



DHL EXPRESS – CUSTOMER LETTER

# Veterinary and Phytosanitary Shipments

**TRADE LANE: EU (European Union) to GB (Great Britain)**

Dear Customer,

We write to you today with what we hope will be very welcome news.

We are aware that previous announcements regarding suspending food, animal and plants shipments from the DHL Express network presented many of our customers with significant challenges. As you are aware, the Brexit situation has been very fluid, with still large amounts of uncertainty and the necessary detailed information only becoming available as we move towards the very end of the transition period.

Following an appraisal of the current situation, **DHL Express has taken the decision not to suspend the carriage of products of animal origin or plants from the European Union (EU) to Great Britain (GB).**

However, we ask our customers to check on the Veterinary and Phytosanitary specific restrictions that apply to your shipments. All responsibility and liability to ensure compliance with Veterinary and Phytosanitary Regulations lies with you (the DHL Express customer), and it is your responsibility to make sure that your shipments have all the proper accompanying paperwork/authorisations and that the correct categorisations have been made for your shipment.

As a general guide, Veterinary and Phytosanitary regulations will apply to animals, products of animal origin, plants and plant based products.

The UK government has announced a phasing-in of Veterinary and Phytosanitary controls to ease the burden on business. Controls will be introduced in three stages on 1 January, 1 April and 1 July 2021.

Most Veterinary and Phytosanitary products can be imported into the UK without being subject to checks or controls up until 1 July 2021, after which normal controls will apply. Please check on the requirements for your products.

**If sending Veterinary and Phytosanitary products where controls apply, in order to ensure compliance with the Regulatory Authorities requirements, please follow the guidance below:**

- **For your Veterinary and Phytosanitary shipments that require special Veterinary and Phytosanitary control formalities** (such as authorization & import/export licence requirements) under the Veterinary and Phytosanitary regulations, please ensure that you have the proper paperwork and authorisations.
- This paperwork must be provided to DHL Express together with your shipments, so it can be handed over to Regulatory Authorities at their request in Great Britain (GB).

## **IMPORTANT:**

- DHL Express is not responsible for verifying if your product falls under Veterinary and Phytosanitary regulations – this requires product-specific expertise to understand the composition of the goods, manufacturing process etc.
- It is therefore important that your company product experts conduct the due diligence based on the regulatory requirements, to qualify if the products fall under the regulation (or not).
- This is solely your responsibility and all liability for such lies with you (the DHL Express customer).
- In case of non-compliance with the relevant rules, your shipment may be seized by the Regulatory Authorities and appropriate measures may be taken (may be destroyed following the decision by the relevant authorities) or shipments may have to be returned by DHL Express back to origin due to missing paperwork/authorization.
- Your shipment is subject at all times to the terms and conditions of the DHL Express Conditions of Carriage which can be found [here](#).



Please note that the process outlined above might be adjusted in the future depending on any agreement reached as part of the Brexit negotiations or other subsequent regulatory changes.

DHL Express does foresee an impact in costs related to Veterinary and Phytosanitary controls, which may impact shipping costs in 2021. If it becomes necessary to make any changes to our existing charges, we will advise our customers and provide appropriate details in advance.

**For additional information, please find the UK Government Links below:**

- UK Govt. Information about exporting animals and animal products to the UK from 1 January 2021 [https://www.gov.uk/guidance/trading-with-the-uk-exporting-animals-and-animal-products-to-the-uk?utm\\_source=9210fc94-5051-43c8-83e2-2c4712311f4d&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_content=immediate](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/trading-with-the-uk-exporting-animals-and-animal-products-to-the-uk?utm_source=9210fc94-5051-43c8-83e2-2c4712311f4d&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate)
- UK Govt. Regulations regarding the Import of and Trade in Animals and Animal Products <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2019/9780111178690/contents>
- UK Govt. Information regarding Importing Goods from the EU to Great Britain from 1 January 2021 <https://www.gov.uk/prepare-to-import-to-great-britain-from-january-2021>