



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

APHA Briefing Note 04/26

Disease clearances provided during notifiable disease outbreaks

Date issued: 29 January 2026

Purpose

1. To remind Official Veterinarians (OVs) of their responsibilities when certifying Export Health Certificates (EHC) that require disease clearance during notifiable disease outbreaks.

Background

2. During notifiable disease outbreaks such as Avian Influenza many EHCs require OVs to confirm that the consignment only contains product from specific premises or areas during specific timeframes.
3. To aid OVs in certifying these clauses, the Centre for International Trade – Carlisle (CITC) provides a 618NDC (Notifiable Disease Clearance) along with a spreadsheet attached to the specific case in EHC Online. The spreadsheet lists all the premises and relevant time frames (such as collection or slaughter dates) that CITC have checked are eligible for that export.
4. OVs are reminded that:
 - It is their responsibility to certify consignments that ONLY contain product from the premises and during the timeframes confirmed on the spreadsheet for which the 618NDC has been given
 - OVs must work with the exporter to agree a process where they can confirm that the consignment only contains eligible product from these specific premises
 - OVs must ensure that the most up to date spreadsheet of cleared premises is used when checking the consignment and prior to certifying. The

spreadsheet will be clearly marked on EHC Online as being the most recent list of eligible premises

- No products from premises that are not listed, or that are obtained during timeframes not covered by the cleared list of premises, can be certified or allowed to be exported.
5. OV's who undertake their own disease checks for some EU EHCs must also ensure that no products are exported that they have not checked and confirmed to be eligible.
 6. Failure to do so may lead to rejection of the consignment on arrival at the destination country and can impact future trade.

Further Information

- Any queries relating to this briefing note should be sent to: exports@apha.gov.uk
- CITC Telephone: 0300 0300 201

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