



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

## APHA Briefing Note 49/21

# Certifying Officers to Obtain Avian Influenza Disease Clearance for certain Export Health Certificates from the APHA Vet Gateway

**Date issued: 12 November 2021**

This Briefing Note replaces 01/21 published on 8 January 2021.

### Purpose

1. To inform Certifying Officers that the Centre for International Trade – Carlisle (CITC) will not issue Avian Influenza disease clearances for certain Export Health Certificates (EHC) for the EU and Northern Ireland that are now being issued. Certifying Officers will be required, with immediate effect, to obtain their own clearance for certain EHCs from an interactive map that can be accessed via the APHA Vet Gateway.
2. To inform Certifying Officers of the certification requirements when there is a new outbreak of Avian Influenza in Great Britain (GB) and the 10km zone from where the outbreak has occurred has not yet been regionalised in [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) No 2021/404 \(as amended\)](#). The “territory of code” that has to be introduced in the veterinary certificates accompanying the respective poultry commodities should be GB-1 (excluding any poultry or poultry products originated from the 10km radius from restricted areas) pending listing as a GB-2 zone in EU legislation.

### Background

3. Exports from GB to the European Union (EU) and Northern Ireland now require EHCs which will be issued to Certifying Officers through the EHC Online service. More information about this service is available for Certifying Officers on the [APHA Vet Gateway](#).

4. [APHA Briefing Note 38/20](#) issued on 10 December 2020 explained that Certifying Officers would be able to obtain their own disease clearance for certain EHCs for trade to the EU and Northern Ireland post transition.
5. Due to ongoing Avian Influenza cases it will be necessary for Certifying Officers to obtain additional clearances in certain EHCs for Avian Influenza or Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza using an interactive map that can be accessed via a link on the [APHA Vet Gateway](#).
6. Part 1 of Annexes IV, V and XIV to [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) No 2021/404 \(as amended\)](#) provides a list of third countries, territories, zones or compartments from which eggs, poultry and poultry products may be imported into and transit through the EU and the veterinary certificate requirements.
7. The UK has been listed in the Regulation to permit exports but excludes eggs, poultry and poultry products that originate in 'the area contained within a circle of a radius of 10km centred on' each Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) infected premises.
8. Certifying Officers will need to obtain data from exporters on all flock(s) of origin/holding(s) of origin, and if applicable, slaughterhouse(s), of eggs, poultry and poultry products and plot the postcode(s) on the interactive map.
9. If all flock(s) of origin/holding(s) of origin, and if applicable, slaughterhouse(s), of eggs, poultry and poultry products are outside all HPAI 10km surveillance zones, the eggs/poultry/poultry products meet export eligible criteria and can be certified for export.
10. If any flock(s)/holding(s) of origin, and if applicable, slaughterhouse(s) are plotted and are within any HPAI 10km surveillance zone, eggs, poultry or poultry products from that flock/holding of origin/slaughterhouse will be ineligible for export and must not be certified.
11. The Notes for Guidance (NFG) available on [EHC Form Finder](#) have been updated and advise where the interactive map can be used to obtain disease clearance for HPAI for the EHCs listed in the below Appendix. Any additional EHCs that can be routed to use this method for HPAI clearance will be updated in the Appendix and NFG updated accordingly.
12. From 12 November 2021 the requirement to check within the 10km zones will remain in place for up to 90 days after all restrictions have been lifted from each zone. Once the 90-day period has passed for each zone they will be removed from the interactive map
13. Additional guidance on the Regional code to enter in section I.8 of the EHC and the health attestation can be obtained in the NFG.

## Further Information

- Avian Influenza page on [GOV.UK](#)
- Interactive Map on [APHA Vet Gateway](#)
- APHA's Centre for International Trade – Carlisle, email: [exports@apha.gov.uk](mailto:exports@apha.gov.uk)  
Telephone: 03000 300 201

**Issued:** 12 November 2021

## Appendix

List of EU EHCs where Certifying Officers are authorised to obtain their own HPAI disease clearance using the interactive map on the APHA Vet Gateway:

- 8234EHC, 8444EHC and 8445EHC – consignments of less than 20 units of poultry (LT20)
- 8235EHC and 8437EHC – breeding of productive poultry (BPP)
- 8236EHC and 8438EHC – breeding or productive ratites (BPR)
- 8237EHC and 8435EHC – day-old chicks (DOC)
- 8238EHC and 8439EHC – day-old chicks of ratites (DOR)
- 8239EHC and 8442EHC – slaughter poultry and poultry for restocking game supplies (SRP)
- 8240EHC and 8443EHC – slaughter ratites (SRA)
- 8289EHC and 8441EHC – specified pathogen free eggs (SPF)
- 8290EHC – transit/storage of SPF eggs, meat, minced meat and mechanically separated meat of poultry including ratites and wild game birds, eggs and egg products
- 8291EHC and 8372EHC – wild game-bird meat (WGM)
- 8294EHC and 8436EHC – hatching eggs of poultry (HEP)
- 8295EHC and 8440EHC – hatching eggs of ratites (HER)
- 8296EHC and 8371EHC – meat of poultry (POU)
- 8297EHC – meat of farmed ratites (RAT)
- 8308EHC – untreated blood products for the manufacture of derived products for purposes outside the feed chain for farmed animals.