

Action Note 2023 – 12/01: Chapter 2.1 FCI & CCIR – Controlled Housing Conditions

Purpose:

This action note is to inform field staff that from 29th March 2024, the self-declaration of Controlled Housing Conditions (CHC) will cease, and the pigs will be subject to Trichinella testing if the keepers are not part of an assurance scheme such as Quality Meat Scotland (QMS) or Red Tractor.

Background:

Before we left the EU, holdings were allowed to self-declare their controlled housing conditions and the Trichinella testing was done based on that declaration.

However, in accordance with [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2015/1375](#) laying down specific rules on official controls for Trichinella in meat, Article 8, the competent authority may **officially recognise** a holding or a compartment applying controlled housing conditions where the requirements laid down in Annex IV are complied with.

Therefore, from **March 29th 2024** for Food Business Operators (FBOs) to be able to export porcine meat to the EU and NI, official recognition of holdings applying CHC must be undertaken by the Competent Authority, which in this case is the Scottish Government (SG).

Procedure:

SG has been working with QMS to develop a system to officially recognise CHC for holdings complying with the requirements in Annex IV of CI Regulation (EU) 2015/1375. A calculator tool has been made available to vets undertaking farm assurance audits, which allows them to determine whether a holding meets the requirements of CHC and provide assurance in terms of Trichinella testing requirements.

All holdings will need to be part of an assurance scheme such as QMS or Red tractor. The private vet will use the calculator tool to determine whether CHC apply and this will be certified in a veterinary declaration. This information will then be displayed in the ScotEID movement license for the animals.

In order for the keeper to be able to comply, a scanned copy of the veterinary declaration needs to be sent to help@scoteid.com. A copy must also be sent to Wholesome Pigs Scotland Ltd. wholesomepigs@scottishpigproducers.co.uk. It is intended that the veterinary declarations remain on the units and they themselves are not sent with the pigs to the abattoir.

FBOs and Official Veterinarians at slaughterhouses will be able to see the CHC designation on the movement license accompanying the pigs to slaughter.

Please note that those holdings that are not part of an assurance scheme or do not present such information at slaughter will not be considered as applying CHC and therefore Trichinella sampling must be undertaken. If OVs note or anticipate a substantial impact on their workload associated with increased Trichinella sampling, they should notify their VA and OM asap.

A copy of the letter sent by SG to Private Vets can be found at **Annex I** of this Action Note.

Field Staff are required to:

- Note the contents of the Action Note, plant attending OVs to ensure that the Action Note is read by all FSS staff, (including Agency/Locums/Contractors) and this is noted in the Action/Information Log.
- **Plant attending OVs are required to discuss with FBOs and inform them on the process.**
- Print a copy for the plant file together with an Action/Information Log.

This Action Note will be:

- Uploaded to the Action Note Live Folder and Operation tracker log on SharePoint.
- Forwarded to Website mailbox (websiteteam@fss.scot) for publication on our website.

The Action Note will remain live until either incorporated in the SMOC or revoked.

Copies of the live and revoked Action Notes can be found on [SharePoint](#).

<u>Action note drafted by</u>	<u>Action note agreed by</u>	<u>Published</u>	<u>Revoked</u>
Miriam Diaz 20/12/23	Elena McWatt 21/12/23	Chris Quick	
		27/12/2023	

Annex I



pigs - seperation
from cloven hoofed ai