



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

APHA Briefing Note 42/20

Products of Animal Origin – Export of beef, mutton and pork (meat and offal) to Hong Kong

Date issued: 21 December 2020 – updated 30 December 2020

Purpose

To inform Certifying Officers, Official Veterinarians and exporters of the changed conditions for beef, mutton and pork exports to **Hong Kong** from 1st January 2021.

Background

As we approach the end of the Transition Period, EU harmonised EHCs are being transitioned for use by the UK after 1st January 2021.

Following our last communications on this EHC, a new agreement has since been reached with the Hong Kong authorities for products bearing the UK health/identification mark which were derived from the Republic of Ireland to be included in red meat exports from the UK, but no longer products from other eligible EU Member States.

This means that only meat from animals born and raised in either the UK or the Republic of Ireland and slaughtered in the UK or the Republic of Ireland and packed within the UK (i.e. bearing an UK oval mark) can be included in exports to Hong Kong from 1st January 2021.

Action

Exporters:

To be aware that from 1st January 2021 only meat from animals born, raised and slaughtered within the UK or Republic of Ireland and packed bearing an UK oval mark can be included in exports to Hong Kong.

From 1st January 2021, the process for applying for EHC 8000, along with other EHCs currently applied for via Traces, will change. You will need to use Defra's Form Finder gov.uk page to identify the correct EHC and apply via EHC Online instead of using Traces.

Certifying officers:

Official Veterinarians to ensure that from 1st January 2021 only meat bearing and UK oval mark and produced from animals born, raised and slaughtered within the UK or Republic of Ireland is included in consignments certified for export to Hong Kong using **8000EHC or 8000 Export Declaration**.

Previous versions of this certificate or declaration issued to OV's and which are to be signed on or after 1st of January may still be acceptable by the Hong Kong authorities. If possible, it is advisable that a substitute certificate/declaration conforming to the new agreement should be requested. Please read carefully the new guidance notes for further information.

From 1st January 2021, any applications made for EHC 8000 will be made via EHC Online and you will receive these EHCs via your certifier dashboard for action. If you are not already registered for EHC Online, please take action now to ensure your export clients can still use you as their certifier from 1st January 2021.

Further Information

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.