

EXECUTIVE NOTE

The Import and Export Restrictions (Foot-and-Mouth Disease) (Scotland) (No 6) Regulations 2007 SSI 2007/494

The above instrument was made under section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972 on 31 October 2007 and is subject to negative resolution procedure.

Policy Objective

The policy objective in introducing this legislation is to implement Commission Decision 2007/709/EC of 31 October 2007, which further amends Commission Decision 2007/554/EC of 9 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 3 August 2007.

The main provisions of these Regulations are as follows:

- ◆ The list of areas in England from which meat can be exported has been increased to include Herefordshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, Solihull and Coventry districts, Peterborough, Poole and Bournemouth.
- ◆ Slaughterhouses slaughtering animals for export can now be located anywhere in Great Britain except for Surrey
- ◆ Animals which are to be slaughtered for export are now only required to be resident on the holding for 21 days instead of 30 days.
- ◆ The 21 day standstill period now allows movement from a previous farm meeting the same standstill requirements and there are options for blood testing or serological survey instead.
- ◆ Frozen semen, ova and embryos can now be collected and exported from the export area.
- ◆ The export of wild game from the Shetland, Orkney and NA H-Eileanan An Iar Islands and farmed game from the export area is now permitted.
- ◆ Multiple pickups from farms to the slaughter house is now permitted.

It should also be noted that the export of susceptible live animals from Great Britain to the rest of the European Union remains prohibited, as does the import into Scotland of FMD susceptible animals from any other Member State.

Consultation

The Decision was adopted on 31 October and came into effect immediately. Stakeholders affected by these Regulations have not been consulted as they implement EU obligations.

Rural Directorate
November 2007