



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



BTOM Recent Updates



KEY ELEMENTS OF THE CURRENT IMPORT REGIME

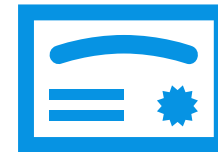


1 A global risk-based approach



Pre-notification

2 Simplified and digitised health certificates



Health Certification






3 Trusted Trader Schemes



Identity and Physical Checks

Current Import Regime Since 30 April 2024 – Import from EU/EFTA to GB except Ireland



-  **Health certification requirement** on imports from the EU/EFTA of high-risk food and feed of non-animal origin, medium/high risk animal products and medium risk plant and plant products from EU, Lichtenstein and Switzerland.(since January 2024)
-  All imports of animal products that are subject to SPS controls* must enter **GB via a port of entry** with a border control post designated for that type of commodity.
-  **Documentary and risk-based identity and physical checks for medium risk products** will take place at BCPs / CPs.
-  **No Health certificates or routine checks for low-risk animal products** – they are subject to intelligence-led interventions.
-  Import controls **on certain low risk plants and plant products have started to be removed** removed, where supported by risk assessments.
 - Health certificates and routine checks at the border will not be required.

*Products currently exempt from SPS controls will continue to be exempt from these controls e.g. exempt composite products



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Overview of BTOM Updates since May 2024 - **Border Control Posts**

Overview of BTOM Updates since May 2024 – Border Control Posts



Contact points for consignments held at a BCP

If traders a notification about a consignment or load that has been called for checks or has been held at the BCP at the port of entry and they have questions about this, **they need to contact the Port Health Authority (PHA) at their nominated BCP and provide them with the Common Health Entry Document (CHED) import reference number.**

Find your PHA contact details at your nominated BCP on [this map](#).

Overview of BTOM Updates since May 2024 – Border Control Posts



Making sure that goods arrive in GB via an appropriately designated BCP

If the trader is importing animal products from the EU or Rest of World, the consignments needs to enter GB at a point of entry with an appropriately designated BCP.

The BCP location declared in the CHED must be the location that the consignment first enters GB. Traders cannot select a BCP location in their CHED notification and have their consignment first enter GB at a different location.

[Find an approved UK border control post \(BCP\) to check the animals, animal products or high-risk food and feed of non-animal origin \(HRFNAO\) in your consignment.](#)

Overview of BTOM Updates since May 2024 – Border Control Posts



BCP/PHA opening hours

Traders are strongly advised to check the BCP opening hours and the Port Health Authority operating hours at the point they are planning an import of consignments containing high and medium risk products.

BCP/PHA contact details are listed on [GOV UK](#). Also contact the BCP/PHA at their chosen port of entry for details on emergency or out of hours arrangements in case of transport delays or changes.



Remote and code locked containers – we need the code

To ensure that physical and identity checks can be carried out on consignments at a BCP, it is important that the staff at the facility are able to access the contents of the container.

The container codes can be supplied via IPAFFS to speed the process up.

Overview of BTOM Updates since May 2024 – Border Control Posts



BCP/PHA opening hours

Traders are strongly advised to check the BCP opening hours and the Port Health Authority operating hours at the point they are planning an import of consignments containing high and medium risk products.

BCP/PHA contact details are listed on [GOV UK](#). Also contact the BCP/PHA at their chosen port of entry for details on emergency or out of hours arrangements in case of transport delays or changes.



Remote and code locked containers – we need the code

To ensure that physical and identity checks can be carried out on consignments at a BCP, it is important that the staff at the facility are able to access the contents of the container.

The container codes can be supplied via IPAFFS to speed the process up.

Overview of BTOM Updates since May 2024 – Border Control Posts



More information about BTOM charges

There are two standard charges associated with imports of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) goods and the BTOM: a **BCP charge by point of entry** and a **documentary & inspection charge**.

The BCP charge is the cost levied by commercial ports and airports for use of the BCP at the nominated Point of Entry (PoE). For the government-run BCP at Sevington, the associated BCP charge is the [Common User Charge \(CUC\)](#). For more details on the commercial charges set by your nominated point of entry please look on the relevant website or contact them direct. To note, some ports and airports will not charge a BCP charge unless the consignment is called for an inspection.

The SPS documentary and inspection charge is the cost associated for any checks that your goods may undergo – these consist of documentary, identity and physical inspections. These charges are levied by the Port Health Authority (PHA) in England and Wales and the Local Authority in Scotland, at your nominated point of entry for animal products. For plants and plant products, these charges are payable to the Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA) in England and Wales and to the Scottish Government (SASA) in Scotland.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Overview of BTOM Updates since May 2024 - **Sevington BCP**

Overview of BTOM Updates since May 2024 – Border Control Posts



Drivers shouldn't use Sevington to take breaks

If a consignment in their load is called for checks at Sevington and drivers have two hours or less left on either their daily driving hours or working time, they should aim to take their mandatory rest break (tacho break) at the nearest rest area/truck stop or suitable and safe place BEFORE taking their load to Sevington for checks.

Sevington Inland Border Facility has basic comfort facilities for drivers but is not designed as an official rest area/truck stop. The site will be actively monitoring any necessary breaks as required and this will be supported by the DVSA.

Department of Transport information for hauliers is available at: [Transporting goods between Great Britain and the EU by RoRo freight: guidance for hauliers - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/transporting-goods-between-great-britain-and-the-eu-by-ro-ro-freight-guidance-for-hauliers)



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Overview of BTOM Updates since May 2024 - Risk Categories

Overview of BTOM Updates since May 2024 – Risk Categories



Importing low risk fish, composite products and products of animal origin

In general, low risk products of animal origin (POAO) goods must be produced in an establishment approved to export animal products to Great Britain (GB).

For low risk composite products the POAO components must be processed in an establishment approved to export animal products to GB, however if the processing of the POAO happens prior to the location where the composite product is produced the establishment where the composite product is produced does not necessarily require approval.

Wild caught fish (low risk) caught by UK vessels and landed in EU ports for export to GB must move through an approved establishment. If fish/fishery products are not moving through an approved establishment they would need to be transported using the health certificate [GBHC402](#).

Overview of BTOM Updates since May 2024 – Risk Categories



Clarification of the risk categorisation of shelf-stable fishery products associated with histamine

All imports of fishery products of the species susceptible to histamine formation (species of the families Scombridae, Clupeidae, Engraulidae, Coryfenidae, Pomatomidae or Scombresosidae) are placed in the BTOM medium risk category, irrespective of origin or whether they are shelf-stable, meaning import controls (EHCS and ID/physical checks) apply.

However, we recognise that due to exceptional circumstances some EU traders will need time to adapt following this clarification. We will be ordinarily expecting importers to provide an EHC; however, PHAs will allow a three-month period (until 15 August 2024) of flexibility for importers of EU origin shelf-stable fishery products associated with histamine and permit entry without an EHC if traders are unable to obtain a certificate (usual commercial documents will still be required). This flexibility does not extend to non-EU products and products originating from non-EU countries that have been imported into the EU: these products require an EHC.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Overview of BTOM Updates since May 2024 -Transits

Overview of BTOM Updates since May 2024 – Transits



BCP entry and exit requirements for landbridge transit movements

Unless they are arriving in Great Britain (GB) from Ireland, or exiting GB to Ireland, all landbridge transit consignments must enter and exit GB at a point of entry with the [relevant border control post \(BCP\)](#).

- All consignments of animal products transiting GB and arriving in England and Scotland from Ireland must enter and exit at a point of entry with the relevant BCP, or Heysham. All animal product consignments arriving in Wales from Ireland can enter at any point of entry but must exit Great Britain at a point of entry with the relevant BCP.
- All consignments of animal products transiting Great Britain from the EU for destination in Ireland must enter GB at a point of entry with the relevant BCP, they must leave England or Scotland at a point of exit with a relevant BCP, or Heysham, and can leave Wales through any point of exit.

The process for landbridge transits from non-EU countries has not changed, consignments of animal products must enter and exit Great Britain through a point of entry and exit with the relevant BCP.

Overview of BTOM Updates since May 2024 – Transits



Completing CHEDs for landbridge transits from the EU

For traders moving animal products from the EU to another country and transiting through Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales), known as 'landbridge' movements, they must ensure that when completing your common health entry document (CHED) they have entered:

- An exit BCP that is different to the BCP they enter from, for example, they cannot enter Killingholme as the entry and exit BCP.
- An exit date and time that is after their entry date and time.

They need to make sure their container or trailer number is correct at point of submission, if it changes they need to let both Port Health Authorities (PHAs) know.

It is the responsibility of the operator responsible for the consignment to ensure the details on the CHED are correct at the time of submitting.

Overview of BTOM Updates since May 2024 – Transits



Tell authorities that transiting goods from the EU have left Great Britain (GB)

Traders must tell authorities in Great Britain when consignments transiting GB from the EU have left GB. To do this for transits of germinal products, animal by products (ABP), and POAO, they will need to email the port health authority email address for their [exit BCP](#). If the consignment leaves GB via the Port of Dover or Eurotunnel the exit email should be sent to Ashford PHA at the Sevington BCP.

If the consignment's destination is Ireland and it exits at a port without a BCP this information needs to be sent to their entry BCP.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Overview of BTOM Updates since May 2024 - EHCs

Overview of BTOM Updates since May 2024 – EHCs



EHCs need an English version

An English version of the Export Health Certificate should be supplied alongside the original language version. If it has been [created in TRACES](#), the supplier/exporter should check that the certifying officer has completed and digitally signed the certificate and ensure an English version is created.

- This can be done following the process: click on Preview PDF > Advanced Print Options and then tick English from the language options provided. Click the blue Print PDF button to download the PDF.

Fixing signature errors on health certificates

If a paper certificate is used it must bear the signature and stamp of the certifying officer. Verifiable PDF certificates must bear a valid digital signature. You must also check attestations are completed in accordance with the model certificate 'notes for completion' and all non-applicable attestations are correctly deleted or omitted from the certificate.

Deletions carried out by hand must be initialled and stamped. If completed electronically as a verifiable PDF the signature and stamp per page is sufficient.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Overview of BTOM Updates since May 2024 - **Hatching Eggs**

Overview of BTOM Updates since May 2024 – Hatching Eggs



- Hatching eggs are in the border target operating model (BTOM) high risk category and therefore must be checked at a border control post (BCP). Importers can choose to import hatching eggs through either a live animal or animal product BCP. They must pre-notify on import of products, animals, food and feed system (IPAFFS) one working day in advance of arrival in Great Britain: with a common health entry document - CHED-P if entering via a BCP designated for animal products and a CHED-A if entering via a BCP designated for live animals.
- **EU hatching eggs can enter through any animal product BCP and should be pre-notified by a CHED-P. BCPs must be notified on IPAFFS at least one working day in advance of their arrival**

Where the incorrect CHED is used for the designation of the BCP entered, we will use the pragmatic compliance and enforcement approach for a short period to ensure minimal impact to the consignment while the CHED is replaced by the trader.

[Read our guidance about](#)



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs




Staying Connected with Defra BBTP Comms Team

Staying Connected with BBTP Comms team



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



3 weeks to go - New import controls are coming on 30 April

Check what you need to do to be compliant and avoid disruption to your business and supply chain.

New import controls have been introduced and further changes will come into effect from 30 April 2024.

From 30 April 2024 traders must:

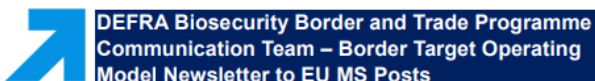
- Ensure goods arrive through an appropriately designated Border Control Post (BCP) or Control Point (CP) for your commodity type
- If called, present the consignment for documentary, physical and identification inspections at the BCP or CP

These requirements will apply to EU and non-qualifying Northern Ireland Goods entering GB from the island of Ireland no earlier than 31 October 2024, with the precise date to be confirmed.

Do you want to get all the latest information sent directly to you via email ?

If you have not already joined – you can join our newsletter [here](#).

Staying Connected with BBTP Comms team



DEFRA Biosecurity Border and Trade Programme
Communication Team – Border Target Operating
Model Newsletter to EU MS Posts

Dear European Union Member State (EUMS) Colleagues,

We are now nearly one month away from the implementation of the second Border Target Operating Model (BTOM) SPS milestone. As the Biosecurity Border and Trade Programme (BBTP) Communication Team, we would like to keep a close working relationship with you as we get closer to 30 April 2024 to ensure you are provided with the most up to date Lines to Take and updates on central communication activities around the BTOM.

Please share this information with traders in your country, the competent authority and all other wider trade stakeholders through your own communication channels (including newsletters/social media/verbal engagement).

We would also like to hear from you about any concerns from traders in your country, any insights on traders' readiness. This information will support our wider trader readiness projects and the direction of our comms.

We will be sending this newsletter every Thursday until 25 April 2024.

Please send any questions by responding to this email directly to derya.goktas@defra.gov.uk and claire.lucas@defra.gov.uk.

This letter includes the following:

- Comms Update
- Policy Update
- Updates from EU MS Posts

Comms Update

1) DEFRA Online Training Sessions

These sessions will tell traders all they know about changes to import processes from 30 April 2024 under the Border Target Operating Model. They will provide a step-by-step guide to importing to GB from EU/EFTA and will provide information on entering through a port of entry with a border control post and outline what happens once you get there.

Action for Posts: Please share these links with traders in your country through your own communication channels including social media. Our webinars that ran between September 2023 and January 2024 had a lower participation rate for EU traders. We would appreciate your support in increasing this rate for the April Webinars.

Timetable

BTOM: Prepare for import controls from 30 April '24 (animal products) Tickets, Thu 21 Mar 2024 at 14:00 | Eventbrite

EU MS Colleagues Newsletter

You can join by emailing derya.Goktas@defra.gov.uk

Are you happy with the amount of the EU MS Colleagues Newsletter? Would you like more or less?