questions and Answers \(Q&A\) - UK Plant Health Information Portal \(defra.gov.uk\)](https://defra.gov.uk)

Join Defra Online Training Sessions

[The BTOM: What are the SPS Border Controls? | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com)

How to be prepared for the 1st Milestone



3 Be ready for the pre-notification requirement

The person responsible for the load:



will need to continue pre-notifying Great Britain via Import of products, animals, food and feed system (IPAFFS) for:

- all live animals
- All germinal products
- All animal products
- High risk food and feed not of animal origin (HRFNO)
- Medium and high-risk plants and plant products



will need to start pre-notifying Great Britain via IPAFFS in alignment with the current pre-notification requirements that applies to EU movements for all good entering from Ireland to GB.

An import notification must be made by the person responsible for the consignment to the authorities one working day before the expected arrival of the goods.

An import notification can be made up to 30 days before arrival.

How to do an import notification ? And Additional support for traders

! Import notifications need to be completed by the person responsible for the load.

STEP 1: Register to IPAFFS



[Home](#) > [Environment](#) > [Wildlife, animals, biodiversity and ecosystems](#) > [Animal welfare](#)

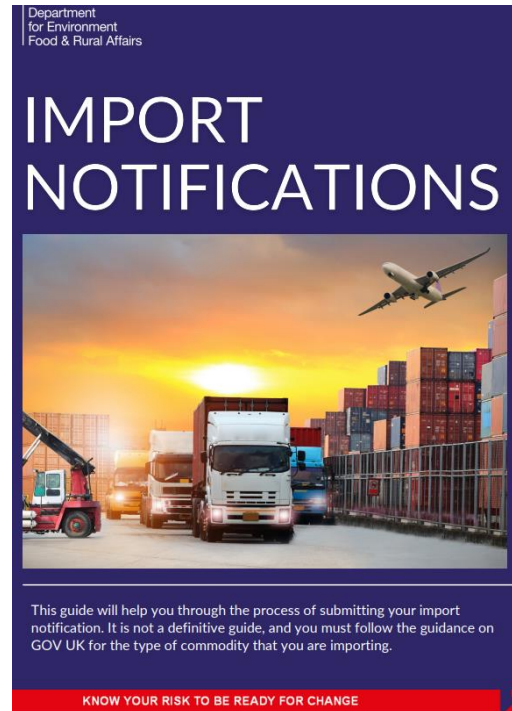
Guidance

Import of products, animals, food and feed system (IPAFFS)

Use IPAFFS to notify enforcement authorities about imports to Great Britain.

[Import of products, animals, food and feed system \(IPAFFS\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

STEP 2: Complete pre-notification



[IPAFFS for Plants Guidance - UK Plant Health Information Portal \(defra.gov.uk\)](#)



Use the Import Notification Leaflet to support you in this process

[Import Notification Guide 22/12 - index Ireland \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

Common Health Entry Document Support and Guidance

[Importing animal products from the EU to GB: New CHED Part 1 notification – 11 January 2024 / 2.00 PM](#)

[Importing HRFNAO via the EU to GB: the new CHED Part 1 notification – 18 January 2024 / 2.00 PM](#)

[Import of products, animals, food and feed system – Create a CHEDD PP notification - YouTube](#)

Other additional support DEFRA has for traders



Online training sessions

➤ [Importing animal products from the EU to GB: New CHED Part 1 notification Tickets, Thu 11 Jan 2024 at 14:00 | Eventbrite](#)

➤ [Prepare for the upcoming import controls from Jan'24 \(plants focused\) Tickets, Tue 16 Jan 2024 at 14:00 | Eventbrite](#)

➤ [BTOM: What does this mean for exports from Ireland? Tickets, Wed 17 Jan 2024 at 11:00 | Eventbrite](#)

➤ [Importing HRFNAO via the EU to GB: the new CHED Part 1 notification Tickets, Thu 18 Jan 2024 at 14:00 | Eventbrite](#)

➤ [Border TOM: Prepare for import controls from 31 Jan 2024 \(animal products\) Tickets, Wed 24 Jan 2024 at 11:00 | Eventbrite](#)

➤ [Prepare for the upcoming import controls from Jan'24 \(plants focused\) Tickets, Tue 16 Jan 2024 at 14:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Border Control Post Leaflet

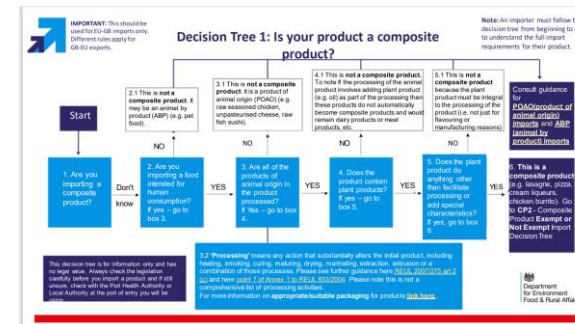
[BCP leaflet version 3 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)



This document is for businesses that import plants and plant products to Great Britain. It explains what happens when your goods are checked at a border control post.

Composite Product Decision Tree

[Defra Composite-Products-Decision-Trees-Leaflet.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)



These decision trees are for businesses that import food from the EU to Great Britain. They help you check whether your product is:

- a composite food product
- subject to official controls at a border control post

Other additional support DEFRA has for traders



! All leaflets and trader guidance in one place.

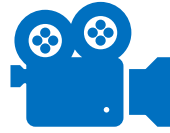
[Border Target Operating Model: information leaflets for businesses - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)



Interactive Border Control Post Maps

[Live animals, animal products and food and feed of non-animal origin border control posts \(BCP\) in the UK - Google My Maps](https://www.google.com/maps)

[BCP Locations and Map - UK Plant Health Information Portal \(defra.gov.uk\)](https://defra.gov.uk)



Recordings of previous webinars



[BTOM: What does this mean for the horticultural sector? \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6)



[BTOM: What does this mean for the fresh produce sector? \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6)



[BTOM: What does this mean for the meat and poultry sector? \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6)



[BTOM: What does this mean for the dairy sectors? \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6)



[BTOM: What does this mean for the animal by-products sector? \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6)



[BTOM: What does this mean for live animal sectors? \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6)



[BTOM: Authorised Operator Status \(AOS\) proposal \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6)



[Importing Plants and Plant Products to GB through a Border Control Post \(BCP\) \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6)



[BTOM: Prepare for the upcoming plant health import controls from January 2024 \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6)



[BTOM: Prepare for changes to border checks from 30 April 2024 for import of plants & plant products \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6)



[Border Target Operating Model \(BTOM\): Get ready for 30th April Import Controls: Animal Products \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6)



**We want to
hear from you!**

Tell us how your readiness preparations for the
BTOM are going by joining the BTOM Trader
Readiness Survey

[Trader Readiness Survey \(sharepoint.com\)](https://sharepoint.com)



**Do you want to
hear from us?**

You can join our newsletter [here](#).