



# Office for Life Sciences

## Office for Life Sciences Bulletin – 01 April 2021



### **OLS Introduction**

The Office for Life Sciences (OLS) is a joint unit between the Department of Health & Social Care (DHSC) and Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

This bulletin aims to keep the life sciences sector up to date on the latest guidance and during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, providing you with information from Government to help your members and networks prepare.

If you would like to be added to the distribution list, please email [nita.bhanot@beis.gov.uk](mailto:nita.bhanot@beis.gov.uk)

**For any questions on the UK/EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement, please contact [euexit@officeforlifesciences.gov.uk](mailto:euexit@officeforlifesciences.gov.uk)**



### **News**

**NEW** – VAT-registered businesses that trade with the EU are being offered further customs and tax support by HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC). For more information, click [here](#).



### **Regulation**

**UPDATED** – The MHRA have updated the guidance on conversion of Great Britain Marketing Authorisations (MAs) for Centrally Authorised Products (CAPs). For more information, click [here](#).



### **Transition Guidance**

**UPDATED** – Guidance on exporting animals and animal products to the UK has been updated with a changed email address of who to contact for market access applications for plants and plant product. Iceland has also been added to the list of countries that may need additional certificates. For more information, click [here](#).

**UPDATED** – The list of customs agents and fast parcel operators who can help submit customs declarations has been updated. For more information, click [here](#).

**UPDATED** – View the latest edition of the Trader Support Service bulletin [here](#).



## Workforce

**UPDATED** – The deadline to register to order free rapid lateral flow coronavirus tests for your employees has been extended from 31 March to 12 April. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

**UPDATED** – Guidance on working safely during coronavirus has been updated. For more information, click [here](#).



## Events

Keep up to date with all the latest available webinars:

- Find videos to support your business during coronavirus disruptions [here](#).
- Watch past HMRC videos on coronavirus [here](#) and UK transition [here](#).
- Find videos to help you learn more about trading with the EU from 1 January [here](#).
- **UPDATED** - Click [here](#) to view a list of webinars for organisations that trade with the EU you can watch live or on demand. 'New rules for importing and exporting goods', 'New rules for moving goods between GB and the EU' and 'Moving goods between GB and the EU' have been recently updated along with the Resources section.
- The Home Office has created a podcast episode to help you prepare for the points-based immigration system. [Listen](#) now to Business and the Future of Immigration in 2021. Also available on [Spotify](#) and [Apple](#).
- The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is hosting a series of free podcasts to help businesses that make, use or supply chemicals, understand what actions they need to take. To listen to the podcast, just search 'The HSE Podcast' on your chosen platform. Audiences can also register to receive notifications for each episode released using [this link](#).
- BEIS has launched a series of on demand videos, to help businesses familiarise themselves with the new rules. Topics include importing and exporting, trade, Rules of Origin, tariffs, data, and audit and accounting. To view the videos, click [here](#).
- Webinars giving an overview of the new rules that have come into place since leaving the EU customs union and the EU single market are now available to view. To access these, click [here](#).
- **UPDATED** - Videos on 'Northern Ireland new rules and support' have been updated. Click [here](#) to view these.

**Various dates** - A calendar of upcoming webinars for organisations that trade with the EU is available [here](#). Topics include: importing, trader responsibilities, exporting and more.

**Various dates** - [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) – Self-Employment Income Support Scheme \(SEISS\)](#)

**Various dates** – Extension to the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and flexible furloughing webinar. Register [here](#).

**Various dates** – HMRC webinar on completing customs import declarations. To register and find a date, please click [here](#).

**8 April, 11:45** – HMRC webinar explaining your responsibilities as a trader if you choose to use an intermediary from 1 January 2021. Register [here](#).

**NEW Various dates** - HMRC webinar on exporting: what you need to do to keep your goods moving. To register and find a date, please click [here](#).

**NEW Various dates** – HMRC webinar on importing: staged introduction of import controls. To register and find a date, please click [here](#).



### Useful Links

- [Gov.uk/transition](#) provides a central hub of resources
- You can sign up to email alerts on GOV.UK at this [link](#).
- Sign up for Home Office email updates about the next steps for EU citizens in the UK at this [link](#).
- Access the 'Check How to Export Goods' tool [here](#) for the information you need to export goods out of the UK market.
- Click [here](#) for more information and advice on exporting.
- Click [here](#) for updated information on the Covid-19 response from the Department for Health and Social Care and Public Health England.
- Click [here](#) for a list of Business Representative Organisations and Trade Associations you can speak with to get advice.
- Specific information for businesses and employers in [Northern Ireland](#), [Scotland](#), and [Wales](#) is available. In England, [Growth Hubs](#) can advise on local and UK Government business support.
- Register for HMRC's free [Trader Support Service](#) if you are moving goods between Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
- The most up-to-date guidance on the [Northern Ireland Protocol](#) is on GOV.UK, including information on moving goods into, out of, or through Northern Ireland.
- [VAT guidance](#) about the conditions for zero rating VAT on the goods you export, and what you should do when you export goods in specific circumstances.
- A list of government Brexit transition helplines organised by theme and key actions for businesses has been published. To view this, click [here](#).
- COVID 19 key contact details:
  - General offers of help from industry: [gcfccovid19enquiries@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:gcfccovid19enquiries@cabinetoffice.gov.uk), or visit [this](#) webpage.
  - Share the impact COVID-19 is having on your organisation with [intel@beis.gov.uk](mailto:intel@beis.gov.uk)
  - To provide feedback on MHRA engagement please contact [engagement@mhra.gov.uk](mailto:engagement@mhra.gov.uk)
  - To call the Business Support Helpline in England please dial **FREEPHONE 0800 998 1098**, Scotland 0300 303 0660, Business Wales 0330 060 300 and Invest Northern Ireland 0800 181 4422