

EXPORT OF CAT FROM UNITED KINGDOM TO ICELAND

NOTES FOR THE 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 8680EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8680EHC.

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.

Please note that it is responsibility of the exporter to obtain Import permit and comply with any other requirements required by MAST (The Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority) such as, quarantine reservation, submission of certificates to MAST prior to importation, transportation (transport cages, accompanying documents etc).

We recommend for exporters and OVs to get familiar with the current requirements for importation of the cats from category I countries which can be found at:

https://www.mast.is/static/files/innflutningur_hdkt20/leidbein_cl_en.pdf

1. **Scope**

This certificate must be used to accompany pet cats exported to Iceland.

2. **Identification**

Paragraph I. refers. The identification schedule should be fully completed. Cats should be identified by microchip number. Full description including name, breed, fur/colour and DOB and whether cat is male/female, and intact/ neutered.

3. **Residency**

Paragraph V. c) refers. This can be certified based on declaration from the owner and relevant documents as required. The OV must be satisfied with the information provided.

According to information from MAST (The Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority), the approved category I countries are: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway (excluding Svalbard), Portugal, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, **United Kingdom.**

4. **Rabies vaccination**

Paragraph V. d) (i) refers. This can be certified based on the original vaccination documents and laboratory certificates. The OV must verify and be satisfied that the requirements regarding Rabies vaccination and testing have been met. The cat must have a valid rabies vaccination. Vaccination should be at least 45-60 days prior

to importation.

Blood samples for antibody testing shall be taken at the earliest 30 days after vaccination. The day of the vaccination is regarded as day 0 (zero). Antibody testing shall be carried out by a laboratory approved by the European Union for this purpose. Rabies antibody titre should measure at least 0,5 IU/ml. The 3/6 antibody test is valid, as long as the rabies vaccination is kept up to date, according to the manufacturer's instructions.

The original laboratory report (or certified copy) must accompany the certificate.

5. Other vaccinations and testing

Feline Panleukopenia, Feline rhinotracheitis, calicivirus - Paragraph V., d), (ii), (iii) and (iv)) refers. This can be certified based on the original vaccination documents. The OV must verify and be satisfied that the requirements have been met.

The last vaccination prior to importation must be given no less than 14 days before date of importation. The cat must be fully vaccinated, i.e. have received the appropriate basic vaccination which has been maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Feline leukemia virus (FeLV) and Feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV) - Paragraph V., d) (v) and (vi) refers. This can be certified based on the laboratory certificates. The OV must verify and be satisfied that the requirements regarding testing have been met.

FeLV - regarding the blood test, within the last 30 days prior to importation, a blood sample shall be drawn from the cat for testing for FeLV by PCR, ELISA or IFA test. Confirmation of a negative result must be entered in this section of EHC.

Laboratory report in English language, containing the laboratory name, microchip number, blood sample date and test result must accompany the certificate.

FIV - regarding the blood test, within the last 30 days prior to importation, a blood sample shall be drawn from the cat for testing for FIV by either ELISA or Western blot test. Confirmation of a negative result must be recorded in this section of EHC. Laboratory report in English language containing the laboratory name, microchip number, blood sample date and test result must accompany the certificate.

It is recommended that sampling be done in a timely manner and exporter/OV should liaise with the laboratory in regard to turnover times, so they can plan testing in advance as required.

6. Parasitic treatment (internal and external parasites)

Paragraph V, e), (i) and (ii) refer.

Two treatments are required for both - internal and external parasites.

First treatment must be 21-28 days prior to importation of the cat, second treatment must be 5-10 days prior to importation of the cat. The veterinary medicinal product(s) used for external parasites must be registered for lice, fleas and ticks. The veterinary medicinal

product(s) used for internal parasites must be registered for roundworm and tapeworm.

7. Clinical examination

Paragraph V. (f) of the certificate refers.

Health examination should be carried out 5-10 days prior to export. The veterinarian must confirm that the cat does not show any symptoms of contagious diseases or external parasites. Special attention should be paid to tongue worm (*Linguata serrata*), scabies (*Sarcoptes scabiei* spp.) and dermatophytosis (*M. Canis*, *M. Gypseum*, *T. Mentagrophytes*, *T. Verrucosum*).

8. Welfare during travel

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

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

9. Legalisation

For the purposes of legalising the above certificates, exporters should apply to the Legalisation Office via: <https://www.gov.uk/get-document-legalised>

Telephone: 020 4623 3100 (lines open 24/7)

For general enquiries: Legalisation@fcdo.gov.uk

Customers with short deadlines should contact UrgentLegalisation@fcdo.gov.uk for assistance

10. 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 8680NFG (Draft 27/10/2025)

ink colour OTHER THAN BLACK.

11. 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.

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.

12. 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