

EXPORT OF CATS AND DOGS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

OF CHINA NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 8902EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 8902EHC. 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 8902EHC may be used for the export of a single cat or a dog from the United Kingdom to the People's Republic of China for each person per entry where the animal accompanies the person involved. This is in accordance with Announcement [2019] No. 5 of GACC on Further Regulations Regarding the Quarantine and Supervision of Pets Entering China : [Announcement \[2019\] No. 5 of GACC on Further Regulations Regarding the Quarantine and Supervision of Pets Entering China](#)

Please note that China operates a policy of only one animal (cat or dog) per accompanying adult traveling into China.

2. **OFFICIAL SIGNATURE**

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.

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 8902NFG (Agreed 18/12/2025)

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. **Origin of the animal**

Paragraphs II a) - d) refer. The Chinese authorities require the passport number of the owner of the animal and, if different, that of the carrier. The OV should not certify the animal until the relevant passport(s) have been seen and their numbers recorded.

4. **Health information**

Paragraphs III. b) refers. The animal must be clinically examined and found to be free from signs of rabies and of other animal diseases listed in the Chinese list of quarantine diseases: [中华人民共和国农业农村部 中华人民共和国海关总署第256号公告](#).

The above link feeds into a Chinese Government webpage which offers the option for translation into English.

5. **VACCINATIONS**

RABIES VACCINATION

Paragraph IV refers. China requires separate evidence that the animal has been vaccinated against rabies.

Table must be completed with all the relevant information. The information required is:

- Dates(s) of vaccination
- Type of vaccine
- Name of product
- Batch / Lot number
- Manufacturer

Animal needs to be vaccinated against rabies prior export. Vaccine needs to be used in accordance with manufacturer instructions. Rabies vaccination must be within the validity period at the time of export.

If the vaccination has been carried out by another veterinary surgeon, the owner/exporter must provide satisfactory evidence to the OV in the form of a valid certificate.

The rabies vaccination certificate must be attached to and accompany the health certificate.

6. **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

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

7. **DISCLAIMER**

8902NFG (Agreed 18/12/2025)

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