

DAERA COVID-19 update

- Resumption of Equestrian sport is a matter for Department of Communities and any decisions on the relaxation of COVID restrictions is a matter for the executive
- <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/equine-queries>
- As of 12/06/2020 outdoor activities are permitted provided that they do not involve the gathering of more than 10 people from different households provided there is adherence to PHA guidance on social distancing and hygiene
- Equestrian training, events or competitions that involve larger gatherings cannot currently take place
- Currently no restriction on the distance to travel in NI. Anyone travelling to another jurisdiction to participate in competitions or training will need to comply with the rules regarding travel and distance in that jurisdiction
- Resumption of racing proposed in NI with meetings scheduled 15th and 24th July
- Minister has met CEO of HSI and due to meet with HRI to discuss

DAERA Update

EU AHL- NI will need to implement AHR under the IRE/NI protocol. Legislation team looking at this. Issues arising from NI protocol will take precedence for next number of months.

BCP's- UK Gov have confirmed new checks on goods entering NI from GB and will expand infrastructure to carry out BCP checks on live animals. Equine BCP's at Larne and Belfast ports planned.

TPA- Recent EC stakeholder preparedness notice states TPA will continue to apply to NI at the end of transition period. Concerns in DAERA that this is dependent on IRE and FRA agreeing to a new bipartite agreement as TPA is not EU law but an agreement between member states that is provided for in EU law.

DAERA update Equine ID

Transfer of NI data to UK CED- work continues with Equine Register, Weatherbys and HSI to expedite this transfer.

Future registration of NI foals- If UK becomes a 3rd country post transition it will lose access to Article 12 extension mechanism that allows extension of breeding programmes between member states. No provision for Article 12 of 2016/1012 in IRE/NI protocol. DAERA currently seeking advice on this issue as part of wider DEFRA application for third country status under the zootechnical regulation.

Compulsory retrospective microchipping- Currently no requirement in NI under Equine Identification Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2019.