

**EXPORT OF DOGS AND CATS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO GUAM**

**NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV) AND EXPORTER**

**IMPORTANT**

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 3998EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 3998EHC. 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. **SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE**

Export health certificate 3998EHC may be used for the export of dogs and cats from the United Kingdom to Guam.

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, Welsh Government or the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) Northern Ireland, who is on the appropriate panel for export purposes or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation.

OVs must sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in any ink colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

**Certified Copy Requirements - England, Wales and Scotland**

Guidance concerning return of certified copies of EHCs has changed and only specific certified copies are required to be returned to the APHA. Certifying OVs must return a certified copy of EHCs only for the following EHC types:

- if the exported commodity is cattle, pigs, sheep, goats or camelids;
- if the certificate was applied for manually and the application documents have been emailed to APHA and not applied for via the Exports Health Certificates Online (EHCO) system.

Certified copies should be emailed on the day of signature to the Centre for International Trade Carlisle (CITC) at the following address: [certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk](mailto:certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk).

For certificates that have been issued to the Certifying OV via the EHCO system, the Certifying OV must complete the certifier portal with the status of the certificate and the date of signature.

A copy of all EHCs and supporting documentation certified must be retained for two years.

Certifying OVs are not required to return certified copies of other EHCs issued, however CITC may request certified copies of EHCs and supporting documentation in order to complete Quality Assurance checks or if an issue arises with the consignment after certification.

**DAERA Export Health Certificates: Provision of certified copies**

aPVPs certifying DECOL produced Export Health Certificates must return a legible, scanned copy of the final EHC to the relevant DAERA

Processing Office within 1 working day of signing.

Good quality photographic copies will be accepted by the department, where obtaining a scanned copy is not feasible - for example, where 'on site' certification is undertaken and scanning facilities are not available.

For record purposes, a copy of the final Export Health Certificate and associated Support documents should be retained by the aPVP for a period of 2 years from the date of certification.

The Department will carry out periodic audits of all aspects of export certification to ensure that a high standard of certification is being maintained.

3. **ENTRY PERMIT**

Animals arriving into Guam must have a valid official entry permit which should accompany the animal on its journey to Guam. In order to obtain an entry permit, the following documentation must be submitted to the veterinary authorities in Guam.

- a) A completed Entry Permit Application by the owner or owners authorised representative with payment of the required fee.
- b) A copy of the completed export health certificate 3998EHC issued by the OV within 14 days of the date of export.
- c) For animals over 3 months old a copy of a valid rabies vaccination certificate, containing a record of vaccination not less than 30 days and not more than 12 months prior to the proposed date of export, but not less than 30 days and not more than 18 months prior to the proposed date of export in the case of vaccines which require boosters every three years.
- d) **In the case of dogs:** A copy of the record of vaccination against canine distemper virus, canine infectious hepatitis or canine adenovirus-2, canine leptospirosis, canine parainfluenza, canine parvovirus, and canine Bordetella bronchiseptica (kennel cough).
- e) **In the case of cats:** A copy of the record of vaccination against feline panleucopaenia virus (feline viral enteritis), feline viral rhinotracheitis (feline herpesvirus-1), and feline calicivirus.

**NB Copies of the above vaccination documents should be submitted with the original Entry Permit Application. On entry into Guam, the original Entry Permit and original supporting documents namely health certificate and vaccination records must accompany the animal.**

4. **OWNER'S DECLARATION**

Paragraph IV. b) refers. The owner's declaration should be retained by the OV for record purposes. If the OV has any reason to doubt the validity of the declaration, Centre for International Trade, Carlisle should be consulted.

5. **RABIES VACCINATION**

Paragraph IV. e) refers. Animals over 3 months of age should be accompanied by a rabies vaccination certificate, or a document provided by the veterinary practice, and should include the following:-

- Date(s) of vaccination
- Name of vaccine
- Name of supplier

- Batch number
- Expiry date

**NOTE: animals must not have been vaccinated with a modified live rabies vaccine during the 4 months prior to export.**

6. **RABIES NEUTRALISING ANTIBODY TITRE TEST (RNATT)**

Paragraph IV. f) refers.

The date of blood sampling for rabies must be not less than 30 days after vaccination and not more than 12 months prior to the proposed date of export.

The blood test, a neutralising antibody titration test, must be carried out by an officially authorised laboratory. A list of approved rabies serology laboratories in the UK can be found at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rabies-blood-testing-laboratories-in-the-uk>

The laboratory report must include the animal's microchip number, the blood sampling date and a result of greater than or equal to 0.5 IU/ml.

6. **TRANSPORTATION**

If the animal(s) is/are transported by air, the owner/exporter is responsible for ensuring that the conditions of transport for his/her animal meet the standards laid down by the International Air Transport Association (IATA). He/she should ask the transporting airline to confirm this, and if necessary provide a copy of the relevant conditions.

7. **WELFARE**

Exporters and transporters must comply with all the legislation for the welfare of live animals during transport. The welfare conditions required during transport, are set out in Council Regulation EC No 1/2005 (as retained), implemented in England by The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (England) Order 2006, with parallel legislation in Scotland and Wales.

If transported by air, animals should also be transported in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards.

Information about welfare during transport in Great Britain and the necessary requirements can be obtained from the Animal and Plant Health Agency: Welfare in Transport Team

Centre for International Trade  
Eden Bridge House  
Lowther Street, Carlisle  
CA3 8DX  
Phone: +44 (0) 3000 200 301  
E-mail: [WIT@apha.gov.uk](mailto:WIT@apha.gov.uk)

Or, in the case of Northern Ireland, DAERA at Dundonald House, Belfast.

8. **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 APHA Centre

for International Trade, Carlisle or DAERA, via the link or e-mail address below:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/contact-apha>

DAERA - Email: [vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk)