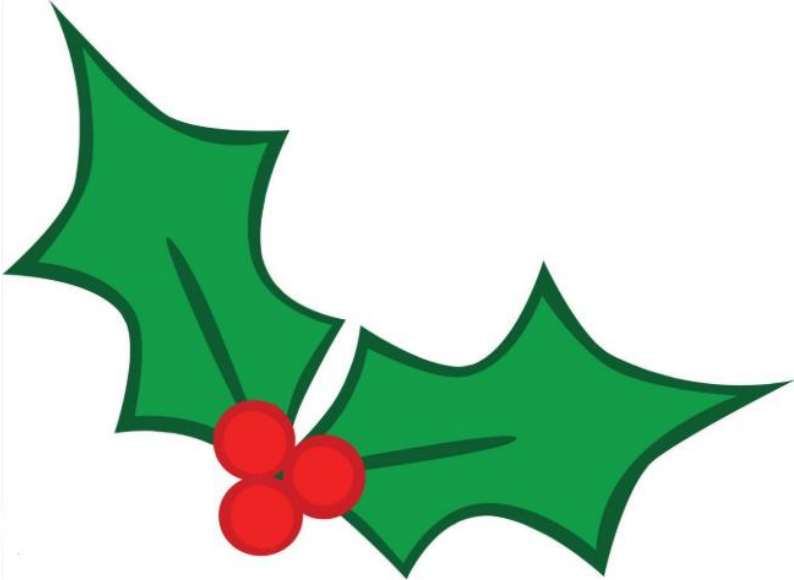




Winter Meeting
December 2025
WELCOME





BHC Activity Update

December 2025

Updates & Information



- Animal Welfare (Live Exports) Act co design group
- SPS Call for Evidence (Sept 25)
- SPS Stakeholder Forum (Nov 25)
- EFRA Oral Evidence
- NAO Spending & Performance Report
- Germinal products



Call for Evidence

Priorities for a UK-EU SPS agreement



“We cannot stress enough how critical it is that no new regulation be developed without industry input. We have considerable experience of this having been the case when Border Control Posts (BCPs) were originally designed under the Border Target Operating Model (BTOM) in isolation from industry, wasting millions of pounds of Government money”

Call for Evidence

Priorities for a UK-EU SPS agreement

1. Establish an SPS Agreement designed in partnership with industry
2. Deliver a timely Agreement to reverse sector atrophy
3. Remove *Routine* Border Checks
4. Modern digital traceability – a low-cost, high-impact public good
5. Reinstate a recognised ‘High Health Horse’ category
6. Simplify Export Health Certification through digital processes
7. Secure UK access to EU data platforms (TRACES NT and ADIS)
8. Drop border controls for germinal products – ending physical checks
9. Ensure UK-Wide Alignment Across Devolved Nations

Stakeholder Forum

- 18 November 2025
- Common Understanding (May 2025)
- Dynamic Alignment
- Sector views on content and negotiations
- BHC providing asks and reasons in shortened form, including clear illustrations and case studies
- EUEngagement@defra.gov.uk



You're registered for UK-EU SPS Agreement: Industry Stakeholder Information Forum

Oral Evidence

9 December 2025 - Animal and plant health - Oral evidence

Committee ► [Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee](#)
Inquiry ► [Animal and plant health](#)

EFRA minister to face questions on animal disease, plant biosecurity, SPS negotiations and animal welfare



- The Committee followed up on key manifesto commitments made to improve animal welfare and discussed proposals for veterinary practice reform
- <https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/b75b4e83-c667-487e-8478-8c31298b5c23> link on website
- Animal Welfare Strategy to be published this year
- Four sections: Pets and Companion animals, Farmed animals, Wild animals and International Influence

An overview of NAO's examination of the spending and performance of the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs in 2024-25
(link on website)



National Audit Office

Our work ▼

Topics ▼

Support for Parliament

Overview

Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs 2024-25

Date: 11 Dec 2025

Departments: [Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs](#)

Germinal Products

- Two points of entry with BCP
- ~Application of regulation
- Speed and connections
- Welfare issues
- Cost increase per consignment up to 250%
- Quantifiable loss and delay
- Intervention disproportionate to risk

