



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

APHA Briefing Note 44/20

Steps to take now to prepare for certification of Export Health Certificates (EHCs)

Date issued: 29 December 2020

Purpose

To inform Official Veterinarians (OVs) of our findings from recent operational testing for the implementation of Export Health Certificates (EHCs) and to advise them of actions to take. These are explained in the 10-minute webinar [here](#).

Background

From 1 January 2021 exports of animals and animal products to the EU will require an EHC which can be signed by an OV.

In the past few weeks Defra has been running tests on the implementation of EHCs. To help you prepare, we want to share with you our key findings from our operational readiness tests to avoid delays.

Action

- OVs must [register](#) with Export Health Certificate Online in order to certify EHCs.
- OVs will need to check GOV.UK to familiarise themselves with the [EHC forms](#) and guidance and watch the [webinar](#) we have recorded so they are ready.
- OVs will need to work with the exporters employing them so that they are familiar with the products which will require certification.

Further Information

OVs should make sure they are familiar with all relevant [guidance](#) and other documents relating to EHCs and that they discuss requirements with exporters in advance.