



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

APHA Briefing Note 54/22

Important Announcement: Extension of the grace period for movements of veterinary medicines between Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Date issued: 19 December 2022

Purpose

To inform that the European Commission has extended the grace period for movements of veterinary medicines until 31 December 2025

Background

Today the European Commission issued the following [announcement](#) which provides for a three-year extension to the grace period for veterinary medicines until 31/12/2025.

These arrangements will mean that the current processes for moving veterinary medicines between Great Britain and Northern Ireland will continue to be administered as they have been up to this point.

We welcome this extension to the veterinary medicine grace period from the Commission and are looking forward to further discussions on veterinary medicines in the New Year. We will continue to work for a long-term, sustainable solution to the supply of veterinary medicines.

The Veterinary Medicines Directorate's [Information Hub](#) guidance pages will reflect the arrangement to extend the grace period for veterinary medicines.

APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.

Action

We welcome your feedback, please send your comments to niprotocol@vmd.gov.uk and encourage you to continue to communicate your sectors' needs to the European Commission including the need to find a solution for veterinary medicines.

Further Information

APHA will continue to keep you informed and up to date on developments that affect traders moving goods from Great Britain to Northern Ireland.

Should you have any questions or queries about this in the meantime, please email us at traders@defra.gov.uk.