

DAERA authorised Private Veterinary Practitioner

Information Bulletin: aPVP 10/21

Issued: 28 July 2021

Audience: DAERA authorised Private Veterinary Practitioners (aPVPs)

Subject: Definitions and New Terminology for aPVP's carrying out Official Activities on behalf of DAERA

- **Reminder of Training Requirements for Official Certification**

Purpose

To advise of definitions and new terminology for Private Veterinary Practitioners carrying out Official Activities on behalf of DAERA and a reminder of training requirements for Official Certification.

The implementation of new rules governing certification, Regulation EU 2017/625, on official controls and other official activities (OCR), has required a number of changes in the way that DAERA appoints veterinarians to act on their behalf and the terminology you may have been familiar with.

Any qualified and competent veterinarian who is responsible for delivering Official Controls or Official Activities must now be appointed and authorised for the task by DAERA, following assessment of their competence to complete the work to the required standards.

Constructive feedback suggests that the use of both old and new terminology, in recent training material produced to date, is causing confusion and further clarification is needed.

As it will take some time for all training materials and documents hosted on DAERA website to be amended to reflect the new terminology, please see the guide below which we hope you will find useful.

OLD		NEW	
Terminology	Definition	Terminology	Definition
Official Veterinarian (OV)	DAERA vet carrying out official controls in an approved meat establishment. (In GB the term OV has been used for some time in respect of accredited veterinarians carrying out all official controls and activities)	Official Veterinarian (OV)	A qualified and competent veterinarian, in direct government employment, self-employed or working in practice as an assistant to a practice principal or clinical director, who has been appointed by DAERA (the Competent Authority in Northern



			Ireland) to perform Official Controls or specific designated Official Activities.
Authorised Veterinary Inspector (AVI)	A veterinary practitioner working in practice and authorised to carry out certification activities.	Authorised Private Veterinary Practitioners (aPVP)	An Official Veterinarian, working in private practice, authorised as a Certifying Officer (CO) to undertake specific categories of certification and authorised to sign certificates.
AVI Practice	A veterinary practice where the principal/director is an AVI. This allows veterinarians working there to become authorised as an AVI following completion of training.	Authorised Veterinary Practice (AVP)	A veterinary practice where the principal/director is an authorised PVP. This allows veterinarians working there to become authorised as an aPVP following completion of training.
Approved Veterinary Surgeon (AVS)	This term is used for vets authorised to perform TB testing duties. Approved Veterinary Surgeons have also been appointed in writing as OVs for TB Testing which is considered by DAERA to be an official activity.	Approved Veterinary Surgeon (AVS)	No change

Approval of Official Veterinarians as TB Testers

TB TESTING: The term 'approval' is used by TB programme to denote vets authorised to carry out TB testing. Vets carrying out TB testing will continue to be trained and approved in the same way as before. This approval allows private veterinary practitioners to complete work associated with the TB Contract but it does **NOT** authorise them to complete trade certification.

Authorisation of Official Veterinarians as Certifying Officers

TRADE CERTIFICATION: All veterinary surgeons wishing to carry out trade certification duties, e.g. pet passport, live animal export certificates, animal by-products certificates will be required to apply for **authorisation** and to undergo the relevant training on CAFRE Online (Moodle). This will require the completion of Module 1 – General

Certification and then other species / commodity specific modules as required. You can complete as many of the available modules as required.

Current available commodity/ species specific modules are:

- Module 2: Delivery of Support Health Attestations
- Module 5: Pet certification and Pet Passports

Additional courses in development include modules to cover the full range of products of animal origin and live animal species exported from Northern Ireland that require certification.

Action Required

Veterinarians wishing to continue to carry out current certification duties must complete Module 1 of the training by 19th November 2021. The DAERA Trade Bulletin 01/21 issued to private practitioners on 20 May 2021 contains further details about next steps to be taken and can be found here:

<https://www.daera-ni.gov/publications/apvp-bulletins-and-briefing-notes-2021>

If you have not done so already please read and take the appropriate action, as failure to do so may result in cessation of current certifying officer status.

For those veterinarians with current certifying officer status for commodities for which on-line training is not currently available, additional commodity specific modules must be completed within 6 months of the module being made available via CAFRE Online. **For those with a current authorisation to issue pet passports and pet certification, the Pet Module must also be completed by 19th November 2021.** Please note that a pass mark of 80% on the knowledge review quiz is required to complete a module and demonstrate competence.

Regards

Trade Programme

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