



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

APHA Briefing Note 20/22

Movement Assistance Scheme: Final destination definition and updated Export Health Certificate guidance

Date issued: 26 May 2022

Purpose

To inform Official Veterinarians (OVs) and other certifiers using the [Movement Assistance Scheme \(MAS\)](#) that guidance clarifying the definition of final destination has been issued alongside updated advice on completing and invoicing for Export Health Certificates (EHCs).

Background

Defra developed MAS in 2020 to provide financial support to traders moving agrifood commodities and live animals from GB to NI, who faced new requirements on 1 January 2021 under the Northern Ireland Protocol.

Defra has clarified the definition of 'final destination' for traders and certifiers using MAS. To qualify for MAS financial support, the final destination of animals or products must be Northern Ireland. The place of destination is defined as the 'establishment, or where relevant another place, where animals or products are being delivered for final unloading'.

Updated guidance reminds certifiers to specify that Northern Ireland (NI) is the final destination for agrifood movements, through their responses to sections 1.9 and 1.12 on an EHC.

It also reminds certifiers how to invoice correctly for EHC reimbursements.

Action

When completing section 1.9 of the EHC (country of destination): Indicate the name (must be Northern Ireland) and ISO country code (XI) of Member State destination of the animals or products

When completing section 1.12 of the EHC (place of Destination): Indicate the name and address, country (must be Northern Ireland) and ISO country code (XI) of the place where the consignment

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is being delivered for final unloading. Where applicable, also indicate the registration or approval number of the establishment destination.

When invoicing for an EHC, invoice within 90 days of the completion of the work, which is classed as the date of the movement of the live animals or products of animal origin. Please include on your invoice:

- Cost of checks based on existing fees up to £150 (£500 for equine EHCs) excluding VAT
- Cost of laboratories processing samples and associated costs up to £34 excluding VAT where applicable
- Travel time spent based on charge out rate. Please note that travel time can only be claimed for if it is not already included in your existing charge out rates. It can only be claimed on NI EHCs. This cost must be within the cap of £150 (£500 for equine EHCs) excluding VAT.
- Date of certification completion. This should match the date in EHC Online or eTrade
- Certifier ID
- EHC serial number (if generated by EHC Online) or the certificate reference (if generated by eTrade)
- VAT (at the appropriate rate) should be shown separately on the invoice as a separate charge
- Unique invoice number
- Practice details, registered trading name, address on letterhead and VAT registration number
- PO number, as supplied by APHA team

Do not include hand-written amendments on an invoice or it will be returned. Note that it is not possible to submit invoices by post. They should be emailed to ServiceDeliveryVetandExportInvoices@apha.gov.uk.

[A new sample invoice is available here.](#)

The updated guidance is available in the [MAS online FAQs](#).

Further Information

- [GOV.UK – Movement Assistance Scheme](#)
- [Vet Gateway: Movement Assistance Scheme](#)
- [GB-NI Trade Showcase site](#).