



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

IMPORTS AND EU POLICY TEAM

OVS NOTE 2021/12

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NEW HEALTH CERTIFICATE ARCHIVE SITE

Purpose

To provide Border Control Posts (BCPs) with the link to the new health certificate archive site.

Background

We have now launched a new health certificate archive site for BCP staff to assist with documentary checks where consignments arrive with previous versions of export health certificates (EHCs). It includes:

- PDF versions of previous versions of EHCs
- Release dates of each version
- Agreed deadlines for accepting previous versions
- Log of changes in each version
- Summary of recently updated EHCs

Only the most up-to-date version of each health certificate is listed on the gov.uk website. However, we understand that there will always be a short delay in new versions being adopted by trading partners and so technical staff will still need access to previous versions during this time. The site therefore offers quick access to both the live and archived versions of each certificate, allowing for easy side by side comparison with completed certificates.

The site can be accessed at:

<https://defra.sharepoint.com/teams/Team264/SitePages/Health-Certificate-Archive.aspx>

The site is hosted on the Defra SharePoint system, meaning that access is limited only to approved email addresses. We have now granted access to all email addresses that were sent in response to our email on 8 November 2021. New accounts can be given access by emailing GBHealthCertificates@defra.gov.uk.

In order to give trading partners time to adopt changes to GB model certificates we will be giving them up to six months to transition to the latest version. During this time, we will continue to accept the previous versions of the certificate. In cases

where the change has a direct impact on biosecurity we will advise BCPs of the specific transition window that will apply.

Further guidance on using the site can be found at:

<https://defra.sharepoint.com/teams/Team264/SitePages/How-to-use-this-site.aspx>

Action for OVSs

To begin using the archive site as needed for documentary checks

Contact point for enquiries

Email: GBHealthCertificates@defra.gov.uk.

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