



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](#)

BTOM: Prepare for import controls from 30 April '24 (animal products) Tickets, Tue 9 Apr 2024 at 10:30 Eventbrite
BTOM: Prepare for the upcoming import controls from Apr'24 (plants focused) Tickets, Thu 11 Apr 2024 at 11:00 Eventbrite
BTOM: Prepare for import controls from 30 April '24 (animal products) Tickets, Tue 23 Apr 2024 at 10:00 Eventbrite

2) Top Lines for April Changes

Externally Cleared Lines to Take - please feel free to include in any communication

What changes are coming on 30 April 2024?

In addition to complying with the current controls that came into effect on January 31, from 30 April 2024 traders must:

- Ensure goods from EU /EFTA enter GB through an appropriately designated Border Control Post (BCP) or Control Point (CP) for your commodity type and present the consignment for inspection when called where risk-based documentary, identity and physical checks may take place. Existing inspections of high-risk plants and plant products from the EU, Switzerland, and Lichtenstein will move from Places of Destination (PoDs) to BCP and CP's.
- Upload IUU documents to the CHED import notification created in IPAFFS for a consignment containing fish or fishery products for human consumption before submitting the import notification.

3) Resources and Links to share with traders

Action for Posts: Please share these links with traders in your country through your own communication channels including social media.

Technical questions and answers about Sanitary and Phytosanitary Controls (SPS) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Leaflets
Border control posts - plants and plant products
Composite food products decision trees
Health certificates
Import notifications using IPAFFS
Phytosanitary certificates
Transiting goods through Great Britain to the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland
Gov.uk and Plant Health Portal Guidance
Model health certificates for exports of live animals and animal products to Great Britain - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Check import risk categories and related rules for animals and animal products imported from the EU to Great Britain, from 31 January 2024 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
UK border control posts: animal and animal product imports - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
TOM risk categorisations - UK Plant Health Information Portal (defra.gov.uk)
Authorised Operator Status (AOS) - UK Plant Health Information Portal (defra.gov.uk)
TOM online session recordings and Questions and Answers (Q&A) - UK Plant Health Information Portal (defra.gov.uk)

BCP and CP Maps

[Live animals, animal products and food and feed of non-animal origin border control posts \(BCP\) in the UK - Google My Maps](#)

[BCP, CP, and IC Locations for Plants - Google My Maps](#)

Previous Webinars

[Border Target Operating Model September Online Sessions/Webinars - YouTube](#)

Policy Update

1) There has been an update on minced meats, meat preparations and mechanically separated meat

Externally Cleared Lines to Take - please feel free to include in any communication

Trade Notice with more information has been attached.

- Currently, the default position is that imports of meat preparations and minced meat into Great Britain (GB) must be deep frozen. Imports of minced poultry meat and pig or poultry mechanically separated meat (MSM) are not permitted.
- In 2022, Ministers announced a delay in applying these prohibitions and restrictions (P&Rs) to imports from the EU. Consequently, the government extended the statutory transition for meat preparations² until 31 January 2024. We are further extending³ transition until the end of April 2024 in line with the timetable for checks under the Border Target Operating Model (BTOM).
- From 30 April 2024, we are proposing a new P&Rs policy. In summary, countries wishing to export chilled meat preparations, chilled minced meat, any minced poultry meat or any mechanically separated meat (pig or poultry) to GB would need to be listed. Consignments would also need to comply with export health certificate requirements, with attestations relating to hygiene controls and mandatory labelling on shelf life and instructions for use. EU countries would be listed upfront following the satisfactory risk assessment already completed. Other countries would need to apply for listing subject to equivalent satisfactory risk assessment. If you have any comments on these proposals, please email PaandR_futureproposals@defra.gov.uk.

2) Common errors found by sample health certificate checks

Externally Cleared Lines to Take - please feel free to include in any communication

Common Error and Mitigation Guidance is attached.

- We are aware most traders want to meet their obligations and demonstrate their best endeavors to comply with new import controls. Our compliance approach for EU movements of goods is focused on enabling traders to meet the new regime's requirements and to safeguard the flow of goods with a primary focus on helping traders to comply rather than penalising them.

- Although we didn't see any major issues materialising with the implementation of the first BTOM milestone, we are going to share some common issues we identified and resolved directly with traders since 31 January 2024, along with guidance to mitigate them.

2) There are 3 weeks until PEACH Closure

Externally Cleared Lines to Take – for UK Importer Audience

- This update is primary impacting the Importer Audience however including for sight.
- Traders need to start using IPAFFS for import notification relating to plants and plant products.
- From 00:00:01 on Monday 8 April 2024, current users of the PEACH system will no longer be able to log onto PEACH and it will not be possible to submit import pre-notifications using this system. [They must register for the IPAFFS system](#) and start using IPAFFS now.
- All importers must be registered with a UK address within IPAFFS to ensure they can submit import pre-notifications.
- To support traders transition from PEACH to IPAFFS we are running weekly one hour training sessions that provide a live walkthrough of the new process.
- Traders can register from her: [Invitation to register and submit notifications via IPAFFS – Training Links](#)

Updates from EU MS Posts

We would also like to hear from you and utilize our links with the EU MS posts to join our trader readiness efforts. Would you please be able to fill in the table below and email it back to derya.goktas@defra.gov.uk, claire.lucas@defra.gov.uk and rachel.mahon@defra.gov.uk.

We will be asking for this information with each newsletter, and we will be sharing the responses received in the following newsletter for transparency.

Please let us know if the information you include in the table is not appropriate to share widely and we will not include it in the following weeks 'newsletter.

Country	Can you please list any ongoing BTOM engagement activity lead by either the post or competent authority?	Could you please list any major concerns raised by traders, trade associations or competent authority concerning the implementation on the second BTOM milestone?

Thank you all and I hope you have a lovely week,

