



Updated Border Operating Model Published

New Phased Approach to Import Controls for Products of Animal Origin and Animal By-Products from the European Union (EU)

The [Border Operating Model](#) has been updated and confirms the UK's approach to import controls from July 2022.

Following the [Government's announcement](#) in September 2021 that EU to GB Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) import controls will begin from 1 July 2022, we can now share the approach and timetable for these changes.

We will introduce certification, documentary, ID and physical checks, by commodity groups for products of animal origin, animal by-products, plant and plant products, in three phases between 1 July and 1 November 2022. The timetable is as follows:

From 1 July, certification and physical and identity checks will be introduced for:

- All remaining regulated animal by-products
- All regulated plants and plant products
- All meat and meat products
- All remaining high-risk food not of animal origin.

From 1 September, certification and physical checks will be introduced for all dairy products.

From 1 November, certification and physical checks will be introduced for all remaining regulated products of animal origin, including composite and fish products.

Live animal checks will also begin in stages incrementally moving from the point of destination to border control posts from 1 July 2022 as facilities become available and are appropriately designated.

This phased approach does not replace any existing import controls already in place and you should continue to follow these for importing your consignments.



We will provide further information from early 2022 about the phased approach and the actions you can take to prepare. In the meantime, please ensure you are prepared for the pre-notification requirements from 1 January 2022.

Requirements from 1 January 2022

From 1 January 2022, all POAO and ABP consignments need to be pre-notified on the Import of products, animals, food and feed system (IPAFFS). If you haven't done so already, please register for IPAFFS on gov.uk. There is information on how to register - [video](#) and [guidance](#)

There is also a training [video](#) and [guidance](#) on how to create and complete a pre-notification on IPAFFS. Defra is running webinars on the import requirements from January 2022, which include a demonstration of completing a pre-notification on IPAFFS. You can attend a session by joining via the links below

| Date | Time | Link |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Tuesday 23 November 2021 | 10.00 – 11.00 | Click to join |
| Tuesday 30 November 2021 | 10.00 – 11.00 | Click to join |
| Tuesday 7 December 2021 | 10.00 – 11.00 | Click to join |

Pre-notification – you must pre-notify your consignment on IPAFFS, at least 4 hours in advance of arriving into Great Britain. The 4 hours arrangement will remain in place until 30 June 2022.

We will provide information on pre-notifying your goods from 1 July 2022, in due course.

Resources available:

There are more detailed FAQs on January 2022 requirements available on the microsite – [POAO](#), [ABP](#), [Composite Products](#), [IPAFFS](#).

If you cannot find the information you need, please contact: traders@defra.gov.uk.

Trader Readiness Team
Animal and Animal Imports (EU to GB)
Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs



Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need to enter via a Border Control Post?

Between 1 January and 30 June 2022, your consignment can enter via any point of entry and will not be subject to any new checks.

From 1 July 2022, your consignment must enter via a point of entry with a border control post that has been designated to receive those goods. This applies even if your goods are not subject to certification or physical checks until a later date in the timetable.

For example: you are importing cheese on 10 July 2022, certification and physical checks for dairy products don't come into effect until 1 September 2022. Your consignment must still enter through a point of entry with a border control post designated to accept dairy products.

Can I continue to import Prohibited and Restricted (P&R) goods?

Between 1 January and 30 June 2022, businesses can continue to import the following commodities from the EU into Great Britain

- chilled minced meat (beef, pork, lamb, mutton and goat)
- chilled and frozen minced poultry meat
- mechanical separated meat from porcine, poultry and ratite or game birds
- ungraded eggs
- chilled meat preparations

We will provide information about the requirements for these goods from 1 July 2022, in due course.

What do I need to do for goods transiting Great Britain from January and July 2022?

Consignments of EU origin and/or third country that have been cleared for free circulation in the EU can continue to transit through Great Britain as they do today.

From 1 January 2022, EU origin animal products transiting through Great Britain using the land bridge will need to be pre-notified via IPAFFS before they enter Great Britain. When these goods leave Great Britain, you will also need to notify authorities that the goods are leaving the country.

We will provide information on the requirement for these goods transiting from 1 July 2022 in due course.



My composite product is exempt from certification, will I need to pre-notify its arrival into Great Britain?

No, if your product meets the requirements for exemption from Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) controls you do not need to pre-notify authorities of its arrival.

Further information is available on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)

Does this remove any controls from products under safeguard measures?

No, products being imported under safeguard measures must continue to follow existing requirements and controls.

Import requirements are already in place for a small number of POAO subject to safeguard measures.

Emergency safeguard action can be taken at very short notice to prohibit or restrict the importation of certain products from certain countries following an outbreak of disease or a public health issue (such as avian or swine flu). Information on the latest updates concerning disease outbreaks which may affect imports into the UK can be found on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)

POAO subject to safeguard measures are required to be pre-notified in advance of arrival using IPAFFS and all goods must be accompanied by an Export Health Certificate.

The GB importer will also need to supply the EU exporter/ Certifying Officer (usually an Official Veterinarian) with the unique notification number (UNN) that is produced when the importer notifies the UK's Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) about the import.

The exporter must add the UNN to the Export Health Certificate. If the safeguard measure is in place due to a new or emerging disease outbreak, and the commodity code is not available in IPAFFS, there may be other steps traders need to take to pre-notify.

How and where will I need to pre-notify my goods from 1 January 2022?

[IPAFFS](#) is the import of products, animals, food and feed system (IPAFFS) and is the system used to notify the arrival of imports of live animals, animal products and high-risk food and feed not of animal origin.

It is the responsibility of the GB importer (or a representative acting on their behalf) to register for IPAFFS and pre-notify the relevant authority of the goods' arrival.

You can watch the video on [how to register](#) for IPAFFS and [how to pre-notify](#).



Can I do one notification on IPAFFS for my full consignment, even if it includes several different products and going to multiple destinations?

From 1 January to 30 June 2022, you are required to notify each product type on IPAFFS and not the full consignment in one notification.

Example one: your consignment includes 100 pork joints, 500 packs of cheese, 200 cans of pet food and, is destined for two locations in Great Britain.

You will need three notifications because you have three different product types (pork, cheese and petfood) even though two products are going to the same address.

Example two: if your consignment includes 100 packs of cheddar, 100 packs of mozzarella cheese, 100 packs of brie, 50 pork joints and is destined for two locations in Great Britain. You will need two notifications because you have three of the same product types, cheese that is going to the same location and one product type, pork that is going to a different location in Great Britain.

Pre-notifications for different products can only be grouped in one if they are the same product type and are being sent to the same place of destination.

From 1 July 2022, you will need to submit a pre-notification for each health certificate issued for your consignments. This may mean you will need to submit a different number of notifications and we will provide further details in 2022.

What information do I need to complete a pre-notification on IPAFFS?

From 1 January to 30 June 2022, you will require the following information to complete a notification on IPAFFS.

- What type of animal product or goods you're importing (i.e., POAO, ABP, HRFNAO)
- Origin of the animal product or goods (which country it was produced, originated in)
- Commodity code
- Commodity type
- Species of the commodity
- Commodity weight (kg)
- Date of arrival into Great Britain
- Reason for importing consignment (i.e., internal market, transit, research etc)
- Consignment's place of destination
- Addresses and contact details for place of origin, importer and place of destination
- Details of port of entry



The information required for notifying consignments from 1 July 2022 will change and additional fields will need to be completed. We will provide you with these details in due course.