



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Nobel House  
17 Smith Square  
London SW1P 3JR

T: 03459 335577  
helpline@defra.gov.uk  
[www.gov.uk/defra](http://www.gov.uk/defra)

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## **Movements from Great Britain to Northern Ireland of sheep and goats for Breeding and Production: New Rules apply from 1 January 2021**

Further to our letter of 14 December 2020, we would like to update you on some additional requirements for movements from Great Britain to Northern Ireland from 1 January 2021.

Businesses in Great Britain that trade live sheep and goats for breeding and production (fattening) and their germplasm (semen, ova and embryos) to Northern Ireland will need to follow new processes associated with classical scrapie.

These new requirements can be met in one of two ways, **either**:

(a) the animals come from holdings that meet the legal definition of 'controlled risk' for scrapie. In practice, in Great Britain, this means that they must have been part of the Scrapie Monitoring Scheme (SMS) run by Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) for at least three years; **or**

(b) they have a genetic test which shows they are resistant to the disease and they come from a holding which has had no restrictions imposed due to BSE or scrapie during the last two years.

We can provide advice on SMS membership to help businesses adapt to the new requirements. I attach the link to the scheme:

[https://www.sruc.ac.uk/downloads/download/809/scrapie\\_monitoring\\_scheme](https://www.sruc.ac.uk/downloads/download/809/scrapie_monitoring_scheme)

For traders who can meet these new scrapie requirements, you will also wish to note, for movements of sheep and goats (for breeding and production) and their germplasm (semen, ova and embryos) from Great Britain to Northern Ireland, the

same additional endemic disease certification requirements for Great Britain to the EU will need to be followed, as in our letter of 14 December. Traders will also need to continue to comply with any existing requirements for GB-NI movements such as, Northern Ireland import requirements for Maedi Visna/Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis (CAE) from Great Britain, details of which can be found here: <https://www.daera.ni.gov.uk/articles/sheep-and-goat-imports-gb>

For those traders who are not able to meet these requirements, the Government remains committed to minimising disruption as far as possible and is continuing to explore options for addressing the impacts here.

Yours sincerely,

**CHRISTINE MIDDLEMISS**  
**UK CHIEF VETERINARY OFFICER**  
[Christine.Middlemiss@defra.gov.uk](mailto:Christine.Middlemiss@defra.gov.uk)

**CHRISTIANNE GLOSSOP**  
**CHIEF VETERINARY OFFICER**  
**WELSH GOVERNMENT**  
[Christianne.glossop@gov.wales](mailto:Christianne.glossop@gov.wales)