



## TRANSITS GUIDANCE – for traders in the EU & EFTA

Some goods that transit through the UK using Great Britain (GB) as a land bridge can pose biosecurity and public health risks. This includes live animal consignments and animal product consignments. These consignments will **need to meet** Sanitary and Phytosanitary (**SPS**) controls aligned with the **Border Target Operating Model from 31 January 2024**.

### What you will need to know before your goods transit through the UK using GB as a land bridge



You will need to know the risk category of the goods you are transiting. This information has been published on gov.uk: [Import risk categories for animal and animal product imports from the EU to Great Britain: summary tables - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/import-risk-categories-for-animal-and-animal-product-imports-from-the-eu-to-great-britain) and [TOM risk categorisations - UK Plant Health Information Portal \(defra.gov.uk\)](https://www.defra.gov.uk/plant-health/health-information-portal/)



You may need a health certificate if the goods you are transiting are in the **medium** or **high-risk** category. [Simplified model health certificates for animals and animal products using GB as a landbridge](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/simplified-model-health-certificates-for-animals-and-animal-products-using-gb-as-a-landbridge) will need to be used from **31 January 2024**.




**From 30 April 2024**, if the goods you are transiting are in the **medium and high-risk category**, they will need to be sealed<sup>1</sup> (except transiting live animals).<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Examples of seal are cables or bolts that are applied to the consignment which remain intact and securely fastened, and they are made resistant to breakage and prevent falsification. It is to ensure the consignment is not opened (unless required) while transiting through GB. Further information on seal requirements and acceptable commercial seals can be found here: [Official customs seals and trader sealing - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/official-customs-seals-and-trader-sealing)



## Animal Products

### From 31 January 2024 Animal Products Checklist

 All SPS Animal Product consignments that transit GB will continue to require pre-notification via the Import of Products, Animals, Food and Feed System (IPAFFS), this will change from an IMP notification to a Common Health Entry Document (CHED) notification.

 **Low-risk EU animal products that transit GB will not require health certificates but will continue to require pre-notification via IPAFFS**

 **Medium-risk EU animal products (excluding the exception below) that transit GB will require health certificates.**

 **High-risk EU animal products that transit GB will continue to require health certificates from 31 January 2024.**





 Where animal health attestations are not required, goods transiting GB will not need a health certificate. This includes the following **seafood products**:

- Wild-caught fish
- Farmed fish that has been gutted or packed in consumer packaging in accordance with EU regulations no 853/2004 listed in the exemption section for animal health certification requirements in [GBHC401 FP Fishery products v1.1 Aug-23.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#).
- Live crustaceans if they meet any of the requirements listed in the exemption section for animal health certification requirements in [GBHC401 FP Fishery products v1.1 Aug-23.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

*Sample documentary checks will be undertaken on certain health certificates for EU/EFTA origin consignments between 31 January 2024 and 30 April 2024, including transit consignments*




## From 30 April 2024 Animal Products Checklist

-  All Animal Product consignments that transit GB will continue to require pre-notification via the Import of Products, Animals, Food and Feed System (IPAFFS).
-  **Low-risk EU animal products that transit GB will not require health certificates or routine checks.** However, they may be subject to non-routine /intelligence-led checks.
-  **Medium-risk EU animal products that transit GB will be subject to %100 documentary checks, and 1 – 30 % identity (seal) checks on entry and identity (seal) checks on exit.**
-  **High-risk EU animal products that transit GB will be subject to 100% documentary checks, and to 100% identity (seal) checks on entry and 100% identity (seal) checks on exit.**


(A different process will apply to goods from Ireland until appropriate BCP facilities are operational – see additional Ireland info below)




## Live Animals

 All Live Animal consignments that transit GB should continue following the existing transit requirements set out [on gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk).


### No earlier than October 2024

 New documentary, identity and physical checks at the border on transits of live animals from the EU will be introduced.

 All live animals will need to enter and exit through a point of entry with an appropriately designated BCP. All checks will be carried out at the BCP.

## Plants and Plant Products

 **Plants and plant products that transit through GB, do not require pre-notification via the Imports of Products, Animals, Food and Feed System (IPAFFS) for entry or exit.**

 Goods will continue to require a signed declaration stating that the goods are under phytosanitary transit and are packaged in such a way that there is no risk of spreading pests through Great Britain



## SPS goods transiting GB from Ireland



The above requirements for certification and pre-notification will apply to EU and non-qualifying Northern Ireland Goods transiting from Ireland through GB to the EU, although the timelines for commencing checks at BCPs will be slightly different (see below).



In addition, from **31 January 2024** exporters transiting goods from Ireland to the EU, will need to **start pre-notifying** GB authorities via IPAFFS before their consignment enters GB.

## ID and physical checks on goods arriving directly from/to the island of Ireland

There **will not** be any ID or physical checks on goods arriving at GB directly from the island of Ireland until **31 October 2024 at the earliest. This means from the 30 April 2024 until this date is determined:**



There will be **no entry seal checks** when EU and non-qualifying Northern Ireland goods leave the **island of Ireland and enter via GB** points of entry to transit to the EU.



There will be **no exit seal checks** when EU goods transit GB and **use GB ports** to move to the island of Ireland.





# Step by Step Example of a Landbridge Transit Movement for Animal Products | EU-GB-IR| 30 APRIL 2024 ONWARDS

This journey map is based on a medium-risk animal product journey



## EU to GB | Premovement of Good

**Step 1:** Determine the risk category of your goods – [Animal Products](#)

**Step 2:** Review relevant [transits guidance](#) and confirm all pre-requisites are met for all stages of journey

**Step 3:** Ensure consignment enters and exits GB via PoE with appropriately designated BCP – [BCP Map for Animal Products](#)

**Step 4:** Organise [Health Certification](#) as required for products – [How to complete a health certificate to export animals and animal products to Great Britain - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

**Step 5:** Submit GB SPS notification of consignment on IPAFFS

**Step 6:** Submit relevant transits declaration.



## EU to GB | During Transit to GB

**Step 7:** The Port Health Authority (or Local Authority in Scotland) will conduct remote document checks for all goods at the BCP location at the point of entry.

## EU to GB | At the GB Border

**Step 8:** Consignment will arrive at GB point of entry. It may be subject to ID/seal checks depending on the risk category of the goods: this will be communicated via IPAFFS driver messaging so it's important for the contact details to be completed as part of the pre-notification. If the driver details are not known at this point, the person responsible for the load must ensure inspection requirements are communicated to the driver – (Refer to Transit Requirements Table). The consignment may also be subject to other [Defra and/or HMRC requirements](#).

**Seal checks on medium-risk consignments will be random on entry and exit and will be conducted at the same inspection rates as for imports (1-30% for Medium Risk Goods). A consignment that is selected for an entry seal check may not be subject to an exit seal check and vice versa.**

**For Republic of Ireland** there will be no entry seal checks for goods transiting through GB to the EU – IR/EU/GB – until controls commence on EU and non-qualifying Northern Ireland goods entering from the island of Ireland – this will be no earlier than 31 October 2024.

- **If the consignment is selected for an entry seal check:** the consignment will need to be presented at the BCP at the point of entry specified in the IPAFFS notification – [BCP Map for Animal Products](#)
- **If the consignment is not selected for an entry check:** it will continue its journey to its GB point of exit location



**Step 9:** If the consignment passes the ID/seal check it can leave the BCP and continue to the GB point of exit location

**If the consignment does not pass the ID/seal check:** it will be subject to a physical inspection

**For Republic of Ireland** there will be no physical checks for goods transiting through GB to EU – IR/EU/GB – until outstanding BTOM implementation issues related to the West Coast are resolved - this will be no earlier than 31st October 2024.

- **If the consignment passes the physical check:** it will continue to its GB point of exit location.

## **GB to the EU | Onwards Transit Journey – GB Exit**

**Step 10:** The consignment may be selected for an exit seal check

**For Republic of Ireland** there will be **no exit seal checks** when EU goods transit GB and **use GB ports** to move to the island of Ireland - until controls commence on EU and non-qualifying Northern Ireland goods entering from the island of Ireland – this will be no earlier than 31 October 2024.

**If the consignment is selected for an exit seal check:** it will need to be presented to the BCP at the point of exit selected in the IPAFFS notification – [BCP Map for Animal Products](#)

- **If the consignment passes the seal check it can leave the BCP and GB to continue its journey to the destination country.** Email confirmation that the consignment has left GB territory (including bill of lading or equivalent) should be sent to the PHA at the exit BCP within 15 days from the date of the consignment's entry – [refer to transit guidance](#).





- **If the consignment does not pass the ID/seal check:** it will be subject to a physical inspection. If it passes the physical inspection the driver can leave the BCP and GB to continue journey to destination country. Email confirmation that the consignment has left GB territory (including bill of lading or equivalent) should be sent the PHA at the exit BCP within 15 days from the date of the consignment's entry – [refer to transit guidance](#). If it does not pass physical inspection the consignment will be subject to standard rejection procedures.
- **If the consignment is not selected for an exit seal check the driver can proceed to leave GB without presenting to the BCP at the GB point of exit and the goods can continue their journey to the destination country.** Email confirmation that the consignment has left GB territory (including bill of lading or equivalent) should be sent to the PHA at the exit BCP within 15 days from the date of the consignment's entry – [refer to transit guidance](#).



# TRANSITS REQUIREMENTS TABLE | EU – GB – EU

This table outlines transit requirements for low, medium and high-risk animal products from 30 April 2024 onwards and live animals later in 2024.

	Entry to GB						Exit from GB				
	Pre-notify on IPAFFS	Enter via port with designated BCP	EHC	Doc Check	ID (seal) check	Physical Check	Exit via port with designated BCP	ID (seal) Check	Doc Check	Physical Check	Confirm departure
Low risk – animal products	√	√	X Commercial document only	X	X	X	√	X	X	X	√ to PHA at BCP at GB point of exit
Medium risk – animal product	√	√	√	100%	1-30%	X	√	1-30%	If ID (seal) checked	X	√ to PHA at BCP at GB point of exit
High risk – animal product	√	√	√	100%	100%	X	√	100%	To verify ID	X	√ to PHA at BCP at GB point of exit
High risk - Live animals	√	√	√	100%	100% <sup>2</sup>	100% <sup>2</sup>	√	X	X	X	√ To APHA at the BCP at GB point of exit

<sup>2</sup> Live animals will require an EHC Unless eligible for reduced checks.

There are no checks on low-risk goods however they may be subjected to non-routine intelligence-based checks.

Physical check may be conducted on medium risk goods/high risk where ID or seal checks have identified non-compliance.



