



## APHA Briefing Note 28/19

### **An update regarding the issuing of Animal Health Certificates (AHCs) as the Government has agreed a three-month Brexit extension with the EU**

#### **1. Purpose**

To inform all Official Veterinarians (OVs) of an update on the issuing of Animal Health Certificates (AHCs). This information relates to [Briefing Note 24/19](#) which was issued on 15 October 2019 and [Briefing Note 27/19](#) which was issued on 24 October 2019.

#### **2. Background**

We wrote to you on 15 October 2019 and again on 24 October 2019 about issuing Animal Health Certificates (AHCs) to pet owners travelling to the EU with their pet after Brexit.

The Government has now reached an agreement with the EU on a three-month Brexit extension. This means the UK will leave the EU on 31 January 2020, with an option to leave earlier if a deal is ratified.

This means that the UK will not leave the EU on 31 October 2019.

During the extension period, pets will be able to travel to and from the EU under current pet travel rules and using their current EU pet passport. Therefore, OVs should halt issuing AHCs until further notice.

If you have already issued AHCs to pet owners for travel on or after 1 November 2019, the AHC will still be valid for entry into the EU for up to 10 days after issue and for four months of onwards travel /re-entry to the UK.

However, you may wish to advise affected pet owners that they can continue to use the current EU pet passport until the date the UK leaves the EU.

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

#### **Further Information**

We will continue to update our '[Pet travel to Europe after Brexit](#)' guidance on GOV.UK.

**Issued:** 29 October 2019