

The Bluetongue Regulations 2008 (as amended) - regulation 13, 14 & 28
The Movement of Animals (Restrictions) (England) Order 2002 (as amended) - article 5A

Declaration of an extended bluetongue Restricted Zone and an Infected Area on 18 May 2025

- 1) Upon the Chief Veterinary Officer having reviewed evidence that there has been local transmission of bluetongue virus in England and confirming that the bluetongue virus is therefore circulating in England, the Secretary of State hereby declares the area identified in Annex 1 to be a restricted zone in accordance with regulation 13(1)(a) of the Bluetongue Regulations 2008 (as amended).
- 2) In addition, the Secretary of State hereby declares the area identified in Annex 1 to be an infected area in accordance with article 5A of the Movement of Animals (Restrictions) (England) Order 2002 (as amended) hereafter referred to as a Restricted Zone.
- 3) The restricted zone and infected area are comprised of the area identified in Annex 1.
- 4) The measures set out in Annex 2 shall apply in the restricted zone.
- 5) As regards the infected area:
 - a. The disease in respect of which the infected area is being declared is bluetongue.
 - b. The animals to which the declaration relates are Ruminants and Camelids.
 - c. In order to prevent the spread of disease, the Secretary of State considers additional measures are necessary. These measures are specified in Annex 2 and apply in the infected area.
- 6) These measures apply from 18.00 on 18 May 2025 until this Declaration is revoked or amended by further declaration.
- 7) The Restricted Zone and Infected Area declared at 19.00 on 14 February 2025 is hereby revoked from 18.00 on 18 May 2025.

Signed:

Gordon Hickman
9.00 on 18 May 2025

Authorised by the Secretary of State

Any person who contravenes a provision of this Declaration made under the Bluetongue Regulations 2008 (as amended) shall commit an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale or to imprisonment not exceeding 3 months or to both. A summary conviction may be up to 6 months imprisonment where an offence is committed under the Movement of Animals (Restrictions) (England) Order 2002 (as amended).

Copies of this Declaration and of the Regulations are available at [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) and from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2nd floor, Seacole Building, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF

Annex 1 – Restricted Zone and Infected Area

The Restricted Zone and Infected Area comprise those parts of England contained within the red line and consists of part or all of the counties and unitary authorities of Bedfordshire, Berkshire (part), Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, City of Kingston upon Hull, City of York, Dorset, East Devon (part), East Riding of Yorkshire, East Sussex, Essex, Greater London, Hampshire (additional part), Hertfordshire, Isle of Wight, Kent, **Lancashire**, Leicestershire (part), Lincolnshire, Norfolk, **North Yorkshire (remaining part)** Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Oxfordshire (part), Somerset (part), Suffolk, Surrey, Warwickshire (part), West Sussex and Wiltshire (additional part).

Details of the Zone can be found on the [bluetongue interactive map](#).

For illustrative purposes, the restricted zone and infected area is indicated in the map below. The red line outlines both the Restricted Zone and Infected Area

Annex 2 – Measures that apply in the Restricted Zone / Infected Area

1. No person may move an animal, or germinal product out of a restricted zone except under the authority of a licence granted by a veterinary inspector or by an inspector or officer of the Secretary of State acting under the direction of a veterinary inspector (regulation 13 (2) of the Bluetongue Regulations 2008 (as amended)).
2. A person is prohibited from moving an animal within a restricted zone if the animal shows clinical signs of bluetongue on the day of transport. (regulation 13 (5) of the Bluetongue Regulations 2008 (as amended)).
3. If an animal is transported from a restricted zone to a slaughterhouse outside that restricted zone in accordance with a licence, the operator of the slaughterhouse must slaughter the animal within 24 hours of arrival (regulation 14 (2) of the Bluetongue Regulations 2008 (as amended)).
4. By way of licence derogating from the requirement at paragraph 1 above, dairy cattle may be moved from the restricted zone to their usual milking parlour and returned directly to the place of origin provided such movements are by foot to and from the regular place of milking used for the relevant herd (regulation 28(a) of the Bluetongue Regulations 2008 (as amended)).
5. No person shall freeze any germinal product unless the germinal product is frozen on premises designated under regulation 14A of the Bluetongue Regulations 2008 (as amended) or otherwise in accordance with the terms of a licence issued by the Secretary of State (article 5A(3)(e) of the Movement of Animals (Restrictions) (England) Order 2002 (as amended)).
6. Auditable and accurate records of collection, storage, use and disposal, of germinal products must be prepared and maintained until such time that the donor animals are confirmed by testing, to be free of bluetongue virus and to evidence compliance with licence conditions for any subsequent movement (article 5A(3)(e) of the Movement of Animals (Restrictions) (England) Order 2002 (as amended)).
7. Where an animal is transiting the area declared to be an infected area, the animal must be moved in a vehicle and by the shortest available route without being unloaded (article 5A(7) of the Movement of Animals (Restrictions) (England) Order 2002 (as amended)).
8. Note that Licence EXD612, issued on 5 September 2024, grants exemptions from the effect of certain provisions that apply by default under the Movement of Animals (Restrictions) (England) Order 2002. That licence **does not affect the restrictions at paragraphs 1-4 of this Annex (above)**, which continue to apply in the restricted zone subject to any licence granted under the Bluetongue Regulations 2008.

Notes:

1. In this Declaration:
 - a. “animal” means a ruminating animal or a camelid;
 - b. “germinal product” means the embryo, ovum or semen of an animal.
2. Premises partly inside the restricted zone and partly inside the free area are treated as being inside the restricted zone (Bluetongue Regulations 2008 (as amended), regulation 7 (4)(b)).
3. Premises partly inside a restricted zone and partly inside a temporary Control zone or Control Zone are treated as being inside the temporary control zone or Control Zone (Bluetongue Regulations 2008 (as amended), regulation 7 (4)(c)).
4. Premises partly inside and partly outside an infected area are deemed to be wholly within that infected area (Movement of Animals (Restrictions) (England) Order 2002 (as amended), regulation 5A (6))