



GUIDANCE NOTE - ANIMAL TRANSPORT

WELFARE OF ANIMALS (TRANSPORT) ORDER 1997

1. WHO DOES THIS GUIDANCE APPLY TO:

- 1.1 Persons who transport vertebrate animals for commercial reasons,
- 1.2 However 2.1 and 2.2 (in so far as it relates to livestock) below, apply to any journey whether commercial or not.

2. WHAT ARE THE PRINCIPAL REQUIREMENTS:

No person shall transport any animal;

- 2.1 In a way which causes, or is likely to cause injury or unnecessary suffering, includes amount of space available,
- 2.2 Unless it is fit for the intended journey, and suitable provision has been made for it's care during the journey and on it's arrival at it's destination,

UNFIT includes - ill, injured, infirm and fatigued and in respect of mammals includes animals that are likely to give birth during transport, or have given birth in the preceding 48 hours, or are new born indicated by an unhealed navel,
- 2.3 Unless at an appropriate time before the journey begins and as appropriate to the species they have been offered liquid and food,
- 2.4 Unless they are rested and offered liquid and food during the journey in accord to a species requirement, and at the end of any journey are unloaded, fed, watered and rested for a minimum period of 24 hours, if not at the final destination, any 24 hour rest period shall be taken at an approved staging post,
- 2.5 Which falls ill or is injured during transport unless they ensure relevant treatment as soon as possible.

3. TRANSPORTERS

Any transporter who transports vertebrate animals in excess of 50 km:

- 3.1 Shall ensure that he entrusts those animals to at least one person who has specific training or equivalent practical experience, qualifying him to administer, if necessary, care and who is sufficiently competent to enable him to safeguard the welfare of the animals during transport,

- 3.2 Shall ensure that animals are transported without delay to their destination,
- 3.3 Shall not transport an animal by air except in accord with the I.A.T.A. standard,
- 3.4 Shall hold an authorisation from the Competent Authority in whose territory they are based to transport animals on a journey over 50 km.

In Great Britain authorisation from M.A.F.F. will take the form of a 'Specific Licence' for transporters who transport Livestock (cattle, sheep, pigs, goats and horses) in a road vehicle in excess of 8 hours; or a 'General Licence' for all other animal transporters resident in Great Britain.

4. WHAT DOCUMENTS ARE REQUIRED TO BE CARRIED WITH ANIMALS

- 4.1 A Route Plan is required for the transportation of livestock (other than registered horses) when animals are traded between Member States or are exported to other countries and where the journey time exceeds 8 hours (see Annex 1 - for full list of information required),
- 4.2 Otherwise an Animal Transport Certificate (ATC) is required to accompany vertebrate animals throughout any journey (see Annex 2 - for suggested format).

However an ATC is not required;

for the transport of poultry or domestic birds for a distance of less than 50 km, where there are less than 50 poultry/birds or the entire journey is on land occupied by the owner of the poultry/birds or;

for animals, other than livestock where journey is for distance less than 50 km.

5. FARMERS EXEMPTIONS

- 5.1 Where livestock are transported for a distance of less than 50 km to, from, or within agricultural land in a vehicle owned by the owner or occupier of that land, and the vehicle has an internal animal carriage capability of less than 3.7 m, then there is no requirement for:

An Animal Transport Certificate (ATC)
Barriers or straps

Overhead Protection
Internal ramps and lifting gear.

6. OTHER GUIDANCE

- 6.1 This leaflet is not an authoritative document on the law, and is only intended for guidance to read in conjunction with additional leaflets. For further advice and information, please contact
Environmental Protection, Animal Health Section, Swindon Borough Council, Premier House, Station Road, Swindon SN1 1TZ. Telephone number (01793) 466092

ANY PERSON WHO CONTRAVENES
THE WELFARE OF ANIMALS (TRANSPORT) ORDER 1997 COMMITS AN
OFFENCE AGAINST THE ANIMAL HEALTH ACT 1981.

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ROUTE PLANS

*** INFORMATION - To be completed before the journey:**

- * Name, full address, business name, telephone number and fax number of transporter.
- * Number and species of animals to be transported.
- * Health Certificates(s) Number(s).
- * Number of transporter's authorisation (if any).
- * Registration number of vehicle to be used, and trailer if different.
- * Name of the person(s) in charge of the transport during the journey.
- * Place where the animals are to be first loaded, and full address.
- * Planned date and time of departure.
- * Full itemised itinerary of the journey.
- * Full address of the final destination.
- * Estimated date and time of arrival at the final destination (local time).

*** INFORMATION - To be completed during the journey:**

- * Actual date and time of loading of first animal.
- * Actual time of departure from place of loading.
- * Full itemised itinerary of the journey.
- * Actual date and time of arrival at the final destination (local time).

Route Plan Application Forms for Swindon Borough are obtainable from and must be approved by the Divisional Veterinary Manager, DEFRA, Unit 1, Saw Mills End, Corinium Avenue, Gloucester, GL4 3DE (01452) 627400.

WELFARE OF ANIMALS (TRANSPORT) ORDER 1997 - ANIMAL TRANSPORT CERTIFICATE (Suggested Format)

Transporter:

Name:
 Address:

Telephone No.:
 Fax No.:
 Vehicle Reg. No.:
 Trailer I.D.:
 Name of person in charge during journey (driver):

Certificate must accompany animals.

To be retained for six months.

Date and time of loading first animal: Col. 1	Number and species of animals carried: Col. 2	Name and full address of owner of the animals: Col. 3	Place of loading (full address): Col. 4	Date and time of departure: Col. 5	Resting place and times (if relevant): Col. 6	Full address of final destination. (Including Post Code): Col. 7	Date and time of arrival at final destination: Col. 8

Columns 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 are obligatory.