



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

## APHA Briefing Note 40/20

### Products of Animal Origin – Listing of UK Establishments by Trading Partners. Changes to Approval Codes and Associated Matters

### Information Circular to Exporters and Certifying Officers in the UK

Date issued: 14 December 2020

## Purpose

To inform Certifying Officers, Official Veterinarians and exporters of the changes to the format of unique listing/approval codes of UK Approved Establishments for export of Products of Animal Origin. These changes apply to beef, pork, dairy, fish products and live aquatic products exported to **CHINA**.

The date of change was 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020 for DAIRY (EHC 6288) and LIVE AQUATIC (EHC 7432 and EHC 7469) products and 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020 for PORK (EHC 7006) products.

The date of change will be 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2020 for FISH products (EHC 7208).

For animal product commodities to countries which do not require specific listing, where Export Health Certificates (EHCs) include entries for approval codes of UK establishments, such entries will be made in the new format from 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2021.

## Background

In the current context of the UK preparing to leave the EU, references to the “EC” need to be removed from exporting documents. These changes were implemented for all other countries maintaining approved lists in 2019.

Currently, the unique approval codes for UK establishments that are approved and listed for POAO exports to China are typically made up of either a “UK” prefix, a four digit unique approval code, and an “EC” suffix; for example, “UK 1234 EC” or a “UK” prefix, a two letter area code and three digit number forming a unique approval code, and an “EC” suffix, for example “UK AB 123 EC”.

Consignments from approved establishments will therefore still be identifiable due to the continued use of their unique identifying codes in the entries of the relevant sections of Export Health Certificates and marks applied to products.

Illustrative examples:

Old format approval codes for EHCs	New format to be used for EHC 7208 from 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2020 and all EHCs from 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2021
UK 2090 EC	2090
UK AB 123 EC	AB 123
UK CD 456 FE EC	CD 456 FE
UK CD 456 M EC	CD 456 M

## Action

### Exporters:

To be aware that the approval codes by which premises approved by China are listed will be changing.

**Exporters must ensure that EHCs for fish consignments intended for departure to China on or after 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 are not signed before that date and must include the new format approval code (see table above). Chinese customs will check the date of departure on the Cargo Manifest and will expect the approval code format to match.**

### Certifying officers:

Certificates requiring entries for approval/registration numbers of establishments must be completed using the format of current or new listing details, as necessary at the time of certification.

**EHCs for fish consignments intended for departure to China on or after 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 must not be signed before that date and must use the new format approval code.**

Notes for guidance and other documents issued to you with each EHC must always be read and understood. In this period, it is particularly important that you do so to avoid disruption to trade.

## Further Information

It is strongly advised that you familiarise yourselves with the Food Standards Agency/Food Standards Scotland guidance on changes to Health/Identification Marks at the following link:

<https://www.food.gov.uk/business-guidance/guidance-on-health-and-identification-marks-that-applies-from-1-january-2021>