



# ***Borders Bulletin***

Dear Stakeholder,

This bulletin provides the latest news from the Government relating to UK borders.

Please share these updates with your clients, customers and members and feel free to highlight content on your communications channels.

For more information, go to [gov.uk/transition](https://www.gov.uk/transition)

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## **HMRC's new Advance Valuation Ruling Service**

Following an announcement in the Spring Budget on 15 March, HMRC will be introducing a new Advance Valuation Ruling Service in Spring this year.

This will provide traders with legal certainty on the valuation method of goods they are importing into the UK, for a period of three years.

Traders do not have to use this service, but it will provide reassurance that a chosen valuation method is correct and will assist in the completion of customs declarations.

### **How to prepare**

Traders can prepare in advance by obtaining the following:

- A Government Gateway ID
- An [EORI number](#)

To learn more about valuation, visit '[Working out the customs value of your imported goods](#)' guidance on [GOV.UK](#) which details the six available methods.

HMRC will provide further guidance in advance of the new service going live.

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# UK and Welsh governments work together to deliver two Freeports in Wales

On 23 March, the [UK and Welsh governments jointly announced two new successful Freeport bids](#), one in Anglesey and one in Port Talbot and Milford Haven. These new Freeports will help to create jobs, drive growth and provide levelling up opportunities across Wales.

Freeports are special areas within the UK's borders where different economic regulations apply. Alongside a comprehensive package of benefits, the sites will enjoy tax and customs incentives to boost investment, creating thousands of high-quality jobs in some of our most disadvantaged communities.

The new sites are estimated to bring forward almost £5 billion in private and public investment and create over 20,000 new, high-skilled jobs, backed by up to £26 million each in UK Government funding.

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# Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) import restrictions: Chile

The following restrictions apply to **imports into Great Britain from Chile** for animals slaughtered on or after 13 March 2023:

- Imports of live poultry and ratites and hatching eggs of poultry and ratites are suspended.
- Imports of fresh poultry, ratite and wild game bird meat are suspended.
- Meat products of poultry, farmed feathered game and wild game birds must be heat treated to 70°C throughout the meat (heat treatment 'D').

This is due to the confirmation of an HPAI outbreak on 13 March 2023 at a broiler poultry farm in Chile. These restrictions will remain in place until Chile is recognised by the UK as disease free for HPAI.

Further information can be found at: [Imports, exports and EU trade of animals and animal products: topical issues](#).

For updated import information on the affected products, please visit: [Exporting to Great Britain: approved countries for animals and animal products](#).

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# SME resources following the National Food and Drink Summit

Following Defra's National Food and Drink Summit on 9 March, a number of resource sheets relating to key themes discussed on the day have now been produced for use by small food and drink manufacturers. Video recordings of all of the sessions are also included below. Please share these within your networks and supply chains.

**Finance and Resilience** – Covering the National Innovation Centre for Rural Enterprise's small business resilience toolkit, along with links to other support organisations. Video link [here](#). Resilience resource sheet [here](#).

**Skills** – A compilation of three Government programmes (Apprenticeships, Skills Bootcamps and Sector Based Work Academies) that can be used by small businesses to overcome skills and labour shortages. Video link [here](#). Skills resource sheet [here](#).

**Innovation** – A summary of some of the support available for business innovation. This includes the Food and Drink Innovation Gateway, Innovate UK and Made Smarter. Video link [here](#). Innovation resource sheet [here](#).

Video recordings are also available for the sessions on [Exports](#), [Routes to Market](#) and the [launch of the Routes to Retail guide](#). You may also want to refer to our "[How to Guides for SMEs](#)" section at the bottom of this e-bulletin for additional resources.

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## Helpline numbers

**Here is the list of helplines you may find useful.** We have added hyperlinks that will take you to pages that provide extra information such as the opening hours for the helpline all of which have sufficient capacity to support businesses.

- [Export support service](#)
- HMRC Customs & International Trade Helpline - 0300 200 3700
- [HMRC Imports and Exports General Enquiries](#) (including GVMS) - 0300 322 9434
- [New Computerised Transit System](#) - 0300 322 7095
- [DVLA Contact Centre](#) - 0300 790 6802
- DVSA:
  - [Vehicle Operator Licensing Enquiries](#) - 0300 123 9000
  - [International Road Haulage Permits](#) - 0330 678 1117
- [The Office for Product Safety and Standards](#) - 0121 345 1201

- [MHRA Customer Service Centre](#) - 020 3080 6000
- [National Supply Disruption Centre](#) - 0800 915 9964
- [Rural Payments Agency \(RPA\) Trader team](#) - 0330 041 6500
- [Animal, Plant and Health Agency \(APHA\)](#) - 0300 100 0313
  - IPAFFS general - 0300 100 0313
  - IPAFFS technical - 0330 041 6999
  - PEACH - 0345 607 3224
- [Defra Rural Services](#) - 0300 020 0301
- [Environment Agency England](#) - 03708 506 506
- [Forestry Commission](#) - 0300 067 4000
- [Fish Exports Helpline](#) - 0330 159 1989
- [The Intellectual Property Office](#) - 0300 300 2000
- [BEIS Public Enquiries Helpline](#) - 020 7215 5000
- BEIS Business Support Lines:
  - [England](#) - 0800 998 1098
  - [Scotland](#) - 0300 303 0660
  - [Wales](#) - 0300 060 3000
  - [Northern Ireland](#) - 0800 181 4422
- [Citizen Advice Consumer Helpline](#) - 0808 223 1133
- [Department for Education Helpline](#) - 0370 000 2288
- [Home Office - UK Visas & Immigration Helpline](#) - 0300 790 6268
- [Home Office - EU Settlement Scheme Application Resolution Centre](#) - 0300 123 7379

HMRC also operates a number of services, including:

- Import/export general enquiries can be made by calling 0300 200 3700.

You can also [speak to an adviser online](#) about general import and export queries.

- It is also possible to [send a question about imports, exports and customs reliefs](#).

DEFRA Helplines:

DEFRA also has a number of additional [helplines](#) for the commodity you are exporting to the EU.

For questions to the DVSA on vehicle operator licensing you can call 0300 123 9000. For questions to the DVLA you should call 0300 790 6802.

The UK Government also operates an online forum where you can access key information and ask questions directly on [customs and tax](#).

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