



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

## APHA Briefing Note 25/21

### Certified Copies of Export Health Certificates

Date issued: 25 June 2021

#### Purpose

1. To inform Certifying Officers (Official Veterinarians (OVs) and Food competent Certifying Officers (FCCOs) located in England, Scotland and Wales of the updated process for returning certified copies of Export Health Certificates (EHC) to the Centre for International Trade Carlisle (CITC).

#### Background

2. Previous guidance to Certifying Officers requested that a certified copy for all certificates were required to be returned to APHA within seven days of signature. This guidance has changed and only specific certified copies are required to be returned to APHA.

#### Action

3. Certifying Officers only need to return certified copies to CITC if the certificate meets any of the following criteria:
  - If the commodity is:
    - cattle
    - pigs
    - sheep
    - goats
    - camelids
  - If the destination country is listed below, due to COVID-19 White paper requirements, when returning the certified copy, 'white paper' must be included in the email subject;
    - Australia
    - Peoples Republic of China

Gibraltar  
United States of America  
Myanmar  
Philippines  
Hong Kong  
United Arab Emirates  
North Macedonia  
Canada  
New Zealand

- 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.
4. All certified copies should be returned via email to [certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk](mailto:certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk) on the date of signature.
  5. For certificates that have been issued to the Certifying Officer via the Exports Health Certificates Online (EHCO) system, the Certifying Officer must complete the certifier portal with the status of the certificate and the date of signature.
  6. Certifying Officers should continue to retain a copy of any certified certificate for their own records.
  7. Any queries relating to these procedures should be sent to: [exports@apha.gov.uk](mailto:exports@apha.gov.uk)

## Appendix

The list of Third Countries that have agreed to the use of EHCs on plain white paper are:

- Australia
- Gibraltar
- People's Republic of China
- USA.