



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

# Official controls undertaken by the Competent Authority in relation to animal welfare in transport



# Current Position

- The protection of animals during their transport and the official controls to verify compliance with these requirements, are set out in the following retained EU law:
  - Retained EU Regulation 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations (**Regulation 1/2005**).
  - Retained EU Regulation 2017/625 on official controls and other official activities performed to ensure the application of food and feed law, rules on animal health and welfare, plant health and plant protection products (**Official Controls Regulations – the OCR**).

# Current Position

## Aim of the OCR

- Provide an integrated and uniform approach to official controls across the agri-food supply chain
- Ensure a consistent approach to official controls and official activities across these sectors.
- Many of the provisions in the OCR already apply to official controls and official activities performed by competent authorities in relation to the welfare in transport rules.

# Current Position

## Commencement of animal welfare official controls

- Intend to commence the remaining provisions in Article 21 on official controls in relation to the welfare in transport rules as soon as possible
- Deleting and replacing the provisions on official controls in Regulation 1/2005
- Article 154(2) of the retained version of the OCR provides for these provisions to be commenced by regulations - early 2023

# Intended Changes through Regulations

- **Commence provisions set out in Article 21** of retained Regulation (EU) 2017/625 (the OCR) as soon as possible (early 2023)

In addition:

- **Amendments to Annex II** of retained Regulation (EU) 1/2005
  - Setting out the journey log approval process
  - Identifying the organiser as the responsible person for the journey log throughout the process
- **Amendments to domestic legislation** to reflect implementation of Article 21 of the OCR.

# Implementation of Article 21 of the OCR

- Current compliance controls conducted by the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) and action that can be taken where non-compliance is identified, will be maintained.
- The animal health requirements of the OCR are already in place
- Proposed change will ensure a consistent regime of official controls for both animal health and welfare in place of the current dual controls

# Amendments to Annex II of Reg 1/2005

- Annex II of the retained animal transport Regulations sets out the obligations of transporters, organisers and keepers in relation to journey logs.
- Journey log requirement applies to livestock and unregistered horses for journeys over 8 hours between Great Britain and third countries.
- APHA currently checks
  - All journey logs in advance for compliance and approves them prior to the journeys commencing.
  - Compliance checks are also conducted on the returned journey log when the journey has been completed.
- Within Annex II we intend to clarify the process and the role of the organiser by making the organiser responsible for the following:

# Organiser role

## Preparation of the journey log

- Preparing and submitting the journey log for approval
  - Paragraph 1 of Annex II of the retained animal welfare in transport regulations currently specifies that a “person” is responsible for preparing the journey log.
  - We intend to amend this to the “organiser” to ensure clarity on who is responsible for the journey log.



# Organiser role

## Timing of submission of applications

- Annex II states that the organiser must submit the properly completed journey log application “within 2 working days of departure”.
- We wish to clarify this time period
- Amend to “at least two working days before the proposed departure date” where “proposed departure date” means the day on which the proposed journey set out in Section 1 of the journey log is to commence

# Organiser role

## Completion of the journey log

- We intend to clarify that it is the role of the organiser to ensure that the journey log is fully completed after the journey prior to returning the journey log to the Competent Authority
  - Ensuring that non-GB based keepers sign the relevant sections of the journey log.
  - Ensuring that all transporters involved in the journey complete the journey log as required
  - Ensuring that a copy of the correctly completed journey log is returned to APHA within 30 days of the completion of the journey, for audit purposes
  - Where the journey log is a paper copy then the organiser must retain the original for 3 years

# Consultation

- Targeted consultation exercise which sought views from those who would potentially be affected by, or have an interest in, the proposals
- Conducted on behalf of the UK, Welsh and Scottish Governments
- The consultation ran for 9 weeks, from 29th August 2022 to 28th October 2022
- Summary of responses to be sent to those invited to participate