



Please note, a further update regarding Animal Health Certificates was published on 29 October 2019 – please refer to [Briefing Note 28/19](#).

APHA Briefing Note 27/19

An update regarding the issuing of Animal Health Certificates (AHCs) to pet owners wishing to travel to the EU after Brexit (relating to [Briefing Note 24/19](#))

1. Purpose

To inform all Official Veterinarians (OVs) of an update to [Briefing Note 24/19](#) issued on 15 October 2019 regarding the issuing of Animal Health Certificates (AHCs) to pet owners wishing to travel to the EU after Brexit.

2. Background

As you know, in a no-deal Brexit, EU pet passports issued by UK OVs will no longer be valid for entry to the EU and so a pet travelling from the UK to the EU will need an AHC. In our last communication, we asked you to get ready to issue AHCs from 23 October to ensure that owners travelling to the EU with their pet after 31 October 2019 could still travel if the UK left without a deal.

As we are in a period of uncertainty about the Brexit outcome on 31 October, we would ask you to carefully consider the documents you issue to your customers who need to be able to travel with a pet to the EU after 11pm GMT on 31 October.

If pet owners cannot wait for the outcome of the political Brexit discussions to be finalised, we would advise you to issue them with an AHC but also recommend to customers who currently hold an EU pet passport that they take both forms of documentation on their trip to the EU.

Should the UK still be in the EU at a pet owner's time of travel, while an AHC would remain a valid document for travel between the UK and the EU, a valid pet passport would be more familiar to EU authorities and allow pet owners greater flexibility to their travel plans.

If you have any questions about AHCs, please email the PetPassports.Carlisle@apha.gov.uk mailbox or telephone 03000 200 301.

Further Information

We will update you directly as soon as we have certainty on the Brexit outcome and would like to thank you for your continued patience.

Issued: 24 October 2019 – update added 29 October 2019.