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To whom it may concern

**IMPORTANT ALERT WARNING  
WOOD PACKAGING MATERIAL  
ORIGINATING IN CHINA & BELARUS**

Operations Manager Plant Health Service  
**Ian Brownlee**

8<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Dear Agent/ Importer,

**NEW COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2018/1137 (1<sup>st</sup> October 2018) –plant health checks on solid WPM associated with specified commodities from China and Belarus until 30 June 2020**

The European Commission has published new legislation [Commission Implementing Decision 2018/1137](#) relating to the inspection of solid wood packaging material associated with specified commodities originating in China and Belarus imported into GB from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018. The legislation replaces previous requirements concerning the import of stone and iron material from China only, as detailed in Commission Implementing Decision 2013/92/EU, which has now been repealed.

The new compulsory notification procedures are described in the paragraphs below.

**New Compulsory Import Notification Procedures for specified commodities from China and Belarus –**

With effect from **1<sup>st</sup> November**, post liaison with agents and importers affected by the new legislation during October via this correspondence, the Forestry Commission requires that all agents/importers of the 52 relevant commodities (see Annex 1 below) listed in the legislation (CN Code 6912 00 23 has been duplicated in the legislation), provide, via email, advanced notification (see attached revised October 2018 'Notice of Landing' form also used as the QRC notification form), of their intention to land controlled material, to their local Forestry Commission Plant Health Inspector (see contact list attached at Annex 2 for UK points of entry). **Please ensure that old Notice of Landing forms are discarded and that the new form, provided at Annex 1, is used as it specifically designed to aid importers/agents in the notification process.** In terms of advanced notification the importer/agent should aim to provide at least three working days' notice of their intention to land controlled material via sea freight and at least four working hours for material landed via airfreight. Importers/agents are encouraged to provide as much advanced notification as possible to assist with prompt clearance of consignments which will be beneficial to them and their customers in terms of time and costs.

Inspectors will aim to determine within 24 hours of receiving Notice of Landing forms (excluding weekends and bank holidays), that a consignment will be either held for inspection or released CWE (Cleared Without Exam). Consignments selected for physical plant health check at the point of entry will be held either using a Port Inventory System hold or a direct hold request to HMRC. Holds derived by a Port Inventory System will be notified directly to importers/agents by the Port Inventory System. Holds derived through a request to HMRC will be advised via email from the inspector. Inspectors will provide confirmation that a consignment has not been selected for physical exam by returning the Notice of Landing form with a check against the CWE box, endorsed with a Forestry Commission stamp.

Where inspectors have performed a physical inspection of a consignment they will provide details of the date of the inspection on the signed and stamped Notice of Landing form. The Inspectors will therefore be directly responsible for selecting the entries notified for inspection. Target inspection frequency is a minimum frequency of 1% hold basis for each of the listed specified commodity codes. Through their aim of achieving the inspection target Inspectors will identify those consignments of specified commodity codes which potentially contain high risk solid wood packaging material and provide a prompt CWE for other low or no risk consignments.

Entries selected by the Forestry Commission against the minimum inspection level of 1% will only be released from a Port Inventory System hold after a Forestry Commission inspection has been carried out and/or the necessary quarantine release certificate (QRC) is endorsed by FC Inspectors. In the case of direct HMRC holds, an endorsed QRC must be presented by the importer/agent to HMRC, NCH, Salford for a Customs CHIEF Entry System release.

Complimentary to the new legislation (Commission Implementing Decision 2018/1137) the Forestry Commission may select for inspection any consignment from any country of origin which, in their opinion, has potentially high risk wood packaging material associated with it. This may in effect mean that importers/agents of the 52 commodities listed in the attached Annex 1 will have other types of commodities selected in addition to the minimum frequency of 1% checks associated with specified imports from China and Belarus. Any amendments to the import procedures will be publicised on the Government's [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) website.

#### **Notification of Landing – Compliance Monitoring**

At the end of each month post commencement of its inspection regime the FC will monitor the imports of the specified commodity codes and notifications received from agents and importers. Where we identify instances, via scrutiny of UK Trade Statistics Data, of non-notification of the landing of specified commodities from China and Belarus, we will serve Statutory Plant Health Notices (SPHNs) in accordance with articles 31 and 42 of the [Plant Health \(Forestry\) Order \(PHFO\) 2005](#) on the relevant importers/agents requiring that advanced notification of landing is provided to FC Plant Health Inspectors. Failure to comply with an SPHN is an offence under article 43 of the PHFO 2005. These SPHNs will remain in place until 30 June 2020 i.e. the date on which the new EU legislation will cease to apply. The legislation will be subject to further review in 2020.

#### **Contact Details**

Should you have any questions or information which might assist the targeted plant health checks on wood packaging material associated with imports of specified commodities from China and Belarus please contact us on Tel 0300 067 5155 or Email: [plant.health@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:plant.health@forestry.gsi.gov.uk) for assistance. Please note that due to IT and other changes within the Plant Health Service over the coming months emails and contacts may change. You will, however, be advised of these changes as they occur.

Yours sincerely



Operations Manager

cc HMRC, Technical Team, National Clearance Hub, Salford  
Border Force Customs Operational Policy Strategy, Planning and Operational Policy, Croydon  
DAERA-NI Forest Service, Belfast  
Department of the Environment, Jersey  
Commerce & Employment, Guernsey  
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Isle of Man  
Defra, York

**Annex 1**
**Specified Commodities**

2514 00 00	Slate, whether or not roughly trimmed or merely cut, by sawing or otherwise, into blocks or slabs of rectangular (including square) shape
2515	Marble, travertine, ecaussine and other calcareous monumental or building stone of an apparent specific gravity of 2,5 or more, and alabaster, whether or not roughly trimmed or merely cut, by sawing or otherwise, into blocks or slabs of rectangular (including square) shape
2516	Granite, porphyry, basalt, sandstone and other monumental or building stone, whether or not roughly trimmed or merely cut, by sawing or otherwise, into blocks or slabs of a rectangular (including square) shape
4401	Fuel wood, in logs, billets, twigs, faggots or similar forms; wood in chips or particles; sawdust and wood waste and scrap, whether or not agglomerated in logs, briquettes, pellets or similar forms
4415	Packing cases, boxes, crates, drums and similar packings, of wood; cable-drums of wood; pallets, box pallets and other load boards, of wood; pallet collars of wood (excl. containers specially designed and equipped for one or more modes of transport)
4415 20	Pallets, box pallets and other load boards, of wood; pallet collars of wood (excl. containers specially designed and equipped for one or more modes of transport)
4415 20 90	Box pallets and other load boards, of wood (excl. containers specially designed and equipped for one or more modes of transport; flat pallets and pallet collars)
4415 20 20	Pallets and pallet collars, of wood
4418	Builders' joinery and carpentry, of wood, incl. cellular wood panels, assembled flooring panels, shingles and shakes, of wood (excl. plywood panelling, blocks, strips and friezes for parquet flooring, not assembled, and pre-fabricated buildings)
4421	Other articles of wood, n.e.s.
6501 00	Hat-forms, hat bodies and hoods of felt, neither blocked to shape nor with made brims; plateaux and manchons, incl. slit manchons, of felt
6801 00 00	Setts, curbstones and flagstones, of natural stone (excl. slate)
6802	Worked monumental or building stone (except slate) and articles thereof, other than goods of heading 6801 ; mosaic cubes and the like, of natural stone (including slate), whether or not on a blocking; artificially coloured granules, chippings and powder, of natural stone (including slate)
6803 00	Worked slate and articles of slate or of agglomerated slate (excl. slate granules, chippings and powder, mosaic cubes and the like, slate pencils, and ready-to-use slates or boards with writing or drawing surfaces)
6810	Articles of cement, concrete or artificial stone, whether or not reinforced
6811 40	Articles of asbestos-cement, cellulose fibre-cement or the like, containing asbestos
6902 00	Refractory bricks, blocks, tiles and similar refractory ceramic constructional goods, other than those of siliceous fossil meals or similar siliceous earths
6904 00	Non-refractory ceramic building bricks, flooring blocks, support or filler tiles and the like
6905 00	Roofing tiles, chimney pots, cowls, chimney liners, architectural ornaments and other ceramic constructional goods
6906 00	Ceramic pipes, conduits, guttering and pipe fittings (excl. of siliceous fossil meals or similar siliceous earths, refractory ceramic goods, chimney liners, pipes specifically manufactured for laboratories, insulating tubing and fittings and other piping for electrotechnical purposes)
6907	Ceramic flags and paving, hearth or wall tiles; ceramic mosaic cubes and the like, whether or not on a backing (excl. of siliceous fossil meals or similar siliceous earths, refractory goods, tiles specially adapted as table mats, ornamental articles and tiles specifically manufactured

	for stoves)
6912 00 83	Household articles and toilet articles, of stoneware (excl. tableware, kitchenware, baths, bidets, sinks and similar sanitary fixtures, statuettes and other ornamental articles, pots, jars, carboys and similar receptacles for the conveyance or packing of goods)
6912 00 23	Tableware and kitchenware, of stoneware (excl. statuettes and other ornamental articles, pots, jars, carboys and similar receptacles for the conveyance or packing of goods, and coffee grinders and spice mills with receptacles made of ceramics and working parts of metal)
7210	Flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel, of a width $\geq$ 600 mm, hot-rolled or cold-rolled 'cold-reduced', clad, plated or coated
7313 00	Barbed wire of iron or steel; twisted hoop or single flat wire, barbed or not, and loosely twisted double wire, of a kind used for fencing, of iron or steel
7317 00	Nails, tacks, drawing pins, corrugated nails, staples and similar articles of iron or steel, whether or not with heads of other material (excl. such articles with heads of copper and staples in strips)
7318	Screws, bolts, nuts, coach screws, screw hooks, rivets, cotters, cotter pins, washers, incl. spring washers, and similar articles, of iron or steel (excl. lag screws, stoppers, plugs and the like, threaded)
7415	Nails, tacks, drawing pins, staples and similar Articles, of copper or with shafts of iron or steel and heads of copper, screws, bolts, nuts, screw hooks, rivets, cotters, cotter pins, washers 'incl. spring washers' and similar articles, of copper (excl. staples in strips, and lag screws, plugs, bungs and the like, threaded)
8101 96	Tungsten wire
8102 96	Molybdenum wire
8205 90 10	Anvils; portable forges; hand- or pedal-operated grinding wheels with frameworks
8465 93	Grinding, sanding or polishing machines for working wood, cork, bone, hard rubber, hard plastics or similar hard materials (excl. machines for working in the hand and machining centres)
4504 90 80	Agglomerated cork, with or without a binding substance, and articles of agglomerated cork (excl. footwear and parts thereof, insoles, whether or not removable; headgear and parts thereof; plugs and dividers for shotgun cartridges; toys, games and sports equipment and parts thereof; blocks, plates, sheets or strips; tiles of any shape; solid cylinders, incl. discs; corks and stoppers)
4823 90 85	Paper, paperboard, cellulose wadding and webs of cellulose fibres, in strips or rolls of a width $\leq$ 36 cm, in rectangular or square sheets, of which no side $>$ 36 cm in the unfolded state, or cut to shape other than rectangular or square, and articles of paper pulp, paper, cellulose wadding or webs of cellulose fibres, n.e.s.
6912 00 83	Household articles and toilet articles, of stoneware (excl. tableware, kitchenware, baths, bidets, sinks and similar sanitary fixtures, statuettes and other ornamental articles, pots, jars, carboys and similar receptacles for the conveyance or packing of goods)
7108 13 80	Gold, incl. gold plated with platinum, in semi-manufactured forms, for non-monetary purposes (excl. sheets and strips of a thickness, excl. any backing, of $>$ 0,15 mm and plates, bars, rods, wire and sections)
7110 19 80	Platinum in semi-manufactured forms (excl. sheets and strips of a thickness, excl. any backing, of $>$ 0,15 mm and plates, bars, rods, wire and sections)
7304 31 20	Precision tubes, seamless, of circular cross-section, of iron or non-alloy steel, cold-drawn or cold-rolled 'cold-reduced' (excl. line pipe of a kind used for oil or gas pipelines or casing and tubing of a kind used for drilling for oil or gas)
7304 41 00	Tubes, pipes and hollow profiles, seamless, of circular cross-section, of stainless steel, cold-drawn or cold-rolled 'cold-reduced' (excl. line pipe of a kind used for oil or gas pipelines, casing and tubing of a kind used for drilling for oil or gas)

8407 33 20	Spark-ignition reciprocating piston engine, of a kind used for vehicles of chapter 87, of a cylinder capacity > 250 cm <sup>3</sup> but ≤ 500 cm <sup>3</sup>
8407 33 80	Spark-ignition reciprocating piston engine, of a kind used for vehicles of chapter 87, of a cylinder capacity > 500 cm <sup>3</sup> but ≤ 1 000 cm <sup>3</sup>
8424 49 10	Agricultural or horticultural liquid/powder sprayers designed to be mounted on or drawn by a tractor
8424 82 90	Agricultural or horticultural mechanical appliances, whether or not hand-operated, for projecting or dispersing liquids or powders (excl. sprayers and watering appliances)
8424 89 40	Mechanical appliances for projecting, dispersing, or spraying liquids or powders, of a kind used solely or principally for the manufacture of printed circuits or printed circuit assemblies
8424 89 70	Mechanical appliances, whether or not hand-operated, for projecting, dispersing or spraying liquids or powders, n.e.s.
8467 29 51	Angle grinders for working in the hand, with self-contained electric motor, operating with an external source of power
8544 19 00	Winding wire for electrical purposes, of material other than copper, insulated
8544 49 91	Electric wire and cables, for a voltage ≤ 1 000 V, insulated, not fitted with connectors, with individual conductor wires of a diameter > 0,51 mm, n.e.s.
8708 30 10	Brakes and servo-brakes and their parts, for the industrial assembly of: pedestrian-controlled tractors, motor cars and vehicles principally designed for the transport of persons, vehicles for the transport of goods with compression-ignition internal combustion piston engine 'diesel or semi-diesel engine' ≤ 2 500 cm <sup>3</sup> or with spark-ignition internal piston engine ≤ 2 800 cm <sup>3</sup> , special purpose motor vehicles of heading 8705 , n.e.s.
8708 40 20	Gear boxes and parts thereof, for the industrial assembly of: pedestrian-controlled tractors, motor cars and vehicles principally designed for the transport of persons, vehicles for the transport of goods with compression-ignition internal combustion piston engine 'diesel or semi-diesel engine' of a cylinder capacity ≤ 2 500 cm <sup>3</sup> or with spark-ignition internal piston engine of a cylinder capacity ≤ 2 800 cm <sup>3</sup> , special purpose motor vehicles of heading 8705 , n.e.s
8708 91 20	Radiators and parts thereof, for the industrial assembly of: pedestrian-controlled tractors, motor cars and vehicles principally designed for the transport of persons, vehicles for the transport of goods with compression-ignition internal combustion piston engine 'diesel or semi-diesel engine' of a cylinder capacity ≤ 2 500 cm <sup>3</sup> or with spark-ignition internal piston engine of a cylinder capacity ≤ 2 800 cm <sup>3</sup> , special purpose motor vehicles of heading 8705 , n.e.s
8708 92 20	Silencers 'mufflers' and exhaust pipes, and parts thereof, for the industrial assembly of: pedestrian-controlled tractors, motor cars and vehicles principally designed for the transport of persons, vehicles for the transport of goods with compression-ignition internal combustion piston engine 'diesel or semi-diesel engine' ≤ 2 500 cm <sup>3</sup> or with spark-ignition internal piston engine ≤ 2 800 cm <sup>3</sup> , special purpose motor vehicles of heading 8705 ,

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**Annex 2****LOCAL FORESTRY COMMISSION & FOREST SERVICE NI INSPECTORS CONTACTS BY UK POINTS OF ENTRY****Inverness, Peterhead, Aberdeen or Montrose**

Stephen O'Kane  
M: 07748 094968  
T: 01343 543165  
E: [stephen.o'kane@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.o'kane@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)

**Grangemouth, Greenock, Inverkeithing, Leith, Methil Perth, Dundee, Rosyth, Edinburgh & Glasgow Airports**

Speedy Pest Control  
M: 07773 014517  
E: [saf@speedygroupservices.co.uk](mailto:saf@speedygroupservices.co.uk)

**Liverpool, Birkenhead, Garston, Bromborough, Tyne, Sunderland, Seaham, Hartlepool, Tees, Teesport, Manchester Airport**

John Reid  
M: 07961 437264  
F: 0845 051 8607  
E: [fcphne@gmail.com](mailto:fcphne@gmail.com)

**Hull, Goole, Immingham, Grimsby, New Holland, Barrowhaven, Flixborough, Gunness Wharf, Keadby**

Paul Gibson  
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E: [t@vern.karoo.co.uk](mailto:t@vern.karoo.co.uk)

**North Thames - Tilbury, Ipswich, Mistely, Harwich, Creaksea (Baltic Wharf), Brightlingsea, Stansted Airport**

Adam O'Hanlon  
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**Felixstowe**

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**Cardiff, Barry, Port Talbot, Swansea, Neath, Newport, Bristol (Avonmouth), Sharpness, Pembroke, Portbury**

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**Teignmouth, Plymouth, Par, Newquay, Pembroke**

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**Southampton, Poole, London Heathrow and Gatwick Airports**

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**South Thames - Thamesport, Sheerness, Rochester, Chatham, Ridham, Dover, Shoreham, London Gateway, Stansted Airport**

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**East Midland Airport**

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**Northern Ireland: Belfast, Warrenpoint, Lisahally**

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