

  	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Government of St Helena</b>  <b>Environment and Natural Resources Directorate</b>  <b>Agriculture and Natural Resources Division</b></p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Import Health Standard for the Importation of</b>  <b><u>DOGS</u> and <u>CATS</u></b>  <b>into the Island of St Helena from</b>  <b>the <u>UK and REPUBLIC OF IRELAND</u></b></p> <p>Approved by the Natural Resources Development &amp; Environment Committee for issue in pursuance of the Animals (Diseases) Ordinance 1944 and Regulations, as amended.</p>
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## GUIDE FOR USERS

The information contained in this product import health standard is presented in numerically ordered sections with descriptive titles. Sections are grouped into one of 5 parts.

**Part A. General Information:** contains sections of general interest, including those relating to the legal basis for the ANRD Dogs and Cats Import Health Standard from UK and Republic of Ireland (ROI) and the general responsibilities of every importer of dogs and cats.

**PART B. Importation Procedure:** contains sections which outline the requirements to be met prior to and during importation. The requirement to obtain a licence to import is noted, as are conditions of eligibility, and general conditions relating to documentation accompanying the animals.

**PART C: Clearance Procedure:** contains sections describing the requirements to be met at the St Helena Island port in Jamestown and what may happen if the animal does not meet the requirements of this import health standard.

**PART D: Health Certification:** contains model health certification indicating both the timing and the nature of the procedures to be carried out prior to the export of the animal(s) from the UK/ROI. The official version of the certificate 3921EHC is to be obtained from the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), UK, and completed by an Official Veterinarian, adhering strictly to the schedule of procedures laid out in the certificate. This certification must accompany the animal(s) to St Helena.

## **Part A: General Information**

### **1. Import Health Standard and Importer's Responsibility**

- 1.1 Pursuant to the Animals (Diseases) Ordinance and Regulations (as amended) CAP 96 of the Laws of the Island of St Helena, this is the import health standard for the importation of dogs and cats into St Helena from **the UK and Republic of Ireland**. Provisions for **cat and dog imports arriving on yachts from these countries** are also covered under this standard.
- 1.2 Obtaining importation clearance for each dog or cat imported into St Helena is dependent upon the animals meeting the requirements of this import health standard.
- 1.3 It is the importer or agent's responsibility to ensure they are compliant with the current version of the Dog and Cat import health standard for the UK and Republic of Ireland at the time of importation into St Helena Island.
- 1.4 The importer or agent must make all arrangements for transport and obtain necessary transport and obtain necessary transit authorisation from any third countries on the transport route.

### **2. Review of Import Health Standard**

- 2.1 The import health standard may be reviewed, amended or revoked if there are changes to policy or legislation on St Helena Island or the animal health status of the originating country, or for any other lawful reason.

### **3. Definition of Terms**

#### **3.1 Inspector**

Means the Agricultural Authority, a veterinary officer, customs officer, environmental health officer and any other person appointed as such by the Agricultural Authority as defined under Section 2 and 2A of the Animal (Diseases) Ordinance (as amended), in addition to the Collector of Customs or a customs officer appointed by the Collector under Section 4 of the St Helena Customs Ordinance CAP 145.

#### **3.2 ANRD**

The Agriculture and Natural Resources Division of ENRD, the Environment and Natural Resources Directorate, St Helena Island.

#### **3.3 Equivalence**

Acceptance by the Senior Veterinary Officer (SVO) that the circumstances relating to the importation of a consignment are such that the health status of the consignment is equivalent to the health status of a consignment that complies with the requirements of the import health standard.

#### **3.4 Importation clearance**

Products given importation clearance are free from all restrictions.

#### **4. Equivalence**

4.1 It is expected that the dogs and cats permitted to enter St Helena will meet the conditions of this Import Health Standard in every respect. Occasionally it is found that, due to circumstances beyond the importer's control, the animal(s) does/do not comply completely with the requirements. In such cases, an application for equivalence may be considered and issued at the discretion of the SVO, but only if the following information is forwarded by the certifying government's veterinary authorities:

4.1.1 Which clause(s) of the import health standard cannot be met and how this has occurred;

4.1.2 The reason the animal(s) is/are considered to be of an 'equivalent health status' and/or what proposal is made to return the animal(s) to an equivalent health status as set out in the health conditions, and;

4.1.3 The reasons the proposal should be acceptable and the recommendation for its acceptance.

#### **5. Official Point of Contact**

5.1 The official point of contact for this Health Standard is:

Mr Jonathan Hollins, Senior Veterinary Officer

Address: ANRD, Scotland, Island of St Helena, South Atlantic Ocean, STHL 1ZZ

Telephone: + (290) 4724

Fax: + (290) 4603

Email: [joe-hollins@enrd.gov.sh](mailto:joe-hollins@enrd.gov.sh)

#### **6. Fees and Costs**

6.1 All fees and costs involved with documentation, testing, treatment, transport, quarantine, veterinary supervision and obtaining importation clearance shall be borne by the importer or his or her agent.

### **Part B: Importation Procedure**

#### **7. Licence To Import**

7.1 Subject to Section 3 of the St Helena Animals (Diseases) Regulations a 'licence to import' must be obtained before importation. An application for a licence to import should be made on the model 'Application for Licence to Import Dogs and Cats' form (available from the officer listed at Section 5) and sent, preferably by fax or email, as detailed under Section 5 above.

7.2 The importer must supply the following information on the form:

7.2.1 name and address of the exporter and of the importer;

7.2.2 name, breed, sex and age of the animal;

- 7.2.3 microchip number of the animal;
- 7.2.4 a signed declaration regarding other conditions to be met as detailed on the form.
- 7.3 Following receipt of the required information, a single entry licence to import shall be issued and will be valid only for the voyage indicated.

## **8. Eligibility**

- 8.1 Eligibility for importation under this import health standard is confined to members of the species domestic dog (*Canis familiaris*) and domestic cat (*Felis catus*).
- 8.2 In the absence of St Helena legislation regarding breeds of dogs, the UK Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 will be used to guide ANRD regarding breeds or types of dogs allowed to enter St Helena. Dogs of the following breeds or types (including crosses of these breeds or types) are not eligible for importation:
  - ♦ Pit Bull Terrier;
  - ♦ Japanese Tosa
  - ♦ Dogo Argentino
  - ♦ Fila Brasileiro
- 8.3 **Either:** the animal(s) must have been resident in the country of origin for the 6 months prior to the scheduled date of export;  
**Or:** be accompanied by a fully validated pet passport as defined and issued under the DEFRA pet travel scheme.
- 8.4 During the 30 days prior to the scheduled date of export the animal(s) must not have been resident in official quarantine premises.
- 8.5 Animals must not be knowingly pregnant at the date of shipment.
- 8.6 Animals must be more than 24 weeks old at departure.
- 8.7 Animals imported directly from the Island of St Helena into the scheduled country of export may be re-exported to St Helena with less than 6 months residency under the following additional conditions:
  - 8.7.1 the animal has resided continuously in the UK or Republic of Ireland since being imported directly from St Helena; and/or
  - 8.7.2 the animal is accompanied by a fully validated pet passport issued by a UK/ROI Official Veterinarian. It should be noted that the veterinary certificate issued by the authorities in St Helena to permit travel to the UK and other member states of the EU, is only valid for 4 months from the date of signature. However it can be converted into an official pet passport in the UK/ROI as long as it is still within its period of validity.
- 8.8 If the accompanying certification and documentation for an animal is judged by the ANRD Agricultural Authority to be unsatisfactory, the animal may, at

the discretion of the Agricultural Authority and at the expense of the importer, be quarantined on St Helena for up to 9 months.

## **9. Animals Arriving on Yachts - Licence to Import Animals and Licence to Land Animals Ashore for Recreational and Other Purposes**

- 9.1 No licence will be issued by ANRD to permit the importation of animals onto the Island via yachts on the basis that it cannot be proved that a yacht has not visited a non-scheduled country (outside of Ascension Island, the UK, and the Republic of Ireland). In addition it will be impossible for the yacht to provide official export health certification.
- 9.2 No licence or permission will be issued to allow dogs and cats ashore for recreational purposes whilst yachts are anchored in the St Helena port. For the duration of the yacht's visit to St Helena, the presence of the animal on board the yacht will be verified by ANRD in partnership with Port Management Authorities, and at no time shall any other animal be allowed on board the yacht (unless it is a police dog). When a police dog is aboard the yacht, the yacht's animal will have to be muzzled and possibly isolated or caged.
- 9.3 Where an animal might require veterinary treatment from St Helena, the ANRD veterinary staff will visit the yacht to identify if the animal can be treated aboard the yacht or needs to be treated and hospitalised at the Veterinary Clinic. If treatment ashore is required, precautionary measures and the movement and transportation of the animal will be conducted by the ANRD Veterinary Authority, and the treatment area placed under quarantine.
- 9.4 Where treatment ashore is necessary, the master or person in charge of the yacht will be required to provide the ANRD Veterinary Authority with all necessary health documentation available for the animal, and visual assessment of the animal will be undertaken by ANRD veterinary staff for disease or external parasites before proceeding ashore.
- 9.5 In circumstances where a yacht may be required to be lifted ashore for repair work, and an animal is on board, the animal will be required to be housed in the ANRD quarantine for the period the yacht is ashore, at the expense of the animal owner.

## **10. Identification**

- 10.1 Each animal must be identified with a microchip and the identification details must be shown on the accompanying certification. It is recommended that microchip brands adopted by the International Standards Organisation (ISO) are used.
- 10.2 The identity of the animal must be confirmed by reading the microchip each time a treatment or test is performed, and at the time of export certification.

## **11. Transportation to St Helena**

- 11.1 The container/crate housing the animal must be new and thoroughly disinfected prior to its use for transportation.

- 11.2 The container must be free of soil and parasites.
- 11.3 The use of straw or hay as bedding is not permitted. Only sterilised peat, soft board or other inert product may be used.
- 11.4 Written verification may be required from the ship's captain to verify the animal(s) was/were confined on board for the duration of the voyage and did not have contact with any other animal at each port of call.
- 11.5 Any bedding, toys etc planned to be used in the animal's container from the point of travel should be new.

## **Part C. Importing Clearance Procedure:**

### **12. Clearance**

- 12.1 An inspector from the ANRD Veterinary team will inspect the animals aboard the ship on arrival at the Jamestown port.
- 12.2 Providing that the animals meet the conditions of **Eligibility** and **Part D-Health Certification**, the animals will be given clearance to land.
- 12.3 Animals that do not meet all requirements of this Import Health Standard may be reshipped, destroyed or quarantined on St Helena at the cost of the importer.
- 12.4 If an animal shows signs of disease of an infectious nature, treatment will be given but entry may be refused. Alternatively it may be decided to land the animal, but directly into quarantine for treatment and observation. This decision is at the discretion of the Senior Veterinary Officer.

### **13. Quarantine on St Helena**

- 13.1 Quarantine facilities are not routinely provided for pets on St Helena, and only provided in the exceptional circumstances detailed above.
- 13.2 Where quarantine is necessary, each imported dog and cat may be routinely treated for the following:
  - 13.2.1 Fleas, lice and ticks;
  - 13.2.2 Other parasites such as tapeworm and roundworm.
- 13.3 If an animal shows symptoms of disease within the initial quarantine period whereby ANRD considers a further period of quarantine is necessary, the animal may be treated and/or re-tested as appropriate. If the animal is subsequently considered to be infected with disease it may be further treated, detained in quarantine, or destroyed at the importer's expense. A period of 4 weeks must elapse after the last course of treatment before the animal can be released to the owner, unless determined otherwise by the Senior Veterinary Officer.

- 13.4 The Natural Resources Development and Environment Committee reserves the right to review the quarantine period or conditions to be completed by an animal.

## **Part D. Health Certification**

### **14. Export Certification**

- 14.1 All serological tests to support health certification must be conducted at a Government, or Government approved laboratory, and the laboratory reports must accompany the original certificate.
- 14.2 The following Model Veterinary Certificate contains the information required and recognised by ANRD as equivalent to the requirements of Part D. Health Certification. The official version of the certificate is to be obtained from DEFRA, UK, and completed by an Official Veterinarian, adhering strictly to the schedule of procedures laid out in the certificate. This original certification must accompany the animal(s) to St Helena.

## Export of Dogs and Cats to St Helena from the United Kingdom

### Health Certificate

**Exporting Country: United Kingdom**

**Certifying Veterinarian: Official Veterinarian**

#### I. Identification of animal

Microchip number	Anatomical site of microchip	Name	Breed and physical description	Sex	Date of birth

#### II. Origin of the animal

- (a) Name and address of exporter: .....  
.....
- (b) Place of origin of animal: .....
- (c) Port of embarkation: .....

#### III. Destination of the animal

- (a) Name and address of consignee: .....  
.....
- (b) Means of transport: .....
- (c) Port of arrival:.....

#### IV. Health information

I, ..... being an  
Official Veterinarian, certify that with respect to the animal identified in  
Paragraph I of this certificate that:

- 1.
- a) After due enquiry, I am satisfied that **either:** the animal has a fully validated pet passport, **or:** having received a written declaration from the owner/exporter, the animal has been resident in the United Kingdom and/or Republic of Ireland for the six months prior to export, and is not under any quarantine restrictions;



- b) I have received a written declaration from the owner/exporter stating that to the best of their knowledge and belief the animal is not pregnant at the time of issuing this certificate, and after due enquiry and physical examination I have no reason to doubt the validity of this declaration;
- c) I have received a written declaration from the owner/exporter stating that to the best of their knowledge and belief the animal will be more than 24 weeks of age at the scheduled date of export, and after due enquiry and physical examination I have no reason to doubt the validity of this declaration;
- d) I have confirmed the identity of the animal by reading the implanted microchip/transponder, details of which have been given at Paragraph I;
- e) after due enquiry and physical examination and having received a written declaration from the owner/exporter, I am satisfied that the dog or bitch is not a purebred or crossbred member of one of the following prohibited types:
  - Pit Bull Terrier
  - Dogo Argentino
  - Japanese Toso
  - Brazilian Fila

2. **In the case of a dog**, it has been tested and treated for Canine Heartworm (*Dirofilaria immitis*) according to the following schedule:

2.1 within 30 days prior to the scheduled date of export samples of blood were collected from the dog and sent to the Veterinary Laboratory Agency (VLA), Weybridge, and tested negative to the following tests:

2.1.1 a microfilariae concentration test;

date blood collected for test .....

2.1.2 an antigen ELISA test;

date blood collected for test .....

2.2 within 4 days prior to the scheduled date of export, the dog was treated with one of the following drugs at the respective dose rate:

**EITHER:**

2.2.1 milbemycin at a therapeutic dose rate according to the manufacturer's instructions;

**OR:**

2.2.2 moxidectin at a therapeutic dose rate according to the manufacturer's instructions;

Date of treatment:.....

3. **In the case of a dog**, within 30 days prior to the scheduled date of export, samples of blood were collected and sent to the Veterinary Laboratory Agency (VLA), Weybridge, and tested for the following diseases:

3.1 *Brucella canis*, using the rapid slide agglutination test (RSA), with a negative result;

Date blood collected: .....

3.2 Leptospirosis, using the microscopic agglutination test (MAT) for leptospirosis serotype *Leptospira canicola* with;

**EITHER:**

3.2.1 negative results (negative is less than 50% agglutination at 1:100);

Date blood collected: .....

**OR:**

3.2.2 where the first sample shows a positive titre of not more than 1:400, a second sample collected at an interval of not less than 14 days following the date of the first sampling, was collected and showed no increase in the titre above that of the first test;

Date blood collected for first test: .....

Date blood collected for second test:.....

**OR:**

3.2.3 the dog has been treated with doxycycline at a therapeutic dose rate for 14 consecutive days or dihydrostreptomycin at a therapeutic dose rate for 5 days, during the 30 days prior to the scheduled date of export;

Medication and dose rate: .....

Dates of treatment:.....

***(Please delete whichever options are not applicable)***

- 3.3 Canine ehrlichiosis, using the indirect fluorescent antibody test (IFAT) for *Ehrlichia canis* with:

**EITHER:**

- 3.3.1 negative results;

Date blood collected:.....

**OR:**

- 3.3.2 positive results, and the dog has been treated with doxycycline at a dose rate of 10 mg/kg body weight on 14 consecutive days during the 30 days prior to the scheduled date of export.

Date blood collected: .....

Dates of treatment:.....

***(Please delete whichever options are not applicable)***

4. **In the case of a dog**, within 10 days prior to the scheduled date of export a blood sample and a thin blood smear made from a drop of blood obtained from an ear margin were collected, at the same time, and sent to the Veterinary Laboratories Agency (VLA), Weybridge, where the following tests were performed:

- 4.1 Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test for *Babesia gibsoni*, with a negative result;

**AND:**

- 4.2 Microscopic examination of blood smear with a negative result for Babesia parasites;

Date blood collected for both tests:.....

5. **In the case of a dog or cat:**

- 5.1 Within 30 days prior to the scheduled date of export, two faecal samples were taken, at least 14 days apart, and sent to a laboratory of the Veterinary Laboratories Agency (VLA) where they were subjected to a sensitive flotation procedure (able to detect 50 eggs per gram) and found to be negative for hookworm eggs;

Date of faecal collection for first test; .....

Date of faecal collection for second test: .....

- 5.2 Within 30 days prior to the scheduled date of export, the animal was treated twice, at least 14 days apart, with a broad spectrum anthelmintic(s) effective against nematodes, cestodes and trematodes, at the manufacturer's recommended dose rate(s);

Date of first treatment:.....

Active ingredient(s) and amount given:.....

Date of second treatment:.....

Active ingredient(s) and amount given:.....

- 5.3 No more than 10 days and no less than 2 days prior to the scheduled date of export, the animal was treated with a topical application of fipronil at the manufacturer's recommended dose rate;

Date of treatment:.....

6. Within 4 days of the scheduled date of shipment, I examined the animal for export to St Helena and found it to be free from clinical signs of infectious or contagious diseases and external parasites, and in my opinion was fit to travel;
7. All original laboratory reports and the owner/exporter's declaration are attached to this certificate.
8. The United Kingdom is free of rabies according to the World Organisation of Animal Health (OIE) Terrestrial Animal Health Code

Stamp

Signed.....RCVS

Name in  
block letters.....

Official Veterinarian

Date

Address.....  
.....  
.....

*(The signature and stamp should be in a different colour to the print)*

## **Part E:     Amendment Record – Import Health Standard for Dogs and Cats from the UK and Republic of Ireland**

Amendments to this Standard will be given a consecutive number and will be dated in the body of the table. Brief details of the amended pages will be included.

<b>No.</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Date</b>
1	Change Department to Directorate	070711
2	Change CANRO to DANR	070711
3	Change Directorate to Division	150513
4	Change definitions section 3	200513
5	Multiple edits and clarifications throughout document	300513