

**To:** Feed and food law enforcement authorities in England.  
Port Health Authorities in England.

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| <b>Model official certificates for certain animals and goods.</b>  |   | <b>23 January 2020</b>                     |
| <b>Summary:</b> Acceptance of official certificates for products of animal origin consignments under Regulation (EU) 2019/628. |   | <b>Notification</b><br>• Imports           |
| <b>Key words:</b> official certificates, POAO, Regulation 2019/628.  |   | <b>URN: OVS 2020 01</b>                    |
| <b>Classification</b><br>• Official (Sensitive)  | <b>Notification type:</b><br>• Priority | <b>Letter Category:</b><br>• Imported Food |

Dear Colleague,

I am writing to confirm a temporary measure regarding the import of consignments of products of animal origin accompanied by the relevant official certificates.

As you are aware, Regulation (EU) 2019/628 amended several official certificates for animals and goods. Article 33 contained transitional provisions permitting

*Consignments of products of animal origin accompanied by the relevant certificates issued accordance with Regulation (EC) No 2074/2005, Regulation (EU) No 211/2013 and Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/759 may be accepted for the entry into the Union until 13 March 2020 provided that the certificate was signed before 14 December 2019.*

Given the Official Control Regulation (2017/625) took effect from 14 December, there is no 'transitional period' where both old and new versions of the certificates can be accepted. The changes to the certificates are largely presentational and concern references to the changed legislation. In liaising with the ports recently, we are aware that some consignments have arrived with the 'old' model certificates, signed on or after 14 December. Therefore, we are advising that BCPs may show discretion and request a replacement certificate in place of the

'old' model certificate that has been received. This discretion is available for consignments that arrive in the UK with the old model certificate until midnight on 13 March 2020. Thereafter, any consignment arriving in the UK should be accompanied by the new model health certificates. Any consignments that are accompanied by old model health certificates after the 13 March would be grounds for rejection.

Please contact [Imported.Food@food.gov.uk](mailto:Imported.Food@food.gov.uk) if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Petty  
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