

Implementation of the Live Export Ban

Industry Co-design Group

British Horse Council 27th June 2025



A Phased Approach

- The live export ban came into force on 22 July 2024, ending the export of livestock and equines from Great Britain.
- Enforcement Regulations came into force on 1st January 2025 –
 - Pre-export controls for livestock
 - Regulatory and enforcement regime for livestock and equines
- Industry co-design approach to identify suitable controls for equines



The Co-Design Group



Group Findings

Issues

- Traceability
- Avoidance of controls
- Obtaining evidence
- Intelligence sharing and effective enforcement

Solutions

- Making movements visible
- Effective enforcement



Next Steps

- Report submitted to Ministers – March 2025
- Feasibility Review
 - Legislative Options
 - Operational Delivery
 - Financial Impact



A close-up, high-resolution photograph of a white horse's head, focusing on the eye and the texture of its coat. The horse's eye is dark and expressive, with a small tear visible. The coat is white with some grey speckling. The background is blurred, showing more of the horse's head and neck.

UK-EU SPS Agreement

- The UK-EU Summit took place on the 19th May.
- Common Understanding agreed
- EU have set out three pre-conditions to their agreement on any exceptions
- Key that Co-design proposals demonstrate to the EU that standards would be higher
- EUEngagement@defra.gov.uk

