

EXECUTIVE NOTE

The Import and Export Restrictions (Foot and Mouth Disease) (Scotland) (No 3) Regulations 2007 SSI/2007/428

The above instrument was made under section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972 on 13 September 2007 and is subject to negative resolution procedures.

Policy Objective

The policy objective in introducing this legislation is to implement Commission Decision 2007/608/EC of 13 September 2007, which further amends Commission Decision 2007/554/EC of 9th August 2007 (“the FMD Decision”).

The FMD Decision applied import and export restrictions to live animals and animal products of susceptible species, as a consequence of the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Surrey on 3rd August 2007.

The restrictions in the FMD decision were relaxed on 24 August 2007, when it was amended by Commission Decision 2007/588/EC in the light of progress made in tackling that first outbreak. Import restrictions were relaxed, and export restrictions in the FMD Decision (that originally applied to the whole of Great Britain) were restricted to Surrey.

There was a second outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Surrey on 12th September 2007. Commission Decision 2007/608/EC was made as a consequence of that outbreak. It extended the effect of the FMD Decision to 15 October 2007, re-applied import restrictions, and extended the area subject to EU controls from Surrey to Great Britain.

These Regulations give effect to Commission Decision 2007/608/EC. They also provide for the necessary powers of inspection and enforcement, creating criminal offences where required.

Consultation

The Decision was adopted on 13 September and came into effect immediately. Stakeholders affected by these Regulations have not been consulted as they implement EU obligations. Stakeholders were however made aware of the possibility of these prohibitions being re-imposed as a result of the second outbreak of disease.

Rural Directorate