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Food & Rural Affairs

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IMPORTS AND EU POLICY TEAM

OVS Note/2018/17

Date: 31 October 2018

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CONSIGNMENTS TO BE CHECKED BY AN OVS

Purpose

1. To advise BIPs that the maximum number of consignments a full time (40hr/wk) OVS should check in one year is **2,800**.

Background

2. [OVS Note 2016/24](#) issued on 30 September 2016 advised that Defra was reviewing the guidance in the BIP Manual concerning the maximum number of consignments that a full time OVS should carry out.

3. In order to ensure that the guidance reflects current processes, BIPs were asked to provide up to date data on all OVS duties including managerial responsibilities etc. to enable an audit to be carried out. This data has now been assessed by Defra and the FSA and we have agreed the above figure.

Action for OVSs

6. BIP staff to take note of the new recommended maximum number of consignment **(2,800) to be checked** by a full-time OVS per year. The BIP Manual will be amended in due course.

Contact point for enquiries

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