

EXPORT OF CATS AND DOGS FROM GREAT BRITAIN TO BOTSWANA

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The Notes for Guidance (NFG) should have been issued to you together with export certificate 3893EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 3893EHC. We strongly suggest that exporters obtain full details of the importing country's requirements from the veterinary authorities in the country concerned, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

1. SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS

- Import permit from the Director of Veterinary Services in Botswana;
- Export health certificate issued by DEFRA;
- Animals must be examined by the OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN, not more than 48 hours prior to export;
- Animals must have been resident in the UK for at least six months prior to export, or since birth;
- Vaccination against rabies;

2. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)

This certificate may be signed by an OV appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Scottish Government or the Welsh Government, who is on the appropriate panel for export purposes or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary)(OCQ(V)) authorisation, or an Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI) appointed by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs - Northern Ireland (DAERA).

OVs/AVIs should sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV/AVI stamp in any colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

A certified copy of the completed certificate must be sent to the issuing office (in GB - the Centre for International Trade, Carlisle) within seven days of signing, or in the case of Northern Ireland, to DAERA, Dundonald House, Belfast.

The OV/AVI should keep a copy for his/her own records.

3. IMPORT PERMIT

No dog or cat may be imported into Botswana except in accordance with the terms of an import permit. The permit must be obtained from the Director of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture, Private Bag 0032, Gaborone, Botswana.

All dogs and cats travelling via South Africa require a South African Intransit Movement Certificate which can be obtained from the Director of Veterinary Services, Private Bag x138, Pretoria.

4. RABIES VACCINATION

Animals must be vaccinated against rabies not less than 30 days and not more than 12 months prior to export. The use of rabies vaccine is not generally permitted in Great Britain but arrangements have been made for it to be made available for animals intended for export.

The vaccination certificate should be attached to the Export Health Certificate.

5. RESIDENCY IN GREAT BRITAIN
A written declaration must be given to the OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN confirming that the animals have been resident in the UK for the previous 6 months or since birth.
6. TRAVELLING THROUGH OTHER COUNTRIES
It is the responsibility of the exporter/agent to apply to the relevant authorities of any transit countries for permission to transport the animals through these countries. Additional health certification may be necessary.
7. VACCINATIONS
Before signing the export health certificate, the OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN must be satisfied that the necessary vaccinations have been carried out. If vaccinations are carried out by another veterinary surgeon, the owner/exporter should provide evidence in the form of certificates. Vaccination certificates must be attached to the export health certificate.
8. NOTIFIABLE DISEASE CLEARANCE
OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS may certify country freedom from rabies providing written authority to do so has been obtained from the issuing office on form EC618.

9. **WELFARE DURING TRAVEL**

Welfare conditions during transport are laid down by Council Regulation EC 1/2005, implemented in England by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, and parallel legislation in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Exporters must comply with the UK welfare laws relating to the export of animals. If transported by air, animals should be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards.

Further information about the necessary requirements may be obtained from the Animal Welfare Team at any of the offices mentioned below:

England, Scotland & Wales

Welfare in Transport Team at the APHA Centre for International Trade - Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening#centre-for-international-trade-carlisle>

Northern Ireland

Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Ballymiscaw, Belfast, BT4 3SB.

DAERA Helpline number 0300 200 7852.

DAERA Helpline email daerahelpline@daera-ni.gov.uk

DAERA Textphone 18001 0300 200 7852

10. **DISCLAIMER**

This certificate is provided on the basis of information available at the time and may not necessarily comply fully with the requirements of the importing country. It is the exporter's responsibility to check the certificate against any relevant import permit or any advice provided by the competent authority in the importing country. If these do not match, the exporter should contact the Centre for International Trade - Carlisle, via the link below:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening>