



11th January 2021

Guidance note for exporting dogs from Ireland to Great Britain

From 1st January 2021, rules for moving dogs between Ireland and Great Britain (GB) have changed. A guide to importing and exporting live animals is [here](#).

Exporting dogs in this note refers to the commercial movement of dogs. A commercial movement is one that relates to economic activity and covers any transport that involves or aims to achieve a financial gain or a transfer of ownership.

- You will need to register with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine if you want to import or export animals to or from GB. Details on how to register can be found [here](#). This is separate to the [Balai](#) registration process.
- You will also need to be registered on [TRACES](#) (an EU Commission system for the electronic completion of documentation required for imports of certain consignments from third countries). Find out how to register [here](#).
- The commercial movement of a dog from Ireland to GB must be pre-notified to the new UK system - Import of Products, Animals, Food and Feed System ([IPAFFS](#)) a minimum of 24 hours, and up to 30 days in advance of the arrival of the dogs. The exporter must secure the services of a GB-based importer, who will register with [IPAFFS](#) in order to submit the pre-notification.
- In addition, dogs moved commercially must be microchipped, vaccinated against rabies, and be accompanied by a health certificate and an EU pet passport.
- The Export Health Certificate for exporting dogs to GB is generated on TRACES and issued by the [Regional Veterinary Office](#) (RVO). The exporter will need to present the RVO with certification from their Private Veterinary Practitioner confirming that, at the time of examination, within 48 hours of departure, their dog/s showed no clinical signs of disease and were fit to be transported.
- The exporter will need to comply with both EU and UK requirements for transporters of animals. Please contact animalwelfaretransport@agriculture.gov.ie with any queries on transport requirements.
- Applications for export health certificates should be made at least 5 working days prior to departure from Ireland by e-mail or phone to your Local RVO.
- Following pre-notification on IPAFFS by the GB-based importer, a Unique Notification Number (UNN) is generated. The GB importer is required to send the UNN number to the IE-based exporter. The exporter will also need to provide the RVO with the UNN, to be added to the Export Health Certificate (EHC).



- Once the EHC has been generated via TRACES, the EHC will be printed, stamped, signed and handed to the IE exporter.
- The IE exporter should email a scanned copy of the EHC to the GB importer for submission to IPAFFs.
- From 1 January 2021 – 30 June 2021, commercial exports of dogs may enter GB through any point of entry. On a risk-determined basis, identity and physical checks may be conducted at the place of destination or other approved premises, in GB.
- From 1 July 2021, commercial exports of dogs must enter GB via a Border Control Post (BCP) designated for dogs. Identity and physical checks will be conducted at the BCP.
- For queries in relation to health certs for dogs moved to GB, please contact: livetrade@agriculture.gov.ie.
- Please contact animalwelfaretransport@agriculture.gov.ie with any queries on transport requirements.