



## IMPORTS AND EU POLICY TEAM

OVS NOTE 2020/05

20 February 2020

### Guidance on the development of a training programme for Non-OVS staff in accordance with Delegated Regulation 2019/1081

#### Purpose

1. The purpose of this OVS note is to provide guidance and instructions on the requirements of the training programme for Border Control Post (BCP) non-OVS staff to perform physical checks on certain animal products.

#### Background

2. Article 49(5) of Regulation (EU) [2017/625](#) establishes specific training requirements for non-OVS staff performing physical checks as part of official controls on certain animal products at BCPs with the specific elements set out in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) [2019/1081](#).
3. Should a BCP be interested in performing this training for their non-OVS staff, it is to their discretion to develop a training plan to include both theoretical and practical elements in accordance with requirements laid down in Regulation 2019/1081. The annex attached sets out the guidance and approval process of the training programme.



4. Please note, the FSA are creating an online module for training of Official Fish Inspectors (OFI). This OVS note does not include the training of OFIs which are being considered separately by FSA.

### **Action for OVSs**

To note the contents of this OVS note.

### **Contact point for enquiries**

Tel: 03000 200 301

Email: [imports@apha.gov.uk](mailto:imports@apha.gov.uk)

*Imports and EU Trade Policy Team*

## Annex

1. Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) [2019/1081](#) lays down rules establishing specific training requirements for the following staff as referred to in article 49(2)(a) and (b) of Regulation (EU) 2017/625, performing physical checks at BCPs:
  - a) staff assisting an OVS in performing physical checks on animals, except aquatic animals, or on meat and edible meat offal;
  - b) staff performing physical checks on aquatic animals, on products of animal origin other than the ones referred to in point (a), on germinal products or on animal by-products.
2. The BCPs shall develop and arrange the training programme to ensure that the physical checks are performed by staff with the necessary level of technical competence and expertise. The training programme shall be both theoretical and practical.
3. Subject matters of the training programme must include those listed in Article 3 of Regulation 2019/1081, where relevant to the BCPs designation and commodities imported. Competency must be assessed on all subject areas of the training, and on both theoretical and practical elements, with at least a 90% pass mark. The assessment must be implemented and overseen by the OVS.
4. BCPs may create a training programme in accordance with the requirements laid down in Regulation 2019/1081. The training programme plan/structure and assessment plan must be submitted to Defra for approval. Please also submit a list of subject matters from article 3 of Regulation 2019/1081 and explain how the subject matter will be incorporated in the training. If a subject matter is not included in the training plan then rationale must be provided. Plans and information must be submitted to Defra at [ImportsTradeinAnimalsandProducts@defra.gov.uk](mailto:ImportsTradeinAnimalsandProducts@defra.gov.uk).
5. Defra will review the plan and notify the BCP of approval or recommend further amendments if required. Once the BCP has received approval they may commence training from the date of approval. The training can only be carried out by a qualified OVS and with support from an OFI if necessary.

6. Any trained person can only be considered competent under Regulation 2019/1081 on those subject areas they are trained in by the BCP and has successfully passed the relevant assessment. He/she may then be designated under the BCP who performed the training.
7. The BCPs shall keep records of the training programme on paper or in electronic form for each individual, including the dates, duration, programme description, and, where appropriate, certificates attesting the successful completion of the training programme by staff. The records must be kept for auditing purposes.
8. APHA may audit/verify such training or records by the BCPs, on a yearly basis or depending on the training frequency. Defra can also inform BCPs of any necessary updates to training due to any amendments to legislation or protocols that could have an impact on their performance.
9. Non-compliances found on audits/checks can be investigated to depurate responsibilities (trainer or trainee) and may trigger a review of the whole training material.