



DAERA authorised Private Veterinary Practitioner

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Audience: DAERA authorised Private Veterinary Practitioners (aPVPs)

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Pet Travel Updates

Travelling from NI to the Republic of Ireland (ROI)

As a consequence of a number of articles which have appeared in social media in recent weeks the DAERA Trade Team has been receiving an increasing number of calls from pet owners and veterinary practices seeking clarification of the Pet Travel requirements to ROI.

The purpose of this update is to make veterinarians and any staff involved in the administration of Pet Passports aware that further information and full details of the requirements are detailed on the DAERA website and can be viewed using the following link:

<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/travelling-pets>

This information should be communicated to your staff and to any pet owners making enquiries about taking their pets to ROI.

Issue of EU Pet Passports to pets normally residing in GB

DAERA is aware that, due to the current situation and owner uncertainty related to the movement of pet animals from Great Britain (GB) to Northern Ireland (NI), veterinary practitioners in NI may receive requests to provide EU Pet Passports in a number of scenarios.

Although no documentary checks are currently being carried out when pets enter NI from GB, the EU Pet Travel Regulations have applied from 1 January 2021 and it is a requirement for pets entering NI from GB to be accompanied by a valid Animal Health Certificate (AHC).



NI veterinary surgeons, appropriately authorised to issue Pet Passports, should, therefore, issue an EU Pet Passport to pets normally residing in GB only on presentation of a valid AHC for pets which have arrived in NI on or after 1 January 2021. The information contained in the AHC can be transferred to the Pet Passport. The owner does not need to have a NI address.

You should keep a copy of the AHC for your records.

Information supplied in Pet Passports issued in GB or vaccination certificates containing details of rabies vaccinations is not valid in this situation.

This guidance replaces any other advice you may have previously been given in relation to the issue of EU Pet Passports to pets normally residing in Great Britain.

Pets resident in NI prior to 1 January 2021, presented with in-date EU Pet Passport issued in GB

There is, however, one exception where an EU Pet Passport may be issued on presentation of an EU Pet Passport issued in GB. Where the pet is now resident in NI, and arrival in NI prior to January 2021 can be satisfactorily established, e.g. treatment recorded by NI veterinarian or Local Authority licence issued prior to that date, or other relevant information, a new EU Pet Passport can be issued and information transferred from the GB issued Pet Passport to the new EU Pet Passport.

You should keep a copy of the GB EU Pet Passport for your records.

Pet Passport Administration

DAERA is aware that demand for Pet Passports is currently higher than usual. We would like to remind practices of the need to keep track of the passports issued and to make sure to order further stock in advance of running out.

Pet Passports are an official document and, as such, DAERA is required to have procedures in place for their control. For this reason, passports are currently issued in batches of 20 per practice. Once you have issued 15 passports you can then make the required administrative return and order more. At this stage there is no plan to increase the number of passports that can be requested per order so it is important that you keep track and re-order when you start to run low.

In order to assist in processing your requests, administrative returns must be accurate with all relevant fields completed. Failure to provide a complete return may result in delay in issue of further passports.

It is also necessary that previous control records for previous supplies have been returned confirming details for all 20 passports from that batch have been fully accounted for.

DAERA is currently still awaiting delivery of the new style Northern Ireland passports but in the meantime holds a stock of the old style passport which can be modified using the stickers provided.

If you need to order more passports for your practice please send your passport control sheet with the details of the passports you have issued to date, along with a request for more to:

DAERATradeExports@daera-ni.gov.uk

Trade Programme

Veterinary Service Animal Health Group

Room 657c Dundonald House - Upper Newtownards Road Belfast BT4 3SB

Email: DAERATradeExports@daera-ni.gov.uk

