



DAERA authorised Private Veterinary Practitioner

Information Bulletin: aPVP 03/26

Issued: 05/03/2026

Audience: DAERA authorised Private Veterinary Practitioners who certify the export of live cattle, sheep and goats

Subject: Update regarding export requirements due to Bluetongue of relevance to exports to GB and Ireland

This bulletin is to advise anyone who certifies cattle, sheep and goats to GB or Ireland of changes relating to Bluetongue that will come into effect from 9am Friday 6th March 2026

Exports to Ireland for Breeding and Production

DAFM are publishing a derogation that will permit the movement of cattle and sheep for breeding and production from NI into Ireland. No additional Bluetongue attestations are required for BTV3. Guidance on the completion of the Intra health certificate is available on our commodity webpages. Exports for direct slaughter continue as per the current arrangements for pre-notification.

Exports to Great Britain

Following the removal of the Temporary Control Zone in NI, exports of cattle, sheep and goats to England and Wales from **ALL of NI** can proceed as per normal pre-Bluetongue procedures.

Transit through Scotland – animals transiting through Scotland must do so without stops except for scheduled stops at the following locations:

- motorway service stations
- official lay-bys on trunk/main roads
- lorry parks or similar places

Exports to Scotland (Only) – As Scotland is currently free of Bluetongue, exports of cattle, sheep and goats from **ALL of NI** must meet Scottish Bluetongue requirements for vaccination and/or pre-movement testing and additional certification is now required. The certificate templates are available on our webpages to be printed as required. These must travel with the animals in addition to the standard certificate issued by DAERA systems.

The Scottish requirements are:

For Sheep and goats – animals for breeding & production or direct slaughter must not come from a premises on which Bluetongue has been diagnosed in the 6 months prior to export.

For Cattle – cattle for direct slaughter must not come from a premises on which Bluetongue has been diagnosed in the 6 months prior to export. Cattle for breeding & production must be either vaccinated or tested for Bluetongue.

The Trade Exports webpages can be found here:

- [Exporting Animals and Animal Products from Northern Ireland to GB, EU and Third Countries \(Including guidance and application point for DAERA Export Certificate System \(DECS\)\) | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs](#)
- [Live Animals Exports | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs](#)
 - [Exporting cattle to Great Britain and EU Member States | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs](#)
 - [Exporting sheep & goats to Great Britain and EU Member States | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs](#)

Please access the individual commodity pages for specific export advice.

Any questions regarding these changes, or any other aspect of live animal export certification can be directed to DAERATradeExports@daera-ni.gov.uk

Trade Programme

Veterinary Service Animal Health Group
Clare House – 303 Airport Road West- Belfast BT3 9ED
Email: DAERATradeExports@daera-ni.gov.uk

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